



RCSI

UNIVERSITY
OF MEDICINE
AND HEALTH
SCIENCES

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

1 JULY 2023 – 30 JUNE 2024



RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences

Annual Report

1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024



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INTRODUCTION

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to introduce the 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024 Annual Report of the scholarly activities of RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences. This summary necessarily highlights only a fraction of the many substantial achievements of the university during this period - the report ahead gives further details by Department and Schools. I hope you enjoy seeing some of the achievements of your colleagues and maybe identifying opportunities for future dialogue and collaboration.

A significant milestone this year was the establishment of the **8th RCSI School – the School of Dentistry**, with **Professor Albert Leung** as its Foundation Head. Responding to the major Irish and international shortage in the dental workforce, the School has rapidly progressed plans for the first community-based education programme in undergraduate dentistry in Ireland. Following RCSI and NUI approval, the School has received regulatory support from the Irish Dental Council to launch a new Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree commencing in September 2025.

Internationally, we received final approval for the establishment of the **International College of Pharmaceutical Innovation**, a Joint Education Initiative of Soochow University, China, and RCSI. The first cohort of students will start in September 2024 in the Future Campus of Soochow University, Suzhou, China. The Dean is **Professor Zhiyuan Zhong**, Professor of the College of Pharmaceutical Sciences and International College of Pharmaceutical Innovation Soochow University, with RCSI's **Professor Brian Kirby** as Deputy Dean.

In September 2023 we launched the **Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy** - a unifying, inter-professional, university wide approach to sustain and amplify key initiatives introduced to transform curricula over the last two strategic cycles. The Strategy seeks to ensure alignment across courses around key principles and will enable Schools to learn from one another across an increasing number of educational programmes, avoiding duplication and improving efficiency and quality.

Thanks to all who attended and presented at the **13th International Education Forum (IEF)** in June – great speakers and great audience participation, including 20 colleagues from our overseas campuses in Bahrain and Malaysia. We welcomed guest speaker **Dr Grace Spence Green**, an activist doctor who addressed the topic '*Challenging Narratives on Disability in Health*'. There was a real sense of pride in celebrating each other's initiatives and innovations including the successful completion of Year 2, School of Medicine, Transforming Healthcare Education Project (THEP). Congratulations to leaders **Professors Arnie Hill and Gerry McElvaney** and to **Professor Gozie Offiah** who led the Implementation Team and to **Professor Fidelma Fitzpatrick** and **Dr Niall Stevens**, the Medicine Year 2 leads.

The annual RCSI **Education Innovation Awards**, Chaired by **Professor Fiona Kent**, and our Health Professions Education Centre team, were held during the IEF. These awards recognise the importance of innovation in teaching and learning and highlight examples of innovative educational practice. The winning initiative was led by **Ali-Rose Sisk**, Lecturer in Nursing, School of Nursing and Midwifery, RCSI Bahrain, in collaboration with colleagues Aisling Fahey, Amna Al-Muhandes and Doaa Magdy.

RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences ranked Number 5 in the world for Sustainable Development Goal 3 '*Good Health and Wellbeing*' in the Times Higher Impact Ranking (2024). The university is also ranked in the top 300 category in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024. For the first time, our Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy & Biomolecular Sciences and Nursing and Midwifery all ranked in the Top 200 of the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024. A wonderful acknowledgement of the quality and impact of the education delivered by our Schools. Thanks to **Abi Kelly** and her team in the Institutional Planning Office for guidance to enable RCSI to best tailor and reflect our activities in these international assessments.

Student engagement and partnership are key to RCSI, and we continue to collaborate with our Student Unions to foster and enhance student involvement in university life. Established by **Professor Celine Marmion**, the Student Engagement and Partnership (StEP) Programme continues to promote a university-wide culture empowering staff and students to work with and learn from each other.

Led by **Dr Niall Stevens** and team, over 210 undergraduate students from all schools participated in the **RCSI Research Summer School Programme (RSS)** in 2024. The RSS provides participating students with the opportunity to undertake a supervised project in their chosen area of interest or a shorter structured taught programme that covers core research skills. Students also get the opportunity to develop a potentially commercial viable solution to a modern healthcare problem in the annual Student Innovation Challenge. This is a joint activity coordinated by **Dr Shona Pfeiffer**, Department of Physiology & Medical Physics and **Dr Aoife Gallagher**, Office of Research and Innovation, and draws on the expertise of RCSI academics to mentor students as they develop their ideas.

The **International Conference for Healthcare and Medical Students (ICHAMS)** held its 13th event in February 2024. Led by **Professor Brona Murphy** over 300 student delegates from 25 countries attended. This year's theme for ICHAMS was "*Inspiring local vision into global impact.*" The keynote speakers embodied this theme, and included **Dr Benjamin LaBrot** an RCSI alumnus who founded Floating Doctors, and **Dr Austin O'Carroll** who is the founder of SafetyNet.

Our student-led journal, **RCSismj** (student medical journal), published the 17th edition of the journal and also launched a new website <https://rcsismj.com/> comprising all the editions of the RCSismj journals since its inception and also some very interesting discussions.

Graduations

RCSI Dublin graduations comprised 349 Medicine, 34 Physiotherapy and 55 Pharmacy students. A further 518 students graduated from taught or research Masters, MD and PhD programmes. In addition, there were also a further 1,068 graduates – from PG Certs, Diplomas, Professional Training qualifications, UG certs, diplomas and degrees.

(numbers extracted directly from the final April 2024 HEA report which report the 2023 numbers)

RCSI Honorary Doctorates

Honorary Doctorates (RCSI, DSc) were awarded at RCSI conferring ceremonies to honour the following people who have made an outstanding contribution to society and healthcare:

Ms Emer Cooke, Executive Director of the European Medicines Agency and Chair of the International Coalition of Medicines Regulatory Authorities.

Ms Margaret Murphy, Patient Safety Advocate and External Lead Advisor Emeritus for the World Health Organisation (WHO), Patients for Patient Safety Programme

Ms Noeline Blackwell, Human Rights Lawyer and Former CEO, Dublin Rape Crisis Centre

Professor Sir David Spiegelhalter OBE, Emeritus Professor of Statistics in the Centre for Mathematical Sciences, University of Cambridge

Professor Dorothy Roberts, 14th Penn Integrates Knowledge Professor and George A. Weiss University Professor of Law and Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

Athena Swan

Thanks to **Liz Hughes**, the EDI Unit, **Professor Clive Lee**, **Dr Caroline Curtin** and **Dr Oran Kennedy** and the Anatomy & Regenerative Medicine team with support from **Barry Holmes** and the HR team, who in March 2024 successfully renewed their Athena Swan Bronze accreditation.

Research Day

RCSI's celebration of excellence in research and innovation was showcased at our annual Research Day, 8th March 2024, hosted by **Professor Fergal O'Brien**, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation and his team. We welcomed **Professor Elaine Fuchs**, Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Rockefeller University, who delivered the John J Ryan Distinguished Lecture entitled "*Stem Cells: Coping with Stress and Learning from Their Experiences*".

Research Day Awards were presented to:

- Best Early Career Investigator Oral presentation - Roisin McAvera (Department of Pathology): "SKY92 Molecular Profiling in Combination With MRD Risk Profiling to Identify High-Risk Multiple Myeloma Patients in Ireland (SKIP-MM)".
- Best Early Career Investigator Poster - Cian O'Connor (Department of Anatomy & Regenerative Medicine and TERG): "Development of an induced pluripotent stem cell loaded biomimetic scaffold for spinal cord repair".
- Best Postgraduate Oral presentation: Ellen King (Department of Anatomy & Regenerative Medicine and TERG): "*NeuVac, a novel therapeutic mRNA cancer vaccine, stimulates a robust immune response in vivo*".
- Best postgraduate in year 2 onwards poster- Alessandra Allotta (Department of Surgery): "*Insights into the biological effect of targeting CDK12 in advanced ER+ breast cancer*".
- Best postgraduate in year 1 poster- Rena Mullally (Department of Anatomy & Regenerative Medicine and TERG): "*Development of a biomimetic biomaterial scaffold with optimised pore architecture, composition, and stiffness for the treatment of spinal cord injury*".
- Best undergraduate oral presentation- Linda Kelly: "*Decrypting the thalamic subnuclei and functional composites in adolescents with psychotic experiences*".
- Best undergraduate poster- Katelyn Grace (TERG): "*Development and characterisation of methacrylated gelatine (GelMA) and methacrylated hyaluronic acid (MeHA) hydrogels for regeneration of zonal articular cartilage*".

RCSI Vice Chancellor Innovation Awards

- Clinician Innovation Award: Professor James O'Donnell (PBS)
- Commercialisation Innovation Award: Professor Helena Kelly (PBS)
- Industry Engagement Innovation Award: Dr Marco Monopoli (Dept of Chemistry and TERG)
- Granted Patent Award: Professor Richard Costello (Department of Medicine).
- Invention Disclosure Awards: Giulio Brunetti (TERG), Adrian Dervan (TERG), Emily Greenan (PBS), Jaideep Kesavan (Physiology and Medical Physics) Zak Kinsella (PBS), Xuehua Lin (PBS), Omar Mamad (Physiology and Medical Physics), Tara McGuire (TERG), Xinxin Shao (PBS), Eamon Sheehy (TERG) and Ian Woods (TERG).

Citation Award Winners

- Most Highly Cited RCSI Senior Authored 2018-2022: Professor Gerry McElvaney, Department of Medicine
- Most Highly Cited RCSI Senior Authored with International Collaboration 2018-2022: Professor Jarushka Naidoo, Dept of Medicine
- Most Highly Cited RCSI Senior Authored with Industry Collaboration 2018-2022: Professor Richard Costello, Dept of Medicine
- Highest RCSI Senior Authored Altmetric Score 2023: Professor Robert Byrne, Chair Of Cardiovascular Research, PBS.

Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) awards

- Undergraduate: Ronan Cleary (Physiotherapy).
- Postgraduate: Padraig Carroll (PhD student, PBS & TERG).
- Early Career Researcher: Michelle O'Toole (SIM Centre)
- Academic Staff: Dr Joan Ni Gabhann-Dromgoole (PBS).
- RCSI Public Patient Research Partner Excellence Award Winner 2024: Fiona Weldon.

Engaged Research Awards

- Undergraduate winners: Eisten Keogh and Amir K. Bachari (Graduate Entry Medicine),
- Overall winner: Justin Laiti (PhD scholar in Centre for positive Health Sciences).
- RCSI Sustainability and Climate Health Research Award 2024 (International): Professor Kevin McGuigan, Department of Physiology and Medical Physics.
- RCSI Sustainability and Climate Health Research Award 2024 (National): Dr Jolanta Burke, Centre for Positive Health Sciences.

RCSI Bahrain

RCSI Bahrain President **Professor Sameer Otoom** and colleagues have had a very successful scholarly year and this year celebrate the 20 year anniversary of RCSI Bahrain. Details of the academic programmes in medicine and nursing, and research achievements, are fully summarised in RCSI Bahrain's annual [report \(rcsi.com/Bahrain\)](https://rcsi.com/Bahrain).

RCSI and UCD Malaysia Campus (RUMC)

We were delighted to announce that in Autumn 2023, RUMC appointed **Professor Karen Morgan**, a graduate and former staff member of RCSI, as President and Dato Professor Rashid Khan as Dean.

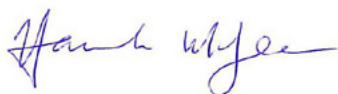
QQI CINNTE Institutional Review

Last but my no means least, a significant event, the results of which we can all be proud of, the QQI CINNTE Institutional Review. A huge thanks to **Aisling Reast**, all the QEO team and absolutely everyone across the entire institution. As part of the review report, the review team recognised RCSI's commitment to high-quality education, and commended our work to foster inclusivity and diversity, our student engagement, and supports. I will leave you with a quote from the Review Team chair, **Professor Ann Griffin** –

“Strategically driven and student focused: the review panel were enormously impressed by the strong sense of a shared institutional ambition and a student-centred ethos, which was articulated by all those we met on the visit. The review team observed approaches to quality assurance and enhancement that were engrained within the organisation and across its partners, both local and global. Accessible leadership, an ethos of valuing staff, and students as active agents in their own learning stood out as key ingredients in RCSI's success. Like all critically minded and reflective organisations our report supports the developments RCSI has already embarked on and hopes that our assessment allows them to take these forwards with greater reassurance.”

Thanks to many people for completion of this report, in particular the Editor, **Dr Aamir Hameed**, Department of Anatomy & Regenerative Medicine and **Margaret McCarthy**, DVCAA's Office, for collating and typesetting.

