

Richard Cobridge
Chief Executive Officer, eHealth Ireland

Richard Corbridge is a globally recognised expert in healthcare strategy and technology, with over 20 years experience in the Health and Clinical Research Information sectors. Richard has a passion for business change and benefits management in health and very much insists on a focus on engagement and benefits being brought to technology implementation.

Since December 2014, Richard has been the Chief Information Officer for the Health Service Executive in Ireland and Chief Executive Officer for eHealth Ireland. In these two years, Richard has implemented a unique identifier for health, fully digitized the referral process, put in place Irelands first clinical information officers council, began the first epilepsy genomic sequencing programme globally, started the implementation of a national lab system and a national maternity EHR. He has also brought a focus to the delivery of a number of key strategic programmes including the beginning of ePharmacy for Ireland, digital cancer care and a cloud first strategy. He has also managed a reform of the Irish healthcare technology system that has seen a plethora of awards and recognitions for the team. All of this with a budget of just 1.2% of the Irish spend on healthcare.

Before that, Richard led the delivery of a wide range of systems and processes in the NHS with a focus to aid the provision of healthcare and clinical research. These ranged from the first primary care messaging system in the NHS, to the modernisation of the information systems' infrastructure for the delivery of clinical research throughout England.

For the last three years Richard has been named in the top ten most influential CIOs in Europe list by CIO magazine. He was listed by Computer Weekly as the rising star of the IT Industry at the end of 2015 and in 2016 he was named 'Person of the year' by Ireland's Tech Excellence magazine. In 2016 he was listed in the top 25 in the global HIT100 list, as well as being listed in the top 100 global influencers for digital health by Hot Topics magazine.

Richard was named by the Huffington Post as one of the most 'Social CIOs'. You can see the daily ins and outs of his work and life by following him on twitter at: @R1chardatron