



Rutherford Diagnostics

Rutherford Diagnostics is led by a team of industry experts

Dr Steven Powell
Chief Diagnostic Officer



Dr Steven Powell studied medicine at the University of Dundee before training initially in Surgery, and then Radiology. Following an exciting 10 year career as a Consultant Interventional Radiologist, during which he was President of the Vascular Access Society of Britain and Ireland, he became Clinical Director of a busy UK teaching hospital. In 2016 he became Director of the Accelerator, a home for life science businesses in the Liverpool Knowledge Quarter, creating a life science cluster for the purposes of bringing novel technologies and techniques to a population with some of the worst health outcomes in the UK. Steve joined Rutherford Diagnostics in 2017 to lead the subsidiary of Proton Partners International that aims to change the current reactive healthcare paradigm to one of prediction, prevention and earliest possible detection.

Ron Russell
Head of Operations



Ron Russell is an experienced leader and manager who has over thirty five years experience in leadership and management roles primarily in the Defence and Healthcare sectors. He is an experienced Healthcare strategy planner who has delivered difficult and complex projects in the most challenging environments. In recent times he has been a key member of the team that delivered High Energy Proton Beam therapy to the UK for the first time. His primary focus before taking up his current post was in delivering the UK's fourth Rutherford Cancer Centre to his home City, Liverpool, in the North West of England. Ron took up the post of Head of Operations, Rutherford Diagnostics in August 2018.

Mark Thorne
Financial Business Manager



Mark Thorne brings a wealth of finance experience to Rutherford Diagnostics. Having fulfilled senior finance roles in both the public and private sector, Mark has spent significant time in business development working on and winning commercial opportunities in healthcare. With a career in accountancy spanning 27 years, he has led the financial negotiations on a £400m PFI deal and brought the financial acumen to an £18m turn-around project. He also has experience in delivering medical education projects and implementing process and systems change. Mark joined Rutherford Diagnostics at the beginning of 2018 to bring about rapid change to healthcare delivery.

Penny Owens

Director of Allied Health Professionals



Penny has worked within five NHS Trusts at 15 Hospitals. In the last 20 years she has held Chief Radiographer, General Manager, and Director appointments within the NHS. She serves on three steering committees for Radiologist and Radiographer National Professional organisations, and currently chairs the National Occupational Standards Review for Diagnostic Radiography. She is a CQC Specialist Advisor and a lead Technical Assessor for ISAS, the awarding body for Diagnostic Imaging Accreditation. Her abiding passion is for delivery of a caring and compassionate, patient-focussed, high-quality service. Penny joined Proton Partners in 2015 as Radiography Advisor and is currently Director of Allied Health Professionals for Rutherford Diagnostics.

Dr Ian Barwick

Chief Scientific Officer



Dr Ian Barwick is a highly experienced scientist and commercial manager with extensive experience in the private and public sectors. After spells at universities in Wales and Ireland involving commercialising scientific research involving intellectual property, Ian was appointed Chief Operating Officer at the Life Sciences Hub Wales Ltd which developed the life sciences cluster in Wales with its own £100M investment fund and took the company from start-up into a successful multi-million company. Ian joined Proton Partners International in 2017 as Chief Scientific Officer for its subsidiaries and leads its research and innovation activities with industry, academics and clinicians. He is currently directing the establishment and management of the genome sequencing laboratory for Rutherford Diagnostics.

Mark Crocker

Chief Technical Officer



Mark Crocker brings 40 years of experience in the field of technology and innovations to Rutherford Diagnostics, having worked in complex real-time computing, and simulation through to healthcare systems. Mark was one of the first people involved in Proton Partners and now as the Chief Technical Officer he is designing technical solutions for Rutherford Diagnostics. Mark's experience will contribute greatly to forward thinking in the use of technology and healthcare data which will be one of the corner stones of Rutherford Diagnostics.

Michael Ashton

General Manager



Mike is currently General Manager for Rutherford Diagnostics and Rutherford Innovations. He has previously been engaged in Business Support and Enterprise as CEO of Herefordshire and Worcestershire Chamber of Commerce between 2007-2017. Before that he was CEO of Greater Manchester Chamberlink between 2003 and 2007. In this role he has led a number of overseas trade missions to China, Japan and Russia. Mike is keen to develop strong relationships between both the public and private sector, and other businesses, and sees the benefit to all from such links. In recognition of his contribution to the business community Mike was made a Fellow at the University of Worcester in 2017.