Thornton, Nell
The Health Foundation

Nell is an Improvement Fellow at the Health Foundation where she leads major research projects on the use of technology and data to improve healthcare, specialising in artificial intelligence. Most recently, Nell has led research into the priorities for a national AI in health care strategy, as well as on public and staff attitudes to the use of AI in health. In January, she was named as a 2025 AI Visionary by the UK's Department of Health and Social Care for her work advocating for gender equity and responsible AI. Prior to the working at the Health Foundation, she managed city-wide, collaborative projects on health technology and data in collaboration with the NHS, universities, the local authority, and broader innovation organisations.