FHLIP 2025 — Highlights & Achievements

Theme: From Insights to Action: Empowering Health

Venue: University of Toronto — Dalla Lana School of Public Health.

By the numbers (quick wins)

- 288 attendees (243 in-person + 45 virtual)
- 42 submissions received; 29 accepted (11 full papers 11 Laptop Talks 7 Roundtables).

What attendees talked about

- **Opening Panel stole the show.** Attendees called Helen Angus's session "the perfect kickoff"—pragmatic, fast-paced, and laser-focused on turning insights into 12-month actions.
- Closing Keynote inspired delivery. Dr. Damian Jankowicz's playbook for trustworthy, interoperable AI was praised as "the most actionable talk of the day."
- From ideas → implementation. Participants appreciated the bridge from academic evidence to real-world workflow design, with clear takeaways they could apply on Monday morning.
- Inclusive voices, real dialogue. Clinicians, policy leaders, patients, and students all felt heard—many cited the cross-stakeholder discussion as a hallmark of the conference.
- **High-value connections.** "Best networking of the season"—attendees highlighted approachable speakers, targeted conversations, and new partnerships formed on the spot.

Program snapshot

Panel: Inside the Black Box of Healthcare Policy — Who Decides What Gets Funded, Scaled, and Ignored?

Moderator: Helen Angus (CEO, AMS Healthcare)

Panelists: Michael Millar • Will Falk • Dr. Paul Kurdyak Dr. Payal Agarwal

One-line takeaway: A fast-paced and pragmatic discussion with system leaders connected evidence to execution. The opening remarks set a decisive, execution-first tone. The speakers argued that funding and scaling initiatives are influenced not only by evidence but also by incentives, accountability, and narrative. Therefore, the current goal is to integrate these factors into daily operations. They made three specific calls to action: (1) establish standards and interfaces that ensure data reliably follows patients across different settings, (2) tie funding to measurable outcomes, making accountability a fundamental aspect of program design rather than an afterthought, and (3) prioritize workflow-first co-design with clinicians and teams to reduce friction and burnout, enabling promising tools to move beyond pilot projects. Attendees and partners reflected the session's energy and practicality in their posts, praising Helen Angus's facilitation and the lineup of speakers—Millar, Falk, Kurdyak, and Agarwal—as key reasons the panel resonated with the audience. The discussions translated insights into tangible 12-month deliverables, including standards adoption, governance updates, and transparent performance reporting.

Closing Keynote — Dr. Damian Jankowicz.

Jankowicz transformed "insights to action" into a practical delivery playbook. This includes building trustworthy AI that focuses on interoperability, privacy, and operational resilience. He emphasizes the importance of pairing evaluation with implementation to ensure that improvements can be scaled safely. Additionally, he advocates for measuring impact using shared system metrics. Drawing from Unity Health's experience with over 50 deployed AI solutions—such as early warning models like ChartWatch and imaging support—he highlighted the need to transition from pilot projects to comprehensive platforms. Continuous model monitoring is crucial, especially after significant changes to electronic health records (EHR), to maintain reliable performance in real clinical settings.

Partners & Sponsors

We were proud to be supported by Canada Health Infoway, HIMSS Eastern Canada, and AMS Healthcare. Their teams showed up in force—executives on stage contributing to high-impact discussions and staffed booths throughout our networking sessions—helping amplify the conference's focus on turning insights into action.