As I conclude my term as Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, I would like to thank you all for your scholarly activities highlighted here and your support to me over the last 14 years. Well done to all and we can confidently look forward to an equally successful year in 2024-25, under the leadership of the new Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, **Professor Tracy Robson**



Professor Hannah McGee
Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Medicine & Health Sciences Board

Governing authority on degree-awarding activities within RCSI

Chair: RCSI President, Professor Laura Viani

Convenor: Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Professor Hannah McGee

Vice President, Professor Deborah McNamara

Council Member and Chair of Academic Council, Professor Simon Cross

Council Member, Professor Kevin Conlon

Council Member, Professor Camilla Carroll

Council Member, Mr Paddy Kenny

Council Member, Professor David Healy

President, RCSI Bahrain, Professor Sameer Otoom

Vice President for Academic Affairs, RCSI Bahrain, Professor Alf Nicholson

Senior Management Representative, Professor Cathal Kelly

Senior Management Representative, Ms Jennifer Cullinane

Senior Management Representative, Mr Barry Holmes

Staff Member appointed by the CEO, Professor Declan Keane

Staff Member appointed by the CEO, Professor Fidelma Fitzpatrick

Staff Member appointed by the CEO, Professor Fergal Malone

Elected Staff Representative, Professor Gozie Offiah

Elected Staff Representative, Dr Muirne Spooner

Elected Staff Representative, Ms Cara McVeigh

Undergraduate Students' Union Presidents, Mr Connor Lenihan

Postgraduate Students' Union Presidents, Mr Justin Laiti

Representative from Health, Service and Educational Partners, Mr Tom Boland

Representative from Health, Service and Educational Partners, Ms Caroline Spillane

Representative from Health, Service and Educational Partners, Professor Yvonne Barnett

Representative from Health, Service and Educational Partners, Professor Phyo Myint

Dean of Medical Programmes

Professor Arnold Hill

Heads of Schools

Professor Edward Gregg, Head of the School of Population Health

Professor Albert Leung, Head of the School of Dentistry

Professor Noel G. McElvaney, Head of the School of Medicine

Professor Suzanne McDonough, Head of the School of Physiotherapy

Ms Sara McDonnell, Executive Director & Dr Colm Foster, Director of Academic Programmes, Graduate School of Healthcare Management

Professor Zena Moore, Head of the School of Nursing & Midwifery

Professor Darran O'Connor, Head of the School of Postgraduate Studies

Professor Tracy Robson, Head of the School of Pharmacy & Biomolecular Sciences

Deputy Deans

Professor Anne Hickey, Deputy Dean for Positive Education

Professor Celine Marmion, Deputy Dean for Student Engagement

Professor Sam McConkey, Deputy Dean for International Curriculum Development

Professor Jochen Prehn, Deputy Dean for International Scholarly Engagement

Academic Council

Senior academic and administrative forum for deliberation on all academic matters

Chair & Council Member, Professor Simon Cross
Convenor, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Professor Hannah McGee
President, Professor Laura Viani
Vice President, Professor Deborah McNamara
Council Member, Professor Camilla Carroll
Council Member, Mr John Caird
Chief Executive Officer, Professor Cathal Kelly
President, RCSI Bahrain, Professor Sameer Otoom
Vice President for Academic Affairs, RCSI Bahrain, Professor Alf Nicholson
Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research & Innovation, Professor Fergal O'Brien
Dean of Medical Programmes and Head of the Department of Surgery, Professor Arnold Hill
Head, School of Medicine, Professor Noel G. McElvaney
Head, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Professor Zena Moore
Head, School of Pharmacy & Biomolecular Sciences, Professor Tracy Robson
Head, School of Physiotherapy, Professor Suzanne McDonough
Head, School of Postgraduate Studies, Professor Darran O'Connor
Head, School of Population Health, Professor Edward Gregg
Head, School of Dentistry, Professor Albert Leung
Executive Director, Graduate School of Healthcare Management, Ms Sara McDonnell
Director of Academic Programmes, Graduate School of Healthcare Management, Dr Colm Foster
Head, School of Postgraduate Studies & Research, RCSI Bahrain, Professor Stephen Atkin
Deputy Dean for Student Engagement, Professor Celine Marmion
Deputy Dean for Positive Education and Head, Department of Psychology, Professor Anne Hickey
Deputy Dean for International Curriculum Development and Head, Department of International Health & Tropical Medicine, Professor Sam McConkey
Deputy Dean for International Scholarly Engagemen, Professor Jochen Prehn
O'Brien Chair of Global Surgery, Professor Juan Carlos Puyana
Chair of Medical Professionalism, Professor Denis Harkin
Head, Department of Anaesthesia & Critical Care, Professor Gerard Curley
Head, Department of Anatomy and Regenerative Medicine, Professor T. Clive Lee
Head, Department of Chemistry, Professor Donal O'Shea
Head, Department of Clinical Microbiology, Professor Fidelma Fitzpatrick
Head, Department of Clinical Neurological Science, Professor Ciaran Bolger
Head, Department of Public Health & Epidemiology, Professor Debbi Stanistreet
Head, Department of Family Medicine & General Practice, Professor Tom Fahey
Director of Library Services, Ms Kate Kelly
Head, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Professor Fergal Malone
Head, Department of Ophthalmology, Professor Conor Murphy
Head, Department of Orthopaedics, Professor John M. O'Byrne
Head, Department of Otolaryngology and Head & Neck Surgery, Professor James Paul O'Neill
Head, Department of Paediatrics, Professor Jonathan Hourihane
Head, Department of Pathology, Professor Siobhan Glavey
Head, Department of Psychiatry, Professor Kieran C. Murphy
Interim Head, Department of Physiology & Medical Physics, Professor David Henshall
Head, Department of Radiology, Professor Nuala Healy
Head of School of Nursing & Midwifery, RCSI Bahrain, Dr Kathryn Strachan
Head of Quality & Academic Development, RCSI Bahrain, Professor Nichola McLarnon
Head of Quality Enhancement Office, Ms Aisling Reast
Director of Corporate Strategy, Mr Michael McGrail
Director of Finance, Ms Jennifer Cullinane - nominee Mr Padraig Barry
Director of Human Resources, Mr Barry Holmes
Director of Human Resources nominee, Ms Cathy Buffini
Chief Technology Officer, Mr Justin Ralph
Director of International Engagement & External Relations, Ms Abi Kelly
Director of Development - Alumni Relations, Fellows & Members, Ms Aíne Gibbons
Director of Health Professions Education Centre, Professor Jan Illing
Director, Graduate Entry Medicine, Professor Seamus Sreenan

Director, Centre for Positive Health Sciences, Professor Ciaran O'Boyle
Academic Director of Admissions, Dr Kenny Winser
Academic Director of Community & Public Engagement, Professor Kevin McGuigan
Director, Medical Commencement Programme, Dr Darren Griffith
Director, Foundation Year Programme, Dr Olga Piskareva
Year 1 Lead, School of Medicine, Professor Maria Morgan
Year 2 Co-Lead, School of Medicine, Dr Niall Stevens
Year 3 Co-Lead, School of Medicine, Professor Brona Murphy
Geriatric Medicine, Department of Medicine and Senior Cycle 1 Director, Professor David Williams
Deputy Head (Education) School of Pharmacy & Biomolecular Sciences, Professor Judith Strawbridge
Deputy Head (Research) School of Pharmacy & Biomolecular Sciences, Professor Steve Kerrigan
Deputy Dean, Soochow University-RCSI Joint Education Initiative (JEI), International College of
Pharmaceutical Innovation, Professor Brian Kirby
Director BSc Advanced Therapeutic Technologies Programme, Dr Ben Ryan
Deputy Director, Graduate Entry Medicine (Year 1), Professor Marian Brennan
Deputy Director, Graduate Entry Medicine (Year 2), Professor Eoghan O'Neill
Deputy Head, School of Medicine, RCSI Bahrain, Professor Naji Alamuddin
Deputy Head, School of Physiotherapy, Professor Frances Horgan
Deputy Head, School of Nursing & Midwifery, Professor Tom O'Connor
Director of Simulation Education, Dr Claire Condron
Director of the Clinical Research Centre, Professor Mark Sherlock
Director of the Centre for Vascular Biology, Professor James O'Donnell
Director of Physician Associate Programme, Professor Lisa Alexander
Head of Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, Ms Liz Hughes
Head of Data Science Centre, Professor Kathleen Bennett
Head of Online Education, Dr Dara Cassidy
Director of Curriculum, School of Medicine, Professor Gozie Offiah
Student Representative, Student Union President, Mr Connor Lenihan
Student Representative, Student Union Education Officer, Ms Meeryn Kahlon
Elected Representative, Professor Judy Harmey
Elected Representative, Dr Frank Moriarty
Associate Director for Academic Affairs, Dr Judith Gilroy
Associate Director for Admissions, Mr Philip Curtis
Associate Director for Communications, Ms Louise Loughran
Director, Estate & Support Services, Mr Ronan Baxter
Associate Director, Chief Executive's Office, Mr Adrian Devitt
Associate Director, Surgical Affairs Operations & Planning, Mr Pdraig Kelly
Head of Operations, SARA, Mr Conor Murney
Head of Examinations & Assessments, SARA, Mr Kenny Franks
Head of Academic Operations, RCSI Bahrain, Mr Simon Whitebridge
Executive Director, Institute of Pharmacy, Dr Catriona Bradley

UNIVERSITY-WIDE ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTRES

Centre for Positive Health Sciences

Overview

This year saw the Centre grow to a compliment of 21 staff including 4 Prof Doctoral candidates who all successfully passed their annual reviews. The Centre added to its suite of academic programmes by launching a new Professional Diploma in Leading Workplace Health and Wellbeing with the first cohort set to commence at the end of August. The programme prepares students to become leaders in promoting health and wellbeing within organisational settings and to implement effective health strategies fostering a positive and productive work environment. In May 2024 we launched our Introduction to Lifestyle Medicine micro-credential course which serves as a pathway for non-healthcare professionals onto the MSc in Positive Health Coaching. The Centre is also gearing up to launch a Masters in Applied Positive Psychology (Health) next year with the business case approved by A&QC earlier this year.

There was significant attendance by the Centre at the European Conference on Positive Psychology (ECP24) in Innsbruck where we were delighted to announce that we were the successful awardees for the 2026 conference bid which will be hosted in the Convention Centre Dublin in July 2026.

The Centre hosted three symposiums with nine research presentations and two keynote seminars at ECP24.

The current year saw a significant increase in the Centre's research activities with research projects being launched in

- Perinatal wellbeing, coaching and positive health education.
- Wellbeing in the workplace (front-line healthcare staff, office and remote workers).
- Positive education and childhood (wellbeing in a school setting, dental health).
- The food environment and children's health.
- Positive health interventions in chronic disease conditions (nutrition and lifestyle interventions for cancer survivors).
- Positive health interventions in the community (art and music and their impact in the community's health and wellbeing; digital health coaching in the community; green spaces and environmental initiatives in the community).

This year saw Professor Ciaran O'Boyle retire from RCSI after almost 40 years of service across a number of schools and departments. He founded the first Department of Psychology in an Irish medical school and then went on to found the first Centre for Positive Health in an Irish University. Ciaran's leadership and vision will be greatly missed by all who worked with him.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Fulbright Scholars

Mr Justin Laiti, StAR Fulbright Postgraduate Programme, joined in September 2022. Seconded to Oxford on the RCSI SPGS Secondment award for two months in Summer 2024.

Professor Christian van Nieuwerburgh

- Principal Fellow, Centre for Wellbeing Sciences, University of Melbourne
- Honorary CollectivEd Fellow of the Carnegie School of Education at Leeds Beckett University
- Wisdom Weaver, Thought Leadership Institute of the International Coach Federation

Dr Jolanta Burke

- External examiner for the University of Limerick
- European Network for Positive Psychology board member
- Katolicki Uniwersitet Lubelski Visiting Professor
- Won the "The Variety Ireland Humanitarian Award 2024" for research impact
- Won the "RCSI Sustainability and Climate Health Research Award 2024"
- Achieved over 2.5 million views on the Conversation

Dr Elaine Byrne

- Member of the Irish Global Health Network
- Member of the Board of Directors for the Irish Charity Beyond Stigma.
- Member of the National Research Foundation of South Africa Researcher Rating Committee
- Member of PPI Ignite Quality Improvement and Impact Working Group

Dr Mary Collins

- Co-chair Coaching Psychology SIG - Psychological Society of Ireland (2023 – present)
- Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapy – invited member of the Leadership Development Committee (2024)
- Judge Grad Ireland Awards (2024)
- Judge Engineers Ireland CPD Awards (2024)
- Judge HR Leadership & Management Awards (2024)
- Invited keynote for the Medical Education Conference KFAF Hospital, Jeddah (October 2023)
- Invited speaker at the American Irish Medical Education Summit (August 2023)

Dr Padraic Dunne

- Diplomate of the International Board of Lifestyle Medicine (IBLM)

Dr Trudy Meehan

- Talk at TedX ATU in Donegal highlighting the transformative power of storytelling in overcoming adversity

Staff List*Professor & Director of Centre*

Ciaran O'Boyle PhD, BSc, DipOL(Oxon.), DipTheol

Professor of Coaching & Positive Psychology and Interim Director effective 21st June 2024

Christian van Nieuwerburgh PhD, MSc, MA, BA

Senior Lecturers

Jolanta Burke PhD, MSc, PG Dip, PG Cert, BA

Elaine Byrne PhD, M Litt, MA, PG Dip, PG Cert, BA

Padraic Dunne PhD, MSc, BSc

Chartered Psychologist

Mary Collins CPsychol, EdD, MSc, BA

Senior Clinical Psychologist and Lecturer

Trudy Meehan PhD, DClinPsych, BA

Adjunct Faculty

Beth Frates MD, FACLM, DipABLM

Robert Kelly MD, MBA

Liana Lianov MD, MPH

Armita Sen Mukherjee MSc (Dist), MBBS DRCOG MRCPG DOccMed MAcadMed GMBPsS, BSc

Mark Rowe FRCPI, MBBS, MICGP

Operations Staff

Suzanne Sullivan MBS, BA

Miriam Holden MSc, BA

Marina Iglesias Cans PhD, MSc, H Dip, BSc

Research Staff

Postdoctoral Fellow, Roisin O'Donovan PhD, MSc, BSc

Research Assistant, Stephen Campbell BA, MSc

Research Assistant, Branislav Kaleta MSc

PhD Scholars - 4
Professional Doctorate Scholars - 4
Summer students - 14
Undergraduate Medical student select scholars - 3

Publications

Burke, J., Boniwell, I., Frates, B., Lianov, L. S., & O'Boyle, C. A. (2023). *Routledge International Handbook of Positive Health Sciences: Positive Psychology and Lifestyle Medicine Research, Theory and Practice*. Taylor & Francis.

Burke, J., Clarke, D., & O'Keeffe, J. (2024). Greening the Mind: The Power of Integrating Positive and Environmental Education for Improving Well-Being. In *Handbook of Positive School Psychology: Evidence-Based Strategies for Youth Well-Being* (pp. 145-159). Springer.
https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-54295-4_10

Burke, J., Clarke, D., O'Keeffe, J., & Meehan, T. (2023). The Impact of Blue and Green Spaces on Wellbeing: A Review of Reviews through a Positive Psychology Lens. *Journal of Happiness and Health*, 3(2), 93-108. <https://doi.org/10.47602/johah.v3i2.48>

Burke, J., & Corrigan, S. (2024). Bee Well: a positive psychological impact of a pro-environmental intervention on beekeepers' and their families' wellbeing. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 15, 1354408.
<https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2024.1354408>

Burke, J., & Dunne, P. J. (2024). Mind meets body: Lifestyle medicine and positive psychology interventions for school. In *Handbook of Positive School Psychology: Evidence-Based Strategies for Youth Well-Being* (pp. 193-207). Springer. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-54295-4_13

Collins, M., & Burke, J. (2023). Preparing workforce of the future-the role of positive psychology coaching with Gen Z. *International Journal of Psychology*.

Donnelly, J., Dunne, P. J., Laiti, J., Loughnane, C., & O'Donovan, R. (2023). Digital positive health Platforms, supported by artificial intelligence, measured using wearable devices. In *Routledge International Handbook of Positive Health Sciences* (pp. 266-281). Routledge.

Donnelly, J., Ridge, K., O'Donovan, R., Conlon, N., & Dunne, P. J. (2023). Psychosocial factors and chronic spontaneous urticaria: a systematic review. *BMC psychology*, 11(1), 239.
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Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Dr Jolanta Burke, Erasmus Staff Teaching Mobility Award, Erasmus+ , January 2024, €4,000

Dr Jolanta Burke, 1st Positive Health Summit, HRB Conference Award, April 2024, €5000

Dr Jolanta Burke, Wellbeing in the workplace, Workvivo (Zoom), June 2024, €80,000

Dr Jolanta Burke, Horizon ERC - Proposal Preparation Support, Enterprise Ireland, July 2023, €14,918

Dr Jolanta Burke, Greening your mind. Grant code -NF/2022/38574107, Irish Research Council New Foundations Award, July 2023 , €9,817

Dr Jolanta Burke, PsyTales , Erasmus+ , Dec 2023 , €250,000 , €54,405 21.7%, Consortium share

Dr Elaine Byrne/Dr Padraic Dunne/Dr Marina Iglesias-Cans/Dr Trudy Meehan. RCSI Research Summer Students work_placement, RCSI, January 2024, €11,000

Dr Elaine Byrne, RCSI Societal Impact & Engagement Fund 2024, RCSI, June 2024, €1,000

Dr Mary Collins/Dr Jolanta Burke, Evaluation of the leadership needs of intergenerational nurses and midwives working in the health service, Health Service Executive, June 2024, €24,319

Dr Padraic Dunne, Horizon Coordinator - Proposal Preparation Support, Enterprise Ireland, July 2023, €4,428

Dr Roisin O' Donovan, Health Education Program for Enhancing Perinatal Wellbeing in Ireland, Pfizer, Dec 2023, €16,891

Centre for Professionalism in Medicine and Health Sciences

Overview

The Centre for Professionalism in Medicine and Health Sciences (CPMHS) at RCSI, provides undergraduate and postgraduate education, and contributes to national and international developments in medical professionalism education, research and practice. Our Mission is *"To advance Medical Professionalism in research, education and practice"*. Our Vision is to provide *"Global Leadership in Medical Professionalism to achieve excellence in patient care and experience, caring for those who care and promoting a healthier society, through innovation in research, education and practice"*.

Our 2020-2025 Strategy has included: Building a Team and Centre at RCSI; Enhancing visibility through collaboration with RCSI Educate, International Conference and International Medical Professionalism Network; Establish evidence-based excellence in Medical Professionalism Teaching and Education in undergraduate, postgraduate and continuing professional education; Development of a programme of Research and Publication with tangible impact and dissemination through Presentations, Webinars, Invited Lectures, Contribution to Policy and Guidelines, and Publications.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

The advent of the RCSI Centre for Professionalism in Medicine and Health Sciences was approved by the Senior Management Team and Academic Council, May and July 2023.

Key Staff Appointments

- Dr Asil Sadeq, Postdoctoral Fellow, September 2023
- Dr Fionnuala Gough, Lecturer in Professionalism, December 2023

RCSI Medical Professionalism Conference

The fourth annual RCSI Medical Professionalism Conference took place on 26th April 2024. This year's conference was hybrid, with both in-person in the Albert Lecture Theatre at RCSI, and online via Zoom. We had over 875+ registered attendees and delegates from over 40 countries from across the world. The theme was *"Professionalism: Raising Concerns"*. The event was opened by Professor Denis Harkin, Chair of Medical Professionalism in RCSI, followed by a welcome address by RCSI President, Professor Laura Vianni. The conference boasted a stellar line-up of outstanding keynote speakers and panellist presenters, including such luminaries as:

- Sir Robert Francis KC KBE (Mid Stafford Inquiry and Infected Blood Inquiry)
- Mr Stephen Teap (221+ Support Group and Cervical Check Campaigner)
- Professor Russell Mannion (Raising Concerns, University of Birmingham)
- Professor Carrie Newlands (Working Party on Sexual Misconduct in Surgery RCSI)
- Dr Suzanne Crowe (President of the Irish Medical Council) and
- Dr Ravi Jayaram (Lucy Letby Inquiry)

Professionalism Matters Podcast Series

Professionalism Matters is a new podcast from RCSI's Centre for Professionalism in Medicine and Health Sciences. The podcast explores the complex topic of professionalism, which is at the core of the patient-clinician relationship and fundamental for patient safety and the delivery of highest-quality healthcare and is aimed at illuminating some of the more challenging issues in professionalism including unprofessional behaviours, empathy, advocacy and burnout.

Professor Denis Harkin and his guests discuss topics such as coaching for wellbeing, workplace bullying in healthcare, death, dying and bereavement, unprofessional behaviours, empathy, advocacy, burnout, human factors in patient safety, workplace leadership in healthcare and digital professionalism.

- Dr Henry Marsh: Non-Maleficence
- Professor Johanna Westbrook: Unprofessional Behaviours
- Professor Patrick Dolan: Empathy
- Dr Suzanne Crowe: Advocacy
- Professor Colin West: Burnout
- Dr Shaista Salman Guraya: Digital Professionalism
- Professor Eva Doherty: Human Factors in Patient Safety
- Professor Christian van Nieuwerburgh: Coaching for Wellbeing
- Professor Jan Illing: Workplace Bullying in Healthcare
- Eric Clarke and Orla Keegan: Death, Dying and Bereavement
- Professor Ciaran O'Boyle: Workplace Leadership in Healthcare

Novel academic teaching/assessment strategies

“RCSI Postgraduate Diploma/Masters in Professionalism” has received approval by SMT at RCSI and Business Case and Academic Case are making their way through Awards & Qualification Committee. Launch is planned for 2025.

“Good Help in Professionalism & Healthcare Ethics' Webinar Series (2024)” jointly Bon Secours Health System and RCSI: Ethical Challenges and their origins today; insights from Ireland, United Kingdom, Middle-East and USA.

The “Introducing the concepts of bereavement, loss and palliative care: philosophies, principles and practices” short course was introduced in March 2023 for Years 1 and 2. This topic aims to address important issues for medical students as they encounter end of life issues in clinical settings.

The PILLAR/PPID Development Assessment, integrated into all RCSI medical years, evaluates Professional Identity Formation, Professionalism, Leadership, and Resilience. It provides a holistic view of students' personal and professional development, with detailed feedback reports allowing anonymous peer comparison. This encourages students' self-reflection and continuous growth throughout their medical education.

In January 2024, Gillain Rufli, End-of-Life Coordinator, Beaumont Hospital and Eric Clarke gave a lecture to Year 5 focussing solely on pronouncement of death and the role of the End-of-Life Coordinator in a hospital setting.

Awards/Membership

Dr Fionnuala Gough, member of the NSAC, National Screening Advisory Committee, Ethics Division, January 2024 – present.

Professor Denis Harkin, Appointed Elected Council and Chair-Elect of Audit and QI Committee, Vascular Council Great Britain and Ireland, November 2022 - November 2026.

Professor Denis Harkin, Co-Organiser of Joint Irish Vascular Societies Annual Meeting, Dublin 2024.

Dr Abdelsalam Ben Saoud re-elected Young Ambassador of the European Association of Preventive Cardiology (EAPC), European Society of Cardiology, 2022-2024.

Dr Abdelsalam Ben Saoud appointed Junior Editor, European Heart Journal (EHJ) - Case Reports.

Dr Patrick Wood received two awards at the Joint Irish Vascular Societies Annual Scientific Meeting for his work on Surgeons Coping and Resilience (SCaRS), 17th May 2024:

- 1st Place Oral Presentation
- 2nd Place Poster Presentation

Invited Speaker

Professor Denis Harkin, Guest Speaker and Local Organiser, 37th European Society for Vascular Surgery Annual Meeting, Belfast 2023.

Conference Presentations

Ben Saoud A. Professional Identity Formation, Professionalism, Leadership and Resilience (PILLAR) in Medical Students. Irish Network of Healthcare Educators (INHED) Conference, January 2024.

Ben Saoud A, Ryan A, Doyle F, Hickey A, Harkin DW. Personal and Professional Identity (PPId) Development Assessment. 13th RCSI International Education Forum (IEF), June 2024.

Clarke E, Meghan Gipson M. Reviving Death, Dying and Bereavement in the Medical Curriculum: Addressing a concern. RCSI Medical Professionalism Annual Conference, April 2024.

Clarke E, Chow A. Reviving Death and Grief in the Medical Curriculum. Irish Hospice Foundation End of Life Forum, February 2024.

Clarke E, Offiah G, Gipson M, Lavelle A, Keegan Ó, Smith V. Embedding death, dying, bereavement and grief in the undergraduate medical curriculum. Irish Network of Healthcare Educators (INHED) Conference, January 2024.

Sadeq A. Professionalism in Partnership for Education Research (PROPER) Study Methodology. Irish Network of Healthcare Educators (INHED) Conference, January 2024.

Staff List

Chair & Head of Department

Denis Harkin MB, BCh, MD, PGCHET, FRCSI, FRCSEd, FRCS(Gen.Surg), FEBVS

Lecturer (RCSI Bahrain) (until February 2024)

Shaista Salman Guraya FRCR 2A (UK), MMedEd (Maastricht), Dip & Cert MEDEd (Dundee)

Lecturer

Aine Ryan BSc (Physio), MSc, PhD, PGDip HPE, MISCP

Lecturer

Fionnuala Gough MB BCh BAO, M Med Sc (Pharm), LLB, PhD

Lecturer in Health Informatics and Medical Professionalism

Eric Clarke BSc, MSc

Postdoctoral Fellow (from Sept 2023)

Asil Sadeq BSc (Pharm), PhD

Postdoctoral Researcher (from June 2023)

Abdelsalam Ben Saoud MBBS, PhD

Digital Media Specialist/ Research Assistant

Sinead Hand BBA

MD Fellows

Aoife Kiernan MBBS

Patrick Wood MBBS

Conor Dooley MBBS

Brain Fahey MBBS

Administrator

Mary Smyth

Publications

Benn S, Moore Z, Patton D, O'Connor T, Nugent L, Harkin DW, Avsar P. What is the prevalence of chronic venous disease among health care workers? A scoping review. *International Wound Journal* 20 (9), 821-839 2023.

Blair R, Harkin DW, Johnston D, Lim A, McFetridge L, Mitchell H. Open Surgery for Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm: 980 Consecutive Patient Outcomes from a High-Volume Centre in the United Kingdom. *Vascular and Endovascular Surgery*. 2023;57(5):463-470.

Clarke E. Grief on the mind: Understanding what loss does to our brains. *Irish Examiner*. May 10, 2024.

Guraya SS, Rashid-Doubell F, Harkin DW, Guraya SY. Mission-driven e-professionalism in the medical field: shaping digital identity and virtual engagement. *Front. Med.*, 22 March 2024. Sec. Healthcare Professions Education. Volume 11 – 2024.

Guraya SS, Clarke E, Sadeq A, Smyth M, Hand S, Doyle F, Kearney G, Harkin DW. Validating a theory of planned behavior questionnaire for assessing changes in professional behaviors of medical students. *Front. Med.*, 14 May 2024. Sec. Healthcare Professions Education. Volume 11 – 2024.

Guraya SS, Guraya SY, Doubell FR, Mathew B, Clarke E, Ryan Á, Fredericks S, Smyth M, Hand S, Al-Qallaf A, Kelly H. Understanding medical professionalism using express team-based learning; a qualitative case-based study. *Medical Education Online*. 2023 Dec 31;28(1):2235793.

Guraya SS, Harkin DW, Yusoff MSB, Guraya SY. Paradigms unfolded—developing, validating, and evaluating the Medical Education e-Professionalism framework from a philosophical perspective. *Front. Med.*, 19 October 2023. Sec. Healthcare Professions Education. Vol 10.

Guraya SS, Guraya SY, Doubell FR, Nor MZM, Yousuff MSB. Reclaiming the concept of professionalism in the digital context; a principle-based concept analysis. *Research Square*. 20 April 2023.

Harkin D, Dunlop D. Vascular Trauma. *Surgery*. Vol 42, Issue 5, P335-344, May 2024.

Harkin D. Repairing the vascular surgery workforce: attract, recruit and retain. *J.Vasc.Soc.G.B.Irel*. 2023;2(4):194-196

Harkin D. Contributed to 9th Edition of the Guide to Professional Conduct and Ethics for Registered Medical Practitioners (the “Guide”). *Irish Medical Council*. November 2023.

Kiernan A, Boland F, Naughton P, Moneley D, Doyle F, Harkin DW. Varicose Vein Education and Informed coNsent (VVEIN) study: A randomized controlled pilot feasibility study. *Annals of Vascular Surgery*, May 27, 2024.

Kiernan A, Fahey B, Guraya SS, Boland F, Moneley D, Doyle F, DW Harkin. Digital technology in informed consent for surgery: systematic review, *BJS Open*, Volume 7, Issue 1, 2023.

Kiernan A, Moneley D, Doyle F, Harkin DW. A modified Delphi process to form an expert consensus in Ireland on the essential information to be included in shared decision making for varicose vein surgery. *Phlebology*. 2023;38(4):259-269.

Kiernan A, Boland F, Moneley D, Doyle F, Harkin DW. Varicose Vein Education and Informed coNsent (VVEIN) study: a randomised controlled pilot feasibility study. *Pilot and Feasibility Studies*. 2023 Jun;9(1):104.

Patton D, Avsar P, Sayeh A, Budri A, O'Connor T, Walsh S, Nugent L, Harkin DW, O'Brien N, Cayce J, Corcoran M, Gaztambide M, Moore Z. A systematic review of the impact of compression therapy on quality of life and pain among people with a venous leg ulcer. *International Wound Journal* 21 (3), e14816, 2024. 06 March 2024.

Patton D, Avsar P, Sayeh A, Budri A, O'Connor T, Walsh S, Nugent L, Harkin DW, O'Brien N, Cayce J, Corcoran M, Gaztambide M, Derwin R, Sorensen J, Moore Z. Assessing the healthcare costs associated with venous leg ulcer compression bandages—A scoping review. *Journal of Tissue Viability*. Volume 32, Issue 4, November 2023, Pages 618-626.

Patton D, Avsar P, Sayeh A, Budri A, O'Connor T, Walsh S, Nugent L, Harkin DW, O'Brien N, Cayce J, Corcoran M, Gaztambide M, Moore Z. A meta-review of the impact of compression therapy on venous leg ulcer healing. *International Wound Journal* 20 (2), 430-447, 2023.

Ryan A, Hickey A, Harkin DW, Boland F, Collins ME, Doyle F. Professional Identity Formation, Professionalism, Leadership and Resilience (PILLAR) in Medical Students: Methodology and Early Results. *Journal of Medical Education and Curricular Development*, Volume 10, January-December 2023.

Ryan A, Moran CN, Byrne D, Hickey A, Boland F, Harkin DW, Guraya SS, Ben Saoud A, Doyle, F. Do professionalism, leadership, and resilience combine for professional identity formation? Evidence from confirmatory factor analysis. *Frontiers in Medicine Sec Healthcare Professions Education* 2024; 11.

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Professor Denis Harkin, HEA North South Research Programme. PROfessionalism in Partnership for Education Research (PROPER) Study: a novel online express team-based learning approach to knowledge acquisition and skills development in medical professionalism for medical students. All-Ireland Approach to Medical Professionalism Teaching in Medical School. Funder name: HEA North South Research Programme 2021. Awarded 2022-2025. Amount: €186,000.00.

Professor Denis Harkin, Bon Secours Health System Ireland. Gift Grant (2018-2025).

Professor Denis Harkin, RIMS Institutional Grants. RCSI StAR MD Research Fellowship Programme (2021-2024). Title: Varicose Vein Education for Informed coNsent (VVEIN) Study: a pilot randomised controlled trial. Amount: €20,000.00 plus Salary.

Professor Denis Harkin, RIMS Institutional Grants. RCSI StAR MD Research Fellowship Programme (2022-2025). Title: Surgeons Coping And Resilience Study (SCARS). Amount: €20,000.00 plus Salary

Professor Denis Harkin, RIMS Institutional Grants. RCSI StAR MD Research Fellowship Programme (2023-2025). Title: The Anatomical Prediction of Post Endovascular Aneurysm Repair Rupture (APPEAR) Study. Amount: €20,000.00 plus Salary

Professor Denis Harkin, RIMS Institutional Grants. RCSI StAR MD Research Fellowship Programme (2024-2026). Title: EndoVascular Non Technical Skills (EVeNTS) Study. Amount: €20,000.00 plus Salary

Professor Denis Harkin, Irish Medical Council/ INHED Research in Medical Education (RIME) Awards for undergraduate medical education under the theme of "Supporting Well-being in Students and the Workforce". PI: Dr Frank Doyle; Co-PI Professor Denis Harkin. Amount: €5,000.

Professor Denis Harkin, Bon Secours Health System Ireland Education Gift Grant to RCSI Medical Professionalism to support Postgraduate Diploma/Master Programme 2024-2026. Amount: €180,000.00.

Professor Denis Harkin, Medical Protection Society (MPS) Ireland Sponsorship to RCSI Medical Professionalism Annual Conference 26 April 2024. Amount: €6,500.00.

Professor Denis Harkin, Challenge Medical Indemnity Ireland Sponsorship to RCSI Medical Professionalism Annual Conference 26 April 2024. Amount: €5,000.

Professor Denis Harkin, RCSI Collaborate Sponsorship to RCSI Medical Professionalism Annual Conference 26 April 2024. Amount: €5,000.

Health Professions Education Centre

Overview

In 2023/24 the Health Professions Education Centre (HPEC) implemented the third year of its five-year strategy. The overall aim being to drive up excellence in education, improve educational rankings and become an international leader in this field.

The Strategy set out ten goals to develop educational expertise across the organisation. The strategy broadly includes new and ongoing education, consultancy and research endeavours.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

This year we hosted both the Irish Doctoral Education Academy (IDEA) a PGR conference for health professionals, and the Irish Network for Healthcare Educators (INHED). Both were very well attended and received high praise from students and delegates. The theme for INHED was *Building Relationships in Health Professions Education*. Speakers included: Siobhan Freeney (Patient Educator), Professor David Sklar and Dr Hamde Nazar.

To communicate our work, the HPEC website has been further developed, adding links to all publications, which have risen to 430 (last five years). The *RCSI_Educate* Twitter account now has 1,529 followers and HPEC has represented RCSI at a range of national and international conferences. The internal HPEC Moodle site has been redesigned, improving access to education, consultancy and research resources, in particular links to all Educational Hub recorded seminars.

Education

We have continued the development of the PG Diploma in Health Professions Education and have expanded the student intake to accommodate 60 individuals, including 20 external fee-paying participants. This expansion, a collaboration with RCSI Online, marks the first revenue generation for HPEC.

Educational Hub sessions continue to run weekly, and over 80 seminars have been delivered, most of which are recorded for future reference. In the last six months there were over 260 views and downloads of recorded sessions. Recent topics reflect the needs of staff identified via the 2023 HPEC staff survey. We have introduced a new online course aimed at teaching staff who are new to RCSI. This short course, "Essential Skills in Health Professions Education", offers just-in-time training for new educators and those seeking to refresh their teaching skills. The course is accredited for three continuing professional development (CPD) points and takes about three hours to complete.

HPEC has revised training and communication around Peer Observation of Teaching with a dedicated virtual learning environment home. We also hosted the Education Innovation Award at the IEF, and externals Professor Nomura from Japan and Associate Professor Jen Lindley Australia joined the assessment panel.

Dr Helen Kelly who previously co-lead the International Citizenship Awards Programme, is now the new programme lead from September 2024.

Professor Illing and Mr Edwards contributed to the teaching of resilience to undergraduate medical students.

Other education activities include support for RCSI Online, via Professor Illing speaking at a Medical Education symposium at Dubai in March and via HPEC supporting the development of micro-credentials. HPEC developed a virtual patients' platform to support EDI training, and staff training in Physiotherapy and TERG.

Dr Cassidy set up and chairs the AI in Education Working Group subcommittee of the Learning, Teaching and Assessment (LTA) Committee. The group seeks to understand the impact of AI on LTA and support the development of guidance and training for its ethical use.

Professor Kent re-established the Interprofessional Learning Leadership Group. This group includes representation by all health professions across our Dublin and Bahrain campuses. The purpose of the group is to update and implement the RCSI Interprofessional Learning Strategy.

Consultancy

The demand for education consultancy has increased, with the completion of over 80 requests for our consultancy service over the last year. Requests include advice on: research, promotion, curriculum, and teaching and learning.

Research

Multiple educational research projects are underway. An evaluation of Case Based Learning (CBL) focused on staff (led by Dr Delany) and students (led by Catherine Bruen) and a PhD exploring how CBL works (led by Ronan Daly).

We continue to support the PGR network, and contribute to the two ERASMUS grants. We visited the Bahrain campus in March 2024 and provided educational input.

Staff Appointments

Professor Fiona Kent, Deputy Head, HPEC (from 6 February 2024)

HPEC visiting professors from 2022 to 2025:

- Dr John Burkhardt Michigan University, USA (2022 – 2023 final two years paused)
- Professor David Sklar Arizona University, USA (2022 – 2025)
- Dr Hamde Nazar, Newcastle University, UK (2023 – 2026)
- Professor Kyoko Nomura, Akita, Japan (2024 – 2027)

Educational Hub: External Invited Speakers

Dr Sarah Eaton, academic integrity expert, University of Calgary & Editor-in-Chief for the International Journal for Educational Integrity gave the Keynote address; on *the importance of academic integrity in the delivery of education*. (September 2023)

Professor Jen Lindley, Monash University delivered a lecture during the IEF on development of the medical curriculum at Monash (June 2024).

Dr Karen Moran, Queensland University delivered a two days master class in Reflexive Thematic Analysis (June 2024)

External Examinerships

Illing J.

- External Examiner for NUI Galway (2022-2025)
- External PhD Examiner, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. (Oct 2023)
- External Peer Reviewer for UK NIHR Health and Social Care Delivery Research (HSDR) Programme (2024)
- External MD Examiner, University of Edinburgh. What we teach medical students about 'difficult' patients in the context of clinical reasoning. An Emergency Department case study. Dr Susie Roy (June 2024)

Supervision of Higher Degrees

Illing J. PhD Newcastle University

International Appointments

Arnett R. Psychometric Adviser to the Intercollegiate Committee for Basic Surgical Exams (ICBSE)

Bruen C. BMC Medical Education – Reviewer

Bruen, Illing and Kelly members of the EUA Learning & Teaching Thematic Peer Groups Discussing the topic Learning and teaching to empower students (2024-2025)

Cassidy, D. Reviewer for Standards for Continuing Professional Development for healthcare workforce for Department of Health (Abu Dhabi)

Delany C. Member, International Committee, ASPE (Association of SP Educators)

Edwards G. Abstract reviewer, AMEE 2024

Edwards G. Lead reviewer, BEME International Collaborative Centre (BICC)

Illing J. Member, International Editorial Board for Medical Education (2016-26)
Illing J. Lead reviewer, BEME International Collaborative Centre (BICC)
Illing J. Journal reviewer for: Medical Education, Medical Teacher, BMC Medical Education and Journal of Interprofessional Care,
Kelly H. Member, EACH (International Association for Communication in Healthcare)
Kelly H. Member, IRAAL (Irish Association of Applied Linguists)
Kent, F Associate Editor, Journal of Interprofessional Care and reviewer for Medical Education
Kent, F. Member of CAIPE
Kent F. Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, Interprofessional Education expert advisor
Moffett J. Reviewer for Advances in Health Sciences Education, BMC Medical Education, Journal of Veterinary Medical Education, The Clinical Teacher, Medical Teacher
Moffett J. External reviewer, Utrecht University, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, EAEVE accreditation

External National Appointments

Bruen, C. Interview Panel, South East Technological University (SETU)
Bruen, C. REFOCUS Board, College of Psychiatrists of Ireland
Cassidy D, National Associate, National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching & Learning in Higher Education
Edwards G. Interview Panel, Dublin City University
Illing J. National Associate, National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching & Learning in Higher Education (replaced by Professor Kent, March 2024)
Kent F. National Associate, National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching & Learning in Higher Education (from March 2024)
Moffett, J. External Board Member, UCD Centre for Veterinary Education
Regan, G. Director, Clontarf Hospital Board
Regan, G. Review of the Directorate Nurse Management Structure, Cork University Hospital for the SSW Hospital Group

Invited Lectures

Illing J. Qualitative approaches to research. Akita University, Japan (July 2023)
Illing J. Understanding and making sense of qualitative research findings. Akita University, Japan (July 2023)
Illing J Preparation for a Medical Career: Facilitators and Challenges, Marino College, Dublin (Sept.2023)
Illing J The future of Health Professions Education. Dubai Symposium March 2024
Moffett, J., Hancock, J., and Hammond, J. (2024). Choppy waters: how educators can support their learners to navigate healthcare uncertainty, ASME, Online on April 24.
Moffett, J. (2024). Invited panellist at "Escape rooms in education: showcase and celebration of practice", Herriot-Watt University, Online, May 2024
Kelly H. (2024) "Global Health, The importance of Intercultural Competence for GP Global Health Practitioners". General Practice and Global Health event – Enabling Physician Involvement by Strengthening the Doctor-Patient relationship. Trinity College Dublin.
Kent F (2024) Interprofessional Education, Irish Medical Council

Conferences hosted by HPEC

Irish Network of Healthcare Educators (INHED) January 2024, together with executive INHED members Professor Eva Doherty and Professor Judith Strawbridge.

Irish Doctoral Education Academy (IDEA) January 2024 organised from Dr Jenny Moffett and Mr Gareth Edwards: Students presenting from RCSI: Gareth Edwards, Erika Cullen, Niamh Mullen, Ronan Daly.

Conference Presentations

Arnett R *et al.* Progressing Progress Testing: Initial results of Progress Testing implementation at the RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences. Ottawa Conference, Melbourne, February 2024 (oral)

Arnett R *et al.* New technology and an old problem: Detecting and dealing with potential collusion in a large-scale assessment. Ottawa Conference, Melbourne, February 2024 (oral)

Arnett R *et al.* Incorporating negative marking into a standard-setting process for programme-wide progress testing. Ottawa Conference, Melbourne, February 2024 (e-poster)

Bruen, C, Illing, J, Kelly, H, Daly, R, Meagher, F, Delany, C, Offiah, G, Morgan, M, McEllroy, M, Doherty, S, Alamuddin, N, Condrón, C, O'Neill S, Stuart, E, Torrens, C, and Crehan M. The student experience of CBL: A study to explore the perceptions of early year medical students. INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024 (oral)

Bruen, C, Delany, C, Illing, J, Power, M, Duffy, J, Hughes, L. Using virtual learning simulations to practice dealing with inappropriate workplace behaviours. INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024 (workshop)
Cassidy, D. Learning environments and the student experience. INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024.

Delany, C, Illing, J, , McEllroy, M, Daly, R, Bruen, C, Alamuddin, N, Doherty, S, Condrón, C, Meagher, F, Offiah, G, O'Neill, S, Crehan M, Stuart, E, Torrens, C, Morgan, M. Developing an effective and comprehensive communication curriculum for undergraduate medical education in Poland – the review and recommendations. INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024 (oral)

Edwards G, Spooner M, Arnett R, Illing J. The global doctor: the evidence and need to prepare doctors for work internationally, interview study. INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024 (oral)

Edwards G, Russell V, Moore L. A pilot qualitative exploration of the impact of a community asset-mapping initiative within the undergraduate psychiatry curriculum. INHED Conference, Dublin January 2024 (oral)

Illing J, Nazar H, Almoghira H. Assessment of Interprofessional Education: challenges, processes and tools. Ottawa Conference, Melbourne, February 2024 (workshop)

Illing J and Nazar H. Interprofessional Education and its Assessment. INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024 (workshop)

Kelly H. Examining an embedded curricular approach to an inclusive model of learning for international healthcare students. INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024 (oral)

Kelly H. International medical students' experiences of an inclusive model of assessment for learning. Ottawa Conference, Melbourne, February 2024 (oral)

McCarthy, C. Educational technologists, Instructional designers, and blended learning. INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024

Moffett, J. (2024). The creativity cure: design thinking for health professions educators. Workshop at INHED Conference, Dublin, January 2024

Moffett, J. & Biagini, A. Debriefing educational escape games. Lessons from health professions education. Research presentation at ECGBL (European Conference on Games Based Learning), University of Twente, Enschede, October 5, 2023

Staff List

Professor & Director of HPEC

Jan Illing PhD, MPhil, BSc (hons), CQSW

Professor & Deputy Director Health Professions Education Centre (from Feb 2024)

Fiona Kent PhD, MHPE, GCEBP, B.Physiotherapy

Head of Online Education

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Intercultural Healthcare Education / Communications (Lecturer/ Educationalist)

Helen Kelly PhD, MPhil, BA

Research Officer

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Learning Technologist

Michelle Doyle BA (hons), MA, PgDip

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Clinical Lead, Health Professions Education

Caroline Delany LRCP & SI, MB, BCh NUI, MICGP

Learning Technologist

Ciaran McCarthy

Administrator

Mary Smyth

Higher Degrees

Helen Kelly, Examining the effectiveness of an embedded language education programme for international health science students in an Irish university, PhD in Applied Linguistics, Trinity College Dublin, 2023.

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Almoghirah H, Illing J, Nazar H. A qualitative study to explore student learning and development of interprofessional collaboration during an online interprofessional education intervention. *BMC Medical Education*. 2023 Dec 14;23(1):957.

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Illing J, Delany C, Cassidy D, Regan G. Erasmus Plus EU grant: an inTerprofessional EuropeAn curriculum for health and social Care staff: developing a speciAlist in personalized useR-centered carE in the community TEAMCARE. total €1 104 868 (€220 000 to RCSI) March 2023.

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RCSI SIM Centre for Simulation Education & Research

Overview

RCSI SIM Centre for Simulation Education and Research enables RCSI's mission by delivering transformative learning experiences and leading impactful research. Through collaboration, learner-centeredness, and patient focus, we strive to enable excellent, outcomes-based translational education and research. These translational outcomes mean that we value not only learning that occurs in simulation, but that also transfers to clinical workplaces and impacts patients. The breadth and reach of our educational efforts spans undergraduate, postgraduate and continual professional development across the Schools of Medicine including the Physician Associate programme, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Postgraduate Surgical Training, Post Graduate Medical Training including OBGYN and Emergency Medicine, Post Graduate Nursing and the Paramedic programme. Our team supported over 52,800 hours of individual learner simulation training in 2023-2024 (undergraduate and postgraduate).

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

We continue to support the RCSI Research Summer School and the Creative Arts Summer school. This year for the first time RCSI SIM hosted the National Simulation Office Summer school.

To communicate our work, a new LinkedIn page was created in 2024 (over 500 followers). The RCSI SIM Twitter account has reached 4,578 followers. The RCSI SIM website has been further developed, adding links to all current and previous research projects.

Multiple educational research projects are underway. Solascope – the world's first sterile, sustainable, panoramic endoscope – designed for and enabling the circular economy for medical devices (led by Professor Claire Condrón), Non-technical skills training for robotic assisted surgery (led by Professor Claire Condrón), and HUGS@Home (led by Michelle O'Toole).

Staff Activities

Professor Jan Illing

External Examinerships

- External Examiner for NUI Galway (2022-2025)
- External PhD Examiner, Liew Siaw Cheok, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. (Oct 2023)
- External Peer Reviewer for UK NIHR Health and Social Care Delivery Research (HSDR) Programme (2024)
- External MD Examiner, University of Edinburgh. What we teach medical students about 'difficult' patients in the context of clinical reasoning. An Emergency Department case study. Dr Susie Roy (June 2024)

Invited Lectures

- Qualitative approaches to research. Akita University, Japan (July 2023)
- Understanding and making sense of qualitative research findings. Akita University, Japan (July 2023)
- Preparation for a Medical Career: Facilitators and Challenges, Marino College, Dublin (Sept.2023)
- The future of Health Professions Education. Dubai Symposium March 2024

International Appointments

- Member, International Editorial Board for Medical Education (2016-26)
- Lead reviewer, BEME International Collaborative Centre (BICC)
- Journal reviewer for: Medical Education, Medical Teacher, BMC Medical Education and Journal of Interprofessional Care

Invited Lectures

- Qualitative approaches to research. Akita University, Japan (July 2023)
- Understanding and making sense of qualitative research findings. Akita University, Japan (July 2023)
- Preparation for a Medical Career: Facilitators and Challenges, Marino College, Dublin (Sept.2023)
- The future of Health Professions Education. Dubai Symposium March 2024

External National Appointments

- National Associate, National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching & Learning in Higher Education (to March 2024)

Professor Condron

- Associate Editor Frontiers of Medical Education
- Associate Editor BMC Medical Education
- Invited Speaker at ASPE
- Senior author leading the team that won the Best Education Presentation, INHED 2024, RCSI
- Senior author leading the team that won the Best Research Presentation, INHED 2024,
- Best presentation, IAS 2023
- Finalist in RCSI Education Innovation Awards, 2023

Dr Doyle

- Nominated for AMEE Simulation Award 2024, (Outcome August 2024)
- Appointed Secretary for the Society for Simulation in Europe (SESAM) Simulated Participant (SP) Community of Practice (CoP), June 2024
- BEME Review Guide: 86, was highlighted as the most read Medical Teacher paper, April 2024
- Student Champion Awardee – RCSI STEP Programme 2024
- Horizon Europe, Seal of Excellence Award, 2024
- Finalist in RCSI Education Innovation Awards, 2023
- Appointed as RCSU Honorary Lecturer 2023

Dr Daly

- Silver award from the QS Quacquarelli Symonds Reimagine Education Awards in Abu Dhabi, 2024
- Fulbright Scholarship (Tech-Impact Award) to Stanford University Medical School, 2023
- Fellowship in the American College of Cardiology, 2023
- Fellowship in the Royal College of Physicians London, 2023
- Editorial Board Member of the International Journal of Clinical Skills

Michelle O'Toole

- Best poster- PPI in Research Award, RCSI Research Day 2024
- Best poster- 2nd prize for PHECC Research Conference 2024
- Student Champion Award – RCSI STEP Programme 2024
- Appointed member to new national Examinations subcommittee of Education and Training Committee, Pre-hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC)

Adam Roche

- Best Education Presentation, INHED 2024, RCSI

Staff Appointments

Dr Kyi Phyu Nyein, MSCA Research Fellow (September 2023)
Dr Marwa Aly, Research Programme Manager (September 2023)
Robyn Mullen, Simulation Technician (April 2024)

Conference Presentations

Adam F. Roche, Daragh Moneley, **Tim Lawler**, **Claire Condrón** et al. (June 2024) Can remote feedback in endovascular simulation-training segment training opportunities for trainees in vascular surgery (poster presentation)- SESAM Prague

O'Toole M, **Eppich W**, Collins N, Sullivan **C**, **Mulhall C**, **Doyle A**. (June 2024) Crossing boundaries in the chain of child safeguarding- an update. Society for Simulation in Europe (SESAM), Prague, Czech Republic

AJ Doyle, International Education Forum, RCSI, (June 2024), Universal Design for learning (UDL) at RCSI: Opportunities, Alignment & Impact

AJ Doyle, C Cantwell & Condrón C, Society for Simulation in Europe (SESAM), Prague, (June 2024), Design & Development of an Anthropomorphic Kidney Ultrasound Simulator for an Interventional Radiology Training Curriculum

Caoimhín Ó Conghaile, M. Cullen, N. Moloney, F. Al Meer, B. O' Sullivan, P. Eadie, **C. M. Condrón** (May 2024). Design, Prototyping and Piloting of a Carpal Tunnel Surgical Decompression Simulation Training Model, Presented at the Irish Association of Simulation, Galway.

C O'Halloran, **AJ Doyle**, D Cody (April 2024) Irish Association of Physics in Medicine (IAPM), Cork, Ireland, 20th April 2024, A comparative study of the imaging performance of traditional and hand-held diagnostic ultrasound systems

Adam F. Roche, Olivia Jagiella-Lodise, **Rebecca Kirrane**, **Claire Condrón**. (January 2024) A step-wise approach in training medical students as peer assisted learners in simulation-based education (oral presentation)- INHED meeting RCSI, Dublin.

Doyle A & O'Toole M. Collaborative Horizons: Co-creation in Health Professions Education and Research. (January 2024) Workshop, Irish Network of Healthcare Educators (INHED) Annual Scientific Meeting, Dublin.

AJ Doyle & M O'Toole, RCSI Dublin, Irish Network of Healthcare Educators (INHED), RCSI, (January 2024) Collaborative Horizons: Co-creation in Health Professions Education & Research.

AJ Doyle & C Condrón, Irish Association of Simulation, Galway, Ireland (May 2023) "Training Simulated Participants for Role Portrayal and Feedback Practices in Communication Skills Training: A BEME Scoping Review, BEME Guide 86".

AJ Doyle & M O'Toole, Society for Simulation in Europe (SESAM), Lisbon (June 2023) Workshop: "SP Feedback Practices: What do we know now? And how can we do better?",

AJ Doyle, C Cantwell, C Mulhall, C Condrón, R Arnett, Prof Walter Eppich, Society for Simulation in Europe (SESAM), Lisbon (June 2023) "A Simulation-Based Mastery Learning Training Curriculum for Ultrasound-Guided Interventional Radiology Procedures"

Adam F. Roche, **Claire Condrón**, **Walter J. Eppich**, Paul O'Connor (August 2023) What are the competencies required in the role as a simulation technician? (oral presentation)- SimGHOSTS, Nebraska, USA.

Adam F. Roche, Dara Kavanagh, **Claire Condrón** et al. (Aug 2023) Validation of a laparotomy incision and closure simulation training model (oral presentation)- SimGHOSTS, Nebraska, USA.

O'Toole, M., Eppich, W., Collins, N., Sullivan, C., **Mulhall, C.**, **Doyle, A.** (Aug 2023) Crossing boundaries in the chain of child safeguarding. AMEE International Conference, Glasgow, Scotland.

Eppich, W., **O'Toole, M.**, De La Croix, A., Murphy, P., Nestel, D. (Aug 2023) Nothing about us without us: integrating patient voices in health professions education. Symposium. AMEE International Conference, Glasgow, Scotland.

Doyle B., O'Toole, M. (Nov 2023) This is it...this is our normal. PHECC Inaugural Prehospital Research Conference, Maynooth, Co Kildare.

O'Toole, M. (Nov 2023) Supporting the Supporters: Developing a second responder network for first responders. Workshop, PHECC Inaugural Prehospital Research Conference, Maynooth, Co Kildare.

Lawler, T. (December 2023) Video enhanced learning in simulation: Implementing video across Simulation activities to achieve more impactful learning experiences – HPSN.

Staff List

Interim Head of Department

Jan Illing BSc, M.Phil, PhD

Professor & Director of Simulation Education

Claire Condron BSc, PhD, MBA

Senior Lecturer in Simulation

Michael Daly MA, MD, PhD, FRCP, FACC

Lecturer in Simulation

Claire Mulhall BA, DMS, PhD

Research Programme Manager

Marwa Aly BSc, MSc, PhD, PMP

Operations Manager

Dermot Daly BSc, MSc

Senior Research Fellow & Honorary Lecturer

Andrea Doyle BSc, PGDip MedPhys, PhD

Postdoctoral Researcher

Kyi Phyu Nyein BSc, MA, MSc, PhD

Researchers and Research Assistants

Brian Doyle PGDip, MSc

Michelle L. O'Toole BSc, GDip EMS, MA, CCISM

Senior Clinical Skills & Simulation Technician

Rebecca Kirrane BSc, MSc, RSciTech

Adam F Roche BA, MSc, RSciTech

Tim Lawler BEng, BSc, RSciTech

Caoimhin O'Conghaile BSc, RSciTech

Clinical Skills & Simulation Technician

Simon Horne BA

Niamh Murphy BEng

Robyn Mullen BA

Operations Coordinator

Carla Alasia

Higher Degrees

Simon Horne, Master's in Healthcare Ethics and Law, RCSI & NUI, November 2023.

Publications

Bolster J, Armour R, O'Toole M, Lysko M, & Batt A M The paramedic role in caring for people who use illicit and controlled drugs: a scoping review. *Paramedicine*. (2023) doi:10.1177/27536386231171813

Croghan S M, Voborsky M, Roche A F, Condrón C, O'Keefe D A, McGuire B . Design and utilisation of a novel, high-fidelity, low-cost, hybrid-tissue simulation model to facilitate training in robot-assisted partial nephrectomy. *Journal of Robotic Surgery* 2024 Vol. 18 Issue 1 Pages 103 DOI: 10.1007/s11701-024-01857-2

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Daly MJ. Sick of Myself. *Case Reports*. 2024 Aug 7;29(15):102432.

Daly M, Condrón C, Mulhall C, Eppich W, O'Neill J. Improving diagnostic clinical skills in cardiology: can hybrid simulation with scripted histories, wearable technology, and quantitative grading improve learning and performance? – the ASSIMILATE EXCELLENCE study. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2023; 81(8):2134

Doyle AJ, Murphy CC, Boland F, Pawlikowska T & Ní Gabhann-Dromgool J. Education in focus: significant improvements in student learning and satisfaction with ophthalmology teaching delivered using a blended learning approach. *PloS One*, Jul 1;19(7): e0305755, 10.1371/journal.pone.0305755.

Doyle AJ, Sullivan C, O'Toole M, Tjin A, Simiceva A, Collins N, Murphy P, Anderson MJ, Mulhall C, Condrón C et al. 2023. Training simulated participants for role portrayal and feedback practices in communication skills training: A BEME scoping review: BEME Guide No. 86. *Med Teach*.1-17.

Gardner A K, Rodgers D L, Steinert Y, Davis R, Condrón C, Peterson D T, et al. Mapping the Terrain of Faculty Development for Simulation: A Scoping Review. *Simul Healthc* 2024 Vol. 19 Issue 1s Pages S75-s89 Accession Number: 38240621 DOI: 10.1097/sih.0000000000000758

Ní Gabhann-Dromgoole J, Murphy CC, Boland F, Doyle AJ, Pawlikowska T. 2023. How has medical student learning changed with the pivot to online delivery of ophthalmology in the pandemic? *PLoS One*. 18(3):e0282829, 2023

Nyein KP & Condrón C. Developing and applying a taxonomy of communication behaviours and contextual factors in robotic surgical teams: Research Protocol. *JMIR Research Protocol* 2024 Vol. 13 Pages e54910. <https://doi.org/10.2196/54910>

O'Toole M, Doyle A, Collins N, Sullivan C, Mulhall C, Condrón C, Doherty E, Eppich W. "They mirror what they see": a constructivist grounded theory study of simulation culture in four professional domains in Ireland. *Medical Teacher* (2024)

Roche A F, Moneley D, Lawler T, Boyle E, Gosi G, O'Callaghan A, Cahir C, O'Keefe D, Condrón C M. Remote feedback in endovascular simulation training: a mixed methods study *Advances in Simulation* 2024 Vol. 9 Issue 1 Pages 24. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41077-024-00297-0>

Roche A F, Jagiella-Lodise O, Kirrane R, Condrón C M. Developing and Implementing a Training Programme for Medical Students to Become Peer Educators in Simulation-Based Education. *Medical Science Educator* 2024 DOI: 10.1007/s40670-024-02058-0

Roche A F, Voborsky M, Meighan V, O'Connor G, Eppich W J, Condrón C M. (2024). Developing a clamshell thoracotomy training model to support hybrid teaching in simulation-based education. *Emergency Medicine Australasia* DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1742-6723.14398>

Roche A F, Kavanagh D, McCawley N, O'Riordan J M, Cahir C, Toale C, O'Keefe D, Lawler T, Condrón C M. Collating evidence to support the validation of a simulated laparotomy incision and closure-training model. *The American Journal of Surgery* 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amjsurg.2024.02.020>

Rock LK, Morse KJ, Eppich W, Rudolph JW. 2023. Transforming Team Culture: A Case Study From Critical Care. *Chest*. 163(6):1448-1457. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chest.2022.12.046>

Ryan J M, McHugh F, Simiceva A, Eppich W, Kavanagh D O, McNamara, D A. Daily handover in surgery: systematic review and a novel taxonomy of interventions and outcomes. *BJS Open* 2024 Vol. 8 Issue 2. Accession Number: 38426257 PMID: PMC10905088 DOI: 10.1093/bjsopen/zrae011

Shpigelman J, Proshkina A, Roman M, Maleady K, Casserly I, Blake G, O'Boyle P, Saiva L, Keelan E, O'Neill J, Daly M. Time to ECG diagnosis delays inter-hospital transfer to revascularization in STEMI patients presenting to a regional emergency department: a five-year audit. *Irish Journal of Medical Science* (1971-). 2024 May 15:1-5.

Shpigelman J, Blaine C, Nugent CA, Daly MJ, et al. Electrocardiographic predictors of response to sacubitril/valsartan therapy in heart failure with reduced ejection fraction. *J Electrocardiol* 2024;84:104-108

Shpigelman J, Mintah P, Daly MJ. Echocardiographic assessment of left atrial strain in HFrEF patients: changes with sacubitril/valsartan therapy. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2024;83(13):540

Shpigelman J, Proshkina A, Daly MJ, Cox D. Personalized Dual Antiplatelet Therapy in Acute Coronary Syndromes: Striking a Balance Between Bleeding and Thrombosis. *Curr Cardiol Rep* 2023;25:693-710

Sullivan C C, O'Leary D M, Boland D M, C. Condrón C M, Mulhall C M, Eppich W J. A comparative analysis of student, educator, and simulated parent ratings of video-recorded medical student consultations in paediatrics. *Adv Simul (Lond)* 2024 Vol. 9 Issue 1 Pages 10 Accession Number: 38365837 PMID: PMC10874056 DOI: 10.1186/s41077-024-00282-7

Sullivan C, Doyle AJ, O'Toole M, Mulhall C, McNaughton N, Eppich W. 2023. 'How can we help the students learn?' A grounded theory study of simulated participants as educators. *Medical Teacher*.1-7.

Toale C, Morris M, Roche A, Voborsky M, O. J. Traynor and D. O. Kavanagh. SP11.16 Development and Validation of a Novel Simulation-Based Assessment of Operative Skill for Higher Specialist Trainees in General Surgery. *British Journal of Surgery* 2023 Vol. 110 Issue Supplement_6. DOI: 10.1093/bjs/znad241.144

Traynor A, Doyle B, Eppich W, Tjin A, Mulhall C O'Toole M. "This is it...this is our normal" - the voices of family members and first responders experiencing duty-related trauma in Ireland. *Comprehensive Psychiatry* 2024 Pages 152499. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.comppsy.2024.152499>

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Claire Condrón: Enterprise Ireland, Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF). 2024-2027, €778,568.

Claire Condrón: ROSE - Non-technical skills training for robotic assisted surgery. MSCA. 2023-2025, €199,694

Claire Condrón: HSE-NDTP Development Funding. €57,000

Claire Condrón: Horizon European Researchers' s Night. 2024-2026, €68,478

Andrea Doyle (Collaborator:) "The SYNERG-IE Programme", €2,498,925

O'Toole M, Eppich W: HUGS@Home, Movember Veterans and First Responder Grant Fund, 2022-2024, €267,202

Doyle A, Cantwell C, W Eppich Condrón C: Irish Research Council Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship: , 2022-2024, €106,365

Doyle A, Condrón C, Cantwell C, W Eppich, RCSI Office of Research and Development IRC Fellowship Bursary, €10,000

Ryan J, Eppich W: Medical Protection Society Foundation, Understanding the scope and scape of clinical handover issues in emergency surgery in Ireland, 2023-2024: €118,000

O'Conghaile C: Health Services Executive SparkSeed funding for prototype development of physical simulation models: €2000

Academic Industry Partnerships

- Intuitive Foundation SELF in collaboration with Global Surgery **€150,000**, 2024 -2026
- CAE Centre of Excellence, **€500,000** over 5 years (2021 – 2026)

Innovation/Commercialisation

In 2024, working with Professor Barry McGuire (Department of Surgical Affairs, RCSI) and Professor Colin Cantwell (Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists, RCSI) Dr Doyle is exploring a research opportunity with Boston Scientific, to evaluate gel spacers routinely used in radiotherapy, for the novel use radio-ablative therapies in an anthropomorphic simulator device. Dr Doyle Initial commercialisation activities with Mirion in collaboration with TU Dublin technology transfer office and the Office of Research and Innovation at RCSI. We have signed non-disclosure agreement and are preparing a material transfer agreement to progress licensing activities.

ANAESTHESIA & CRITICAL CARE

Overview

The Department of Anaesthesia and Critical Care Medicine is dedicated to advancing the field through education, research, and clinical excellence. We strive to improve patient outcomes, enhance safety, and provide the highest standard of care to peri-operative and critically ill patients.

Research is at the heart of our department, as we continuously seek to advance scientific knowledge and improve patient care. Our faculty members are actively engaged in leading and participating in clinical trials in critical and peri-operative care, exploring innovative techniques, and investigating new approaches to airway management, critical care interventions, and patient safety. We foster a collaborative environment that encourages interdisciplinary research and collaboration with other departments, institutions, and healthcare organizations.

In particular, we aim to improve the outcomes for patients who are critically ill and our research team is currently conducting research in the areas of acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), sepsis, neuro-critical care, acute kidney injury (AKI), and post-cardiac arrest care in conjunction with many other research centres on a global scale.

We are passionate about our mission to educate. We offer comprehensive educational programs that cater to medical students, NCHDs, fellows, and consultants including simulation training for common acute medical presentations, advanced airway management, Emergency Neurologic Life Support and transthoracic echocardiography. Through our rigorous curriculum, hands-on training, and exposure to the latest advancements in the field, we aim to produce competent and compassionate healthcare professionals who can confidently handle complex anaesthetic procedures and critical care management.

We welcome students, researchers, clinicians, and collaborators who share our vision and commitment to improving the lives of patients through excellence in critical care and anaesthesia. Together, we strive to make significant contributions to the field, foster advancements, and shape the future of anaesthesia and critical care medicine.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Professor Ger Curley

- Clinical Director for Critical Care and Anaesthesia, Beaumont Hospital
- Deputy Director for Research, RCSI
- Direct of the Clinical Research Centre, RCSI
- Intern Coordinator, RCSI Intern Network
- Education Lead and Board Member, Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine of Ireland

- Chair of Intensive Care Medicine Grand Rounds
- Chairperson, Critical Care Trials Group, Intensive Care Medicine Society of Ireland
- Editorial Board Member, Intensive Care Medicine Experimental

Dr Natalie McEvoy

- Chair of the Irish Association of Critical Care Nurses- January 2024
- Commendation award (Early Career Category), Irish Research Council Researcher of the Year Awards 2023
- Best abstract for oral presentation-Wounds Canada 2023
- Featured in Hospital Professional News Top 100 Health Care Professionals 2023
- NHS Adult Critical Care Transfer Audit and Research Group Priority Setting Partnership (PSP) steering group member.
- NIHR funded Pressure risk assessment in children and young people (CYP) with darker skin research study advisory group member
- Colket Visiting Lecture, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia 12 October 2023
- University of Pennsylvania, International Paediatric ICU Nursing Webinar 26 October 2023
- Visiting lecture at The Johns Hopkins Hospital 26 November 2023
- Sub-Epidermal Moisture Measurements and Inflammatory Markers in the Early Identification of Pressure Ulcers. Oral Presentation. Wounds Canada, 26-28 September 2023
- Irish nurse 'amazed' to find herself doing 'such impactful work' at Philadelphia hospital. Irish Star US (30 October 2023)
- Associate Editor- Nursing in Critical Care Journal
- Associate Editor- Trials Journal

Professor Emer Reeves

- Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Innate immunity.
- Grants Advisory Committee (GAC) Member, Alpha-1 Foundation (Miami, US).
- External Reviewer, Cystic Fibrosis Canada, Grants & Awards Competition
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (US) /NIH Reviewer
- External Examiner, PhD transfer viva, Smooth Muscle Research Centre, Dundalk Institute of Technology
- Mentor, Erasmus + Higher Education Learning, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

Dr Grace Hogan

- Best Poster at Irish Thoracic Society Conference 2023
- Appointed to Senior Postdoctoral Researcher
- Awarded title 'Honorary Lecturer'

Dr Debanada Gogoi

- Recipient of bursary for the Adult Cystic Fibrosis Conference
- Orla Presentation Royal Global University, Guwahati, Assam, India.
- Orla Presentation Adult CF conference, organized by ERS-ECFS, Milan, Italy *CFTR*
- Poster Translational Research Award, Beaumont Hospital
- Poster Presentation The Pittsburgh Ireland International Lung Conference (PIILC 2023)

Dr Rory Baird

- Poster Presentation Pittsburgh-Ireland International Lung Conference, Dublin, Ireland & Beaumont Hospital Translational Awards. October 2023

Dr Luke Forde

- Poster and oral presentation Irish thoracic society meeting "Purinergic signalling in ILD" 2023
- Poster presentation Beaumont translational research day 2023 "Purinergic signalling in ILD"
- Poster presentation RCSI research day 2024 "Purinergic signalling in ILD"

Dr Rebekah Fitzgerald

- Poster Presentation- Beaumont Quality and Safety Meeting

Ms Michelle Smyth

- Appointed to Irish Research Nurses and Midwives Network Committee
- Appointed to Irish Critical Care Clinical Trials Group Executive
- Transfer of PI of HRB Grant, Irish Research Nurses and Midwives (Grant Code IRNM-2022-1)

Ms Susanne Lalor

- Organised The Irish Critical Care Clinical Trails Group, Inaugural Meeting, 1 February 2024
- Intensive Care Medicine Grand Rounds, Aug 2023- June 2024
- Organised FUSIC Heart Course, 17 May 2024

Staff List

Professor & Head of Department

Professor Gerard F Curley MB, BCh, BAO, MSc, PhD, FCARCSI, FJFICMI

Associate Professor

Professor Emer Reeves MSC, PhD

Clinical Associate Professor

Professor Criona Walshe

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor

Professor Irene Leonard

Professor Michael Moore

Professor Mike Staunton

Professor Rory Dwyer

Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturers

Dr Ailsing McMahon

Dr Andrew Tierney

Dr Anne Doherty

Dr Caitriona Cody

Dr Caroline Larkin

Dr Ciana McCarthy

Dr Ciara Murphy

Dr David Moore

Dr Ehtesham Khan

Dr Ellis Condon

Dr Eszter Feher

Dr Fiona Kiernan

Dr James O'Rourke

Dr John McHugh

Dr Joseph Keaveney

Dr Jubil Thomas

Dr Mohamed Ahmed

Dr Muhammad Farooq

Dr Niall Kavanagh

Dr Niamh Hayes

Dr Petar Stapar

Dr Rosemary Kearsley

Dr Ruth O'Leary

Dr Shane Mc Geary

Dr Sinead McCarthy

Dr Thomas Drew

Dr Zulfiqar Memon

Honorary Clinical Lecturers

Dr Craig Lyons

Dr Hasnain Moosvi

Dr Kashif Mahmood

StAR Lecturer in Critical Care

Dr Natalie McEvoy PhD, MSc, RGN, Pg Diploma

Clinical Tutor

Dr Rebekah Fitzgerald MB BCh BAO

Postdocs

Dr Grace Hogan BSc, MSc, PhD

Dr Mariia Belinskaia BSc, MSc, PhD

Dr Debananda Gogio BSc, MSc, PhD

StAR MD Student

Dr Luke Forde MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI

PhD/MD students

Rory Baird BSc, MSc

Clinical Research Nurse

Michelle Symth RGN, B.Sc,Pg. DIP

Research Assistant

Sasha Khiel BSc, MSc.

Administration

Susanne Lalor BA (Hons)

Paula Carty

RCSI Research Student

Mohammadi Maahtaabb

Neya Chander

Higher Degrees

Laura MacDarby, Neuromonitoring in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit and the Analysis of Amplitude Integrated Electroencephalography in Children 2 months to 16 years. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Publications

Baird R, Gogoi D, Yusuf A, Murray G, Murphy M, Casey M. & Reeves E. (2023). Peptidyl-arginine deiminases–neutrophil derived proteins as anti-Pseudomonas aeruginosa agents in patients with cystic fibrosis. *ERJ Open Research* 9: Suppl. 10, 194

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Active Grants & Grants Awarded

Emer Reeves, Exploring Pro-resolving Lipid Complexes to Realize the Full Therapeutic Impact of Alpha-1, Alpha-1 Foundation (US), 01/07/2023, \$73,945

Emer Reeves, The influence of Trikafta on neutrophil structure and function in patients with cystic fibrosis, REEVES2310, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, 01/05/2023, \$100,000

Emer Reeves, PEptidyl ARginine deiminases – a new generation of antimicrobial drugs, GOIPG/2023/3100, Irish Research Council, Government of Ireland Postgraduate, 31/08/2027, €133,000

Emer Reeves, C3d, a key driver of inflammation in patients with alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency, 615848, Alpha-1 Foundation (US), 01/07/2021, \$179,000

Emer Reeves, The impact of CFTR modulation on plasma biomarkers of *P. aeruginosa* infection, EPAY2126692 - MAPP-091771-EDG-RCSI, Industry Strategic Partnership. 19/7/2022 €20,000

Gerard Curley, A randomised double blind, placebo-controlled trial of erythropoietin alfa versus placebo in mechanically ventilated critically ill patients following traumatic injury - EPO-Trauma. 15/09/2021 €7,450

Gerard Curley, Alpha-1-antitrypsin augmentation therapy for Acute Lung Injury, PR192234, US Defence Dept., 15/02/2020, US\$199,728

Gerard Curley, Charter Trial - Can Nebulised HepArin Reduce acuTE lung injury in Patients with SARS-CoV-2 Requiring Mechanical Ventilation in Ireland, Science Foundation Ireland, 10/08/2021, €23,500

Gerard Curley, Clinical Trial Feasibility Award, RCSI, 21004, HRB, 01/01/2022, €381,065

Gerard Curley, Expanding the lung donor pool: interventions to improve donor management, expand ex vivo lung perfusion and repair injured donor lungs, ECSA-2020-009, HRB, 01/09/2020, €998,134

Gerard Curley, Emergency Neurological Life Support Course (ENLS), 22290, HSE NDTP, 27/05/2022, €22,000

Gerard Curley, IMPACT (IMproved Phagocytosis with Advanced Cell Therapy) for Sepsis, 4402-2701, Cynata Therapeutics Ltd & RCSI Seed Award, 01/09/2018, €100,000

Gerard Curley, Randomized, Embedded, Multifactorial, Adaptive Platform trial for Community-Acquired Pneumonia (REMAP-CAP), 20488, EU & HRB 15/07/2020, €62,579

Gerard Curley, 1. Standard Issue Transfusion Versus Fresher Red Blood Cell Use In Intensive Care (TRANSFUSE) – A Randomised Controlled Trial. 2. Permissive Hypercapnia and Alveolar Recruitment with Limited Airway, 4359-2637, HRB DIFA 29/05/2018, €56,038

Gerard Curley, SPRINT-SARI - Short Period Incidence Study of Severe Acute Respiratory Infection, HRB, 30/6/2020, €3,500

G Curley, A comparison of the therapeutic efficacy and mechanism of action of intravenous versus inhaled Alpha-1 Antitrypsin in Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome. GOIPD/2022/760, IRC Post-doctoral Award, 10/5/2022 €106,365

Gerard Curley Industry. Cilengitide for the treatment of COVID and sepsis 28 Nov 23 €41825

Gerard Curley, EI DTIF. THORAX - Combining rapid point-of-care diagnostics, AI, and machine learning to transform lung infection screening and diagnosis in the critical care setting. 18 Dec 23. €494677

Gerard Curley, REVIVAL, 2253, Industry, 14 Oct 2022 €2508

Michelle Smyth, Building Research Capacity in Ireland: The Role of the Research Nurse/Midwife, CES-2024-045, Health Research Board, 23rd May 2024 €5000

Michelle Smyth, Irish Research Nurses and Midwives Network, IRNM-2022-1, Health Research Board, 1st Oct 2022, €299999.31

Natalie McEvoy, Fulbright Commission of Ireland 2023-2024. Fulbright Alumni Award, Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) event to raise awareness on the importance of skin-tone in the treatment/research of skin conditions/wound-healing. 23rd August 2023 €1,000

Natalie McEvoy, National Pressure Injury Alliance Panel (NPIAP), Diverse Pressure Injury Simulation Programme To Improve Early Detection and Enhance Treatment Strategies (DIVERSITY) 13th December 2023, €10,000

Natalie McEvoy, The management of Subarachnoid Haemorrhage in the Intensive Care Unit: current practices and future recommendations to inform evidence-based, protocolized care, Health Research Board, April 2023 €2,400

Innovation and Commercialisation Activities

SepTec collaboration resulting in European Innovation Council Award and Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund Award

ANATOMY AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

Overview

The Department of Anatomy and Regenerative Medicine teaches biology to Foundation Year students and anatomy to undergraduates in medicine, physiotherapy and pharmacy, to the Graduate Entry Medicine students, Physician Associates, and to trainee surgeons and radiologists. We have developed a textbook, bespoke workbooks, and online teaching programmes for histology, dissection and surface anatomy.

The Tissue Engineering Research Group (TERG) is a multidisciplinary, multi-PI research group, headed by Professor Fergal J. O'Brien. The main streams of focus are in biomaterials, tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, to develop biomaterial-based strategies for regeneration and repair of cardiovascular, neural, ocular and respiratory tissue, as well as skin, bone, and cartilage. TERG applies specific expertise in cell biology, gene therapy and advanced 3D printing/manufacturing to design and manufacture innovative implantable platforms for the regeneration/reconstruction of damaged tissue. It comprises over 20 PIs, in addition to postdoctoral researchers and postgraduate students from a variety of bioengineering, pharmaceutical, scientific and clinical backgrounds, totaling over 100 researchers.

We facilitate postgraduate training courses for surgeons, anaesthetists, physiotherapists, artists and biomedical engineers, and our staff examine in the MRCS OSCE examinations. Our *Anatomy Room Gallery* displays visual art related to our teaching and research activities:

<https://www.rcsi.com/dublin/about/faculty-of-medicine-and-health-sciences/academic-departments/anatomy-and-regenerative-medicine>

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Departmental/School:

- Professor Freddie Wood retired after 11 years as a Surgeon Prosector
- Professor Tony Dorman joined us as a Surgeon Prosector
- Dr Oran Kennedy was promoted to Associate Professor
- Dr Aamir Hameed was promoted to Senior Lecturer
- Mr Patrick Conlon was promoted to Senior Technician
- Dr Adrian Dervan and Dr Hyab Mehari Abraha served as locum lecturers
- Dr Ciara Murphy received a European Research Council (ERC) Consolidator Award - Regenerative Stenting for Osteoporotic Vertebral Fracture Repair, €2,039,473.
- Dr Cian O'Connor was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to Harvard University
- Julia Burke was awarded a Fulbright PhD Scholarship to undertake a PhD supervised by Fergal O'Brien and Alan Hibbitts
- We successfully renewed our Athena SWAN bronze award
- We hosted our biennial Interfaith Celebration of Remembrance and Thanksgiving, for those who donate their remains for medical teaching and research, at the Dublin Unitarian Church, St Stephen's Green
- Anatomy & Regenerative Medicine received a green certificate through MyGreenLab in December 2023
- Professor Una Sealy RHA's painting *Body, Movement and Function* was hung in the Anatomy Room
- Dr Austyn Matheson (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), ON Foundation Travel Fellowship, February 2024, ORS annual meeting
- Miss Elizabeth Sainsbury (supervisors: Caroline Curtin, Fergal O'Brien), RCSI award for Scientific Communication, Black Jacket Ceremony November 2023
- Miss Martyna Stasiewicz (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), Research Communication (Public) Award, Black Jacket Ceremony November 2023
- Mr Donagh O'Shea (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Caroline Curtin), Research Output Impact Award, Black Jacket Ceremony November 2023
- Dr Stefanie Croghan (supervisors: Niall Davis, Fergal O'Brien), 1st prize and best oral presentation, RCSI 2023 Millin Meeting, November 2023
- Ms Elizabeth Sainsbury (supervisors: Caroline Curtin, Fergal O'Brien), International Citizenship Award, RCSI, November 2023
- Dr Joanna Sadowska (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), Falling Walls Finalist, November 2023
- Dr Sorcha O'Meara (supervisors: Niall Davis, Fergal O'Brien), Irish Society of Urology Medal 2023

- Mr Liam Leahy (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), winner of the best poster presentation award at European Society for Biomaterials annual conference, Davos, September 2023
- Dr Joanna Sadowska (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), ON Open Education Grant, December 2023
- Dr Cian O'Connor (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Adrian Dervan), Mr Juan Carlos Palomeque-Chavez (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Shane Browne), Education and Public Engagement award, AMBER internal conference, April 2024
- Mr Jack Maughan (supervisors: Jonathan Coleman (School of Physics, TCD), Fergal O'Brien), Poster Prize in the Health Stream, AMBER internal conference, April 2024
- Mr Javier Gutierrez-Gonzalez (supervisors: Valeria Nicolosi (School of Chemistry, TCD) Fergal O'Brien), Image Prize, AMBER internal conference, April 2024
- Dr Cian O'Connor (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), Mr Matthew McGrath (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Shane Browne), Mr Juan Carlos Palomeque-Chavez (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Shane Browne), Image Prize, AMBER internal conference, April 2024
- Dr Ian Woods, Dr Giulio Brunetti, Ms Tara McGuire & Dr Eamon Sheehy (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), Innovation Disclosure Award, RCSI Research Day, March 2024
- Ms Ellen King (supervisors: Olga Piskareva, Fergal O'Brien), best postgraduate oral presentation, RCSI Research day, March 2024
- Ms Rena Mullally (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Adrian Dervan), best first year postgraduate poster, RCSI Research Day, March 2024
- Dr Cian O'Connor (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Adrian Dervan), best early career researcher poster, RCSI Research Day, March 2024
- Mr Liam Leahy (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Adrian Dervan), poster shortlisted for postgraduate poster prize, RCSI Research Day 2024
- Mr Padraig Carroll (supervisor: Michelle Flood, Frank Moriarty, Fergal O'Brien), RCSI Research Day 2024 Patient and Public Involvement Prize (Postgraduate), 2024
- Mr Jack Maughan (supervisors: Jonathan Coleman, Fergal O'Brien), Dr Cian O'Connor (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), Image Prize, 'Gilded Scaffolds', RCSI Research Day, March 2024
- Ms Ellen King (supervisors: Olga Piskareva, Fergal O'Brien), EACR news Junior Researcher Award 2024, February 2024
- Dr Austyn Matheson (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), Orthoregeneration Network/Orthopaedic Research Society Orthoregeneration Award, February 2024
- Dr Cian O'Connor (supervisor: Fergal O'Brien), Symington Bequest Fund to participate in the Materials Research Society annual meeting, Boston, December 2023
- Ms Anne Marie O'Callaghan (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Tobias Engel, Ian Woods), 3rd prize in Early Career Researcher Category at Bioengineering in Ireland 2024, January 2024
- Ms Tara McGuire (supervisors: Fergal O'Brien, Adrian Dervan), Best Overall Presentation, Bioengineering in Ireland 2024, January 2024

Individual:

Shane Browne

- External examiner, University of Verona
- Editorial Board of *Journal of Tissue Viability*
- Funded Investigator in SFI Centre for Research in Medical Devices (CURAM)
- Expert reviewer for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships and European Research Council Consolidator Grant.
- Track chair: '*Biomaterials and Regeneration*' European Tissue Repair Society, Coimbra, Portugal, 2023.
- Invited speaker: Peristomal Skin complications: Cause and Consequences, Beaumont Hospital, December 2023; Semisynthetic extracellular matrix-inspired systems for therapeutic delivery and tissue repair, University of Edinburgh, Department of Anatomy, April 2024
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners

Cara Connolly

- Outreach teaching, Benicasa Special School, Dublin
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners

Claire Conway

- Expert grant reviewer for Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
- Adjunct Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, TCD
- External examiner for the 'Medical Technology' Level 8 course in Technical University of Shannon, 2021- 2025
- Invited speaker: 'Simulation of synthetic mitral valve mechanics using an experimentally validated finite element model", 9th European Congress on Computational Methods in Applied Sciences and Engineering (ECCOMAS) Congress, June 2024, Lisbon, Portugal.
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners

Caroline Curtin

- Co-Chair for the successful Athena SWAN Bronze Renewal Award
- External Assessor on Board of Assessors for Lecturer in Anatomy & Artificial Intelligence Applications in Medicine, University of Galway, November 2023
- Funded investigator in SFI Centre for Advanced Materials and BioEngineering Research (AMBER)
- Grant Reviewer: Swiss National Science Foundation 2023, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023, German National Science Foundation 2024
- Invited speaker: Nanomaterials: Inflammation & Cancer Symposium, Cosponsored by Boston College, the All Island Cancer Research Institute (AICRI) Ireland America Science Forum (IASF) and AMBER Trinity College Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, Dec 2023; School Alumni speaker at the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences Research Day, University of Galway, May 2024
- Panel member on Abraham Colles Public Talk, Heritage Week, Aug 2023
- GIHEP Module Co-Lead, THEP II
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners

Adrian Dervan

- Winner of the RCSI Research Day Vice-Chancellor's Innovation Award
- M Ed, Hibernia College Dublin
- PPI in Preclinical/Lab-based Research Workshop, RCSI (Virtual), Dublin

Aamir Hameed

- Promoted to Senior Lecturer, 1st of October, 2023
- Presented plans to develop the PReduction Device to treat Heart Failure with preserved Ejection Fraction (HFpEF) at the American Irish Medical Summit (AIMS) 2023 spinout session on the 24th of August at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), and won the Blackrock Health sponsored Innovation Award and a cash prize of €1,000
- Received the 'High Achievement Award 2023 in Medicine' from the Irish Pakistani Professionals Association (IPPA) in their annual event held on Saturday, October 21, 2023, at the Knightsbrook Hotel, Spa & Golf Resort in Trim, Co. Meath
- Pumpinheart Ltd. was awarded the Silver Winner at the National Startup Award (MedTech) 2023 ceremony held at the City Hall in Dublin Castle on the 30th of November 2023
- Invited Review article 'Advancements in left ventricular assist devices to prevent pump thrombosis and blood coagulopathy' published in *Journal of Anatomy* was one of the top 10 most-cited papers published in the *Journal*, 1st January 2022 – 31st December 2023
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners

Tom Hodgkinson

- Orthopaedic Research Society Ambassador to Ireland.

Oran Kennedy

- Promoted to Associate Professor on 1st October 2023
- Co-Chair for the successful Athena SWAN Bronze Renewal Award
- Secretary, Section of Bioengineering, RAMI
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners

Clive Lee

- Licentiate and Director of Apothecaries' Hall
- External Examiner: Universities of Cambridge & Edinburgh
- Grant Reviewer, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, UK
- Professor of Anatomy, Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts
- Visiting Professor of Biomechanics, Trinity College Dublin
- Editorial Board: *Every Branch of the Healing Art – A History of RCSI* by Ronan Kelly
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners

Ciara Murphy

- Committee Member, Section of Bioengineering, RAMI
- Member of Editorial Board of Tissue Engineering: Part A
- Elected a Fellow of the Anatomical Society
- Elected a Member of the European Council of the Tissue Engineering Regenerative Medicine International Society (TERMIS)
- External reviewer, Fulbright Program
- Expert Reviewer for European Research Council & EU Horizon Europe
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners.

Fergal O'Brien

- Chair, European Research Council Consolidator Grants evaluation panel, 2024
- License agreement for biomaterial for nerve repair with Integra LifeSciences as well as 1 filed patent, 1 approved patent (details below), February 2024
- Prof. O'Brien's work on spinal cord repair, as well as bone, cartilage, and neural repair was mentioned in the Irish Times article: <https://www.irishtimes.com/science/2024/02/22/aim-of-next-generation-biomaterials-is-to-train-human-tissue-to-heal-itself/>, January 2024
- External examiner, Biomaterials for cranio-maxillofacial bone repair: the need for a better validation process, Luin Phelipe Hatt, PhD defense, Zurich ETH, December 2023
- Awarded Ambassador Recognition Award with Danny Kelly at Failte Ireland's Conference Ambassador Recognition Awards, for organisation and co-chairing the World Congress of Biomechanics 2018, November 2023
- Panellist on Research Strategy at Department of Foreign Affairs Ambassador's conference, Dublin Castle, October 2023
- Scientific Advisory Board Member of European Society for Biomaterials (ESB), September 2023
- 2023, Scientific Advisory Board, AIMS (American Irish Medical Summit), August 24th 2023, RCSI
- Contributor to the SFI-AMBER Centre Position Paper on [Materials Science in Ireland](#), April 2024
- Keynote talk, 'Learnings from COVID: Biomaterial Scaffolds for the Delivery of Advanced Therapeutics for Enhanced Tissue Repair', World Congress of Biomaterials, Daegu, May 2024
- Keynote talk, 'Biomaterial scaffolds for the Delivery of Gene Therapeutics for Enhanced Tissue Repair', Scandinavian Society for Biomaterials, Helsingor, Denmark, April 2024
- Keynote seminar, 'Policy Forum for Ireland keynote seminar: Next steps for research and innovation policy and funding in Ireland', January 2024
- Invited seminar, 'Learnings from COVID: Biomaterial Scaffolds for the Delivery of Advanced Therapeutics for Enhanced Tissue Repair.', ETH Zurich, December 2023
- Invited seminar, 'Learnings from COVID: Biomaterials-based Delivery of Gene Therapeutics for Enhanced Tissue Repair', University of Vienna, December 2023
- Invited speaker, 'Fostering supportive networks in health research for women', Women's Health Summit Bahrain, December 2023
- Plenary speaker, 'Engineered Scaffolds for the Delivery of Gene Therapeutics for Enhanced Tissue Repair', Virtual, Applications of Chemistry in Nanosciences and Biomaterials Engineering (NanBioMat) Winter conference, organised by the Academy of Romanian Scientists and University Politehnica of Bucharest, November 2023
- Plenary talk, Invited seminar, 'Next generation implants for the delivery of stem cells and gene therapies for the repair of damaged Tissues and organs', Bahrain Defence Force Royal Medical Services, October 2023
- Chair, Guest Seminar by Thomas Ritter (Professor of Medicine, NUI Galway) 'Novel Therapeutic Approaches To Modulate Ocular Inflammation and Corneal Graft Rejection with Mesenchymal Stromal Cells', Organiser: Fabio Quandomatteo, May 2024.

- Organiser, Chair, Guest Seminar by Prof. Killian Hurley, Dr Mari Ozaki (Associate Professor and Clinical Consultant, Research Fellow, RCSI/ Beaumont Hospital), 'iPSC generation and disease modeling platforms', May 2024
- Organiser, Chair, Guest Seminar from Professor Francisco M Fernandes (Associate Professor, Sorbonne University Paris) 'The physics and chemistry of directional freezing: implications in biofabrication and cryobiology', RCSI, April 2024
- Organiser, Chair, Guest Seminar from Prof. Makoto Miyara (Professor, Sorbonne University Paris), 'Immunoregulation Regeneration', RCSI, April 2024
- Organiser, Chair, Guest Seminar by Dr Stefanie Croghan (StAR MD, Urologist, RCSI/ Beaumont Hospital), StAR MD research, January 2024
- Organiser, Chair, Guest Seminar by Dr Sorcha O'Meara (StAR MD, Urologist, RCSI/ Beaumont Hospital), StAR MD research, January 2024
- Organiser, Chair, Guest Seminar by Mairead Holden (Education Manager, AMBER Centre), 'Science Capital: What, Why and How?', RCSI, December 2023
- Chair, Guest Seminar by Anna Ferreira Duarte, Organiser: Ciara Murphy, RCSI, November 2023
- Organiser, Chair, guest seminar by Eric Farrell (Associate Professor, Erasmus University Rotterdam), 'Developing in vitro and in vivo models of endochondral ossification for a variety of applications', RCSI, November 2023
- Joint Chair, guest seminar from Jeroen Guerts (PI in Rheumatology, Lausanne University), 'Subchondral bone and marrow adipose tissue as underlying causes of osteoarthritis', Organiser: Oran Kennedy, RCSI, October 2023
- Organiser, Chair, Guest Seminar by Jennifer Paxton (Senior Lecturer, University of Edinburgh), 'Making Connections: tissue engineering approaches for musculoskeletal interface regeneration', RCSI, Organiser: Fabio Quondamatteo, August 2023
- Organiser, Chair, Guest Seminar by Michael Keogh (Associate Professor, Head of TERG satellite lab, RCSI Bahrain), 'Gene-activated biomaterials to improve diabetic foot ulcer wound healing', RCSI, August 2023

Olga Piskareva

- Chair of Life and Medical Sciences Committee, the Royal Irish Academy 2022 - present
- External PhD examiner: University of Malta 2023, UCD 2023, QUB 2024

Fabio Quondamatteo

- President of European Federation for Experimental Morphology (EFEM)
- Member, *Societa' Italiana di Anatomia e Istologia & Anatomische Gesellschaft*
- Member of the Editorial Boards of *Journal of Anatomy*, *Cell and Tissue Research & Annals of Anatomy*
- Guest Editor: *Journal of Anatomy & Molecular Biology Report*
- External Reviewer for the Anatomy section, Centre for Biomedical Science Education, Queen's University Belfast
- External International Grant Reviewer for the University Scientific Research Call of the University La Sapienza Rome
- External Examiner: Universities of Aberdeen, Dublin, Edinburgh & York
- Appointed as Deputy Broad Content Area Lead in Anatomy for the Intercollegiate MRCS examination
- Member of the MRCS Court of Examiners

Staff List

Professor of Anatomy & Head of Department

T Clive Lee BA (Mod), MB, BCh, BAO, MA, MPhil, MSc, PhD, MD, ScD, PgDipStats (Dubl), PgDipBiomech (Strath), LAH, FRCSI, FRCSEd, CEng, FIEI, HRHA, Hon FTCD, Hon FAS

Professor of Bioengineering & Regenerative Medicine

Fergal J O'Brien BA, BAI, PhD (Dubl), FAS, CEng, FIEI, FEAMBES, FIAE, MRIA

Associate Professors of Anatomy

Oran D Kennedy BA, BAI, PhD (Dubl), PgDipEd (RCSI), FAS

Fabio Quondamatteo Dott Med Chir (Bari), Dr Med, Habilitation (Göttingen), FAS, FRSB, Hon FRCSGlas

Senior Lecturers in Anatomy

Caroline M Curtin BSc, PhD (NUIG) PgDipEd (RCSI), FAS
Aamir Hameed MB, BS (Karachi), MD, PgDipEd (RCSI)
Jane C Holland MB, BCh, BAO, MA, MSc, MD (Dubl), PhD, PgDipEd (RCSI), MRCSI, FAS

Senior Lecturer in Biological Sciences

Jacqueline S Daly, Dip App Biol, BSc (Hons) (DIT), PhD (Dubl), GIBIOL

Lecturers in Anatomy

Shane Browne BE, PhD (NUIG) PgDipEd (RCSI)
Claire Conway BE, PhD (NUIG)
Ciara M. Murphy BSc (NUIM), PhD (RCSI), PCUTL (UCD), FAS

Lecturers in Biology

Olga Piskareva BSc (Hon) (KSU), MSc (PSU), MSc Sci Comm (DCU), PhD (RAS), P DipEd (RCSI)
Tom Hodgkinson BSc (Dunelm), MSc (Leeds), PhD (Manc)

Clinical Lecturer in Anatomy

Cara Connolly MB, BCh, BAO, MCh (NUI) LRCP&SI, AFRCSI, FRCSI, FRCS (Plast Sur), PgDipEd (RCSI)

Locum Lecturers

Adrian Dervan BA, PhD (Dubl)
Hyab Mehari Abraha BSc (Qland), PhD (Monash)

Professor of Art

Una Sealy BA (NUI), MSc (RCSI), H Dip Arts Admin (NUI), RHA

Honorary Professors

Garry P Duffy BSc, PhD (NUIG)
Daniel J Kelly BA, BAI, MSc, PhD (Dubl), FTCD
Anil Kokaram BA, PhD (Cantab), CEng FIEI, FTCD

Honorary Associate Professors

Conor T. Buckley BA, BAI, PhD (Dubl), MIEI, FTCD
Triona Lally BEng, MEng (Limerick), PhD, PG Dip Stats (Dubl), FTCD
Odhran Shelley MB, BCh, BAO, PhD (RCSI), LRCP&SI, FRCSI, FRCSI (Plast Sur), FEBPRAS
Ciaran K. Simms BA, BAI, PhD (Dubl), FTCD

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor

Dylan Murray FDS, FFD, FRCS (Plast) EBOPRAS Fellow

Visiting Associate Professor

Eric Farrell BA (Mod), PhD (Dubl)

Honorary Senior Lecturers

Glenn Dickson MSc, PhD (Belf) CBiol, FRSB, FAS
David Hoey BA, BAI, PhD, PG Dip Stats (Dubl), FTCD
Cathal J Kearney BA, BAI (Dubl), SM, PhD (MIT)
M Alice McGarvey BNS, MSc, PhD (NUI), RGN, RNT

Honorary Lecturers

John Gleeson BA, BAI (Dubl), MSc (RCSI), PhD (Dubl)

Honorary Research Fellows

Claire Stenson, MB, BCh, BAO (RCSI), BSc (UCD)

Visiting Scientist

Marcello Truncas MB, PhD (U Cagliari)

Surgeon Prosectors

Tony Dorman MB, BCh, BAO (Dubl), FRCPATH, FFPATH (RCPI)
Patricia Eadie MB, BCh, BAO (NUI), FRCSI, FRCSI (Plast Sur)
Michael Earley MCh, MD (Hon) (NUI), FRCSI, FRCS (Plast Sur)
Paul J Farrell BSc, MB, MCh (NUI), FRCSI, FRCSEd
Thomas Farrell MB, BCh, BAO, PhD (Dubl), FAS
Ray J Fitzgerald MA, MB (Dubl), FRCS, FRCSI, FRACS, FRCPI (Hon)
Thomas Gorey MCh (NUI), FRCSI, FACS
Jim F Griffin MB, BCh, BAO (NUI), FFRCRCSI
Parnell Keeling LRCP&SI, FRCSI
Brian E Lane FRCSI, FRCSEd, FRCSEng, FACS
Tom McCormack MB, BCh, BAO, MCh (NUI) DCH, FRCSI, FRCSEd, FRCSEng
Catherine Riordan MB, BCh, BAO (NUI), FRCSEng
Frank M Thompson MB, BCh, BAO, MCh (Orth) (NUI), FRCSI
Alfred E. Wood, MB, BCh, BAO (NUI), FRCSI, DCH

Senior Demonstrators in Biology

Ellen King BA (Mod) (Dubl)

Demonstrators in Biology

Ciara Gallagher BSc (Hon)
Noor Bakour BA, MSc
Juan Carlos Palomeque Chavez BSc, MSc
Elizabeth Sainsbury, BSc (Hon), Cert HE
Alysia Scott, BSc, MSc
Ananya ShankarPushpa, BSc, MSc
Rabia Saleem, BSc, MSc, MSc
Federica Cottone, BSc, MSc
Ifeolutembi Fashina, BSc, MSc
Sophia Heneghan, BSc, MSc
Eavan Pakenham, BSc
Vera Lucia Almeida, BSc, MSc
Martyna Stasiewicz, BSc, MSc
Louise Hosty, BSc, MSc
Yuyin Joanne Chang, BSc, MSc

Anatomy Room Manager

Bob Dalchan BSc (UoG), MSc (UU)

Laboratory Manager

Vincent McDonagh BSc (Wolv), MSc (NUI)

Senior Technicians

Patrick Conlon BSc (TUD), MRSPH
Andrew Lynch BSc (UCD), BSc Physio (Nottm)

Secretary

Laraine O'Brien
Christopher Farrell

TERG Administrator

Becky Hackett BSc, MA, MSc (NUI)

Commercial Lead on industry project

Liam O'Brien, BEng

Postdoctoral Researchers: 21

MD students: 4

PhD students: 41

MSc Students: 11

Undergraduate Students: 26
Research Assistants: 4

Higher Degrees

Almeida Francisco, A Bioreactor for Conditioning Tissue Engineered Heart Valves. PhD, RCSI & TU Dublin 2023.

Dimitrijevic Ivana, The effect of collagen scaffold structural properties on dental pulp stem cells viability and survival. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Gallagher Ciara, CADM1 is modulated by TGF β signalling through miRNA 200a-3p in high-risk neuroblastoma. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Javadi Saeid, Patient specific human heart 3D modelling by micro-CT image processing. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2024.

King Ellen, DNA and mRNA vaccines for neuroblastoma: design, development, and immunogenicity testing. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

McCormick Katie, Development of non-viral gene-based therapeutics for application in bone tissue engineering. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024

Murphy Catherine, Exploring the immune microenvironment of cisplatin-resistant neuroblastoma via genetic profiling in a range of in vitro and in vivo models. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

O'Shea Donagh, A gene-activated injectable and 3D printable hydrogel for articular cartilage repair. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Ramanayake Harumi, Development of 3D collagen-based scaffolds as gene delivery platforms for microRNA-146a-5p to breast cancer cells. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Rist Jonsdottir Holmfridur, 3D printing spinal cord organoids for high throughput characterization of electrical stimulation therapies. MSc, TCD, 2024.

Saleem Rabia, Glypican 2 (GPC2) is a potential immunological target in adult and childhood cancers. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Shelley Odhran, Factors influencing death and disability following burn injury and measures to improve outcome. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Simpson Christopher, Development of a thermoresponsive hydrogel as a minimally invasive drug delivery platform for bone regeneration. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Thomsen