Digital health consultancy expands to support digital agility and integrated care

Populo Consulting announces a new managing director, senior team, London office, and new services as part of an ambitious growth strategy to support NHS organisations develop their 'digital agility'

Digital health consultancy Populo Consulting has announced the appointment of a new managing director as part of an ambitious growth strategy.

The expansion will enable it to support more NHS organisations looking to improve their digital agility and to deploy technology to underpin new models of care and digital delivery for patients.

Jonah Aburrow-Jones is well-known in the digital health community, having worked for a wide-range of IT suppliers, intelligence companies, and consultancies for almost twenty years in both the UK and internationally.

His appointment as managing director at Preston-based Populo comes as the consultancy expands its senior team, refreshes its branding, introduces new services and opens a London office, so it can better support NHS organisations looking to improve their digital agility and to prepare for the new era of integrated care and digital delivery.

Aburrow-Jones said: "Populo is a full service digital health consultancy. Our approach is non-typical because we work in partnership with clients to solve the problems that they have.

"Wherever an organisation is on its digital lifecycle, we provide the advice and support, solutions and assurance, that will get it to where it needs to be.

"The reputation and credibility we have built in the market has enabled us to be in a position to now expand our team, refresh our branding, and open a new office in the heart of London, close to some of our major clients and their suppliers.

"This will enable us to support more organisations as they look to make the most of their IT investments and prepare to adopt the technology that will underpin new models of care and delivery for patients."

Populo formed two years ago. Since then, it has grown rapidly and works with the Salford, Oxford, and Imperial global digital exemplars, the Mersey Care mental health GDE, and the Manchester local health and care record exemplar (LHCRE).

As part of its expansion, Populo has also appointed Gary Davies as Client Services Director.

Davies has joined from Allscripts where he senior project manager working with several of the Trusts in the North West who have implemented Allscripts. Previously he has worked for Integris, SystemC and Ascribe in project management and delivery roles.

The new office in London's Paddington Basin is close to Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust and to the offices of their system supplier, Cerner.

Aburrow-Jones said he expected the growing team to be engaged in two, key areas; helping NHS organisations to improve their digital agility and helping community and integrated care organisations on digital transformation projects.

"We have found that many NHS organisations invest millions in a major IT system, only to find that by the time it has been rolled-out it has become obsolete or in need of significant optimisation," he said.

"Our 'Digital Agility' service encourages organisations to use their estate in new ways, and then to draw up a strategic plan to fill in gaps in a cost-effective way.

"However, some of our biggest projects at the moment are not advising on systems but providing input into new models of care. National policy is focused on integrated care, and we can help to make sure that the technology is in place to support that, and that it works properly."

Populo has also refreshed its branding and launched a new website. Aburrow-Jones said the consultancy had worked hard to make sure that its new strapline, 'Caring for Digital Health', represented its values.

"We are all about caring about the quality of what we do and making sure that our clients have longterm, cost-effective and sustainable solutions that solve the problems they have and prepare them for the future."

Ends

Notes to editor

About Populo Consulting

Populo Consulting care about delivering positive results from digital health solutions.

We help healthcare organisations achieve their strategic business goals using tailored services for the unique challenges of each organisation.

Whether a business case, small project or a large-scale implementation, our care and attention to making it the best it can be is what drives us. To do this we develop and apply our expertise creating solutions tailored and built to meet the individual challenges of our customers; and always stay focused on the outcome.

We are expert consultants in delivering digital health outcomes that improve health and care services. We build that concept of care in everything thing we do to ensure it is innovative, of the highest quality and with impeccable service along the way.

Populo's focus is within the healthcare sector and we understand the complex demands that are raised during a period of rapid change and development. We recognise that every client is unique, and we take the time to gain an in-depth understanding of your organisation before recommending a strategy and pathway which is right for you.

Our approach is all about successful results and value for our clients and their patients. We don't do things for the sake of it, and we always stay focused on delivering the best outcome and associated value and benefits.

You care for your patients. Populo Consulting cares for your digital health.

For further information visit <u>http://populoconsulting.co.uk</u>, email <u>info@populoconsulting.co.uk</u>, Twitter @PopuloConsult

About the new, senior team

Johan Aburrow-Jones did a degree in biochemistry at Royal Holloway, University of London and subsequently worked for a wide-range of healthcare software suppliers. More recently, he has held

senior roles at IMS Ardentia, The HCI Group and Stalis. He joins Populo Consulting from Darklight Consulting.

Gary Davies has worked in the healthcare IT industry for ten years. He joins Populo Consulting from Allscripts, where he was a senior project manager for more than four years.

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