Aim and Scope
Health and Social Care systems are facing major challenges worldwide, due in part to changes in demography and advances in technology and in part to changes in the structure and organisation of the system whether they are hospitals, general practitioners or long-term care settings. Yet running health and social care systems efficiently and effectively is crucial to improving or even maintaining our quality of life. Over the years, extensive research has been conducted to find immediate and long-term solutions to issues that are routinely faced by health and social care professionals, such as waiting lists and bed capacity, hospital redesign, workforce planning and scheduling, patient flow, performance management, disease monitoring, and health care technology assessment. Mathematical modelling and computer simulation techniques (statistical analysis, stochastic processes, queuing theory, mathematical programming, heuristics, discrete event simulation, system dynamics, etc) have shown to be increasingly valuable in providing useful information to aid planning and management.

The aim of the conference is to bring together health care managers, clinicians, management consultants, and mathematicians, operational researchers, statisticians, health economists, computer scientists etc from across the world with a view to bridging the gap between the respective communities and to exploring recent developments and identifying fruitful avenues for further research.

Call for Papers
We invite researchers in all relevant problem domains and methodologies to submit abstracts of 300 words by Friday 14th December 2012 by e-mail to conferences@ima.org.uk. Case studies and methodological papers are both welcome. Please state whether your title is intended for oral or poster presentation. Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by the end of January 2013. Poster presentations are particularly welcome as they stimulate discussion and feedback. We are also planning a special poster presentation session for research students and others to show their work in progress. Selected papers presented at the conference (whether orally or as a poster) will be published in special issues of journals, including Health Care Management Science (Springer).

Confirmed Invited Speakers
Professor Stephen E. Chick, Professor of Technology and Operations Management, Novartis Chair of Healthcare Management, INSEAD, France; Professor Malcolm Grant, CBE, UCL Provost and President and Chair of the NHS Commissioning Board; Dr David Paynton, FRCGP, DMS, MBE, Practicing GP, Clinical lead for Out of Hospital care at Southampton City Clinical Commissioning Group and National Clinical Lead for the Royal College of General Practitioner’s Centre for Commissioning; Dr Geoffrey Royston, President of the Operational Research Society and former Head of Strategic Analysis and Operational Research in the Department of Health for England, and Professor Peter Smith, Professor of Policy and co-Director of Centre for Health Policy, Imperial College London.

Organising Committee
Professor Thierry Chaussalet, University of Westminster – Chair; Dr Christos Vasilakis, University College London – Co-Chair; Professor Sally Brailsford, University of Southampton; Dr Eren Demir, University of Hertfordshire; Professor Simon Jones, University of Surrey; Professor Paul Lisboa, Liverpool John Moores University; Dr Martin Pitt, Peninsula Medical School.

Conference Fees

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Early Bird Fees (£)</th>
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<tr>
<td>IMA Member</td>
<td>£330</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-IMA Member</td>
<td>£395</td>
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All Conference Fees include refreshments and lunches throughout the conference, room hire, a wine reception on the evening of 25 March, and a conference dinner at the Hotel Russell on the evening of 26 March.

*Early Bird Fees must be paid by Monday 25 February 2012 otherwise the higher price will be implemented.

Further information
For further information and to register for the conference, please visit the conference webpage: http://www ima.org.uk/conferences/health2013.cfm
For general conference queries please contact Lizzi Lake, Conference Officer, E-mail: conferences@ima.org.uk, Tel: +44 (0) 1702 354 020, Post: Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, Catherine Richards House, 16 Nelson Street, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS1 1EF, UK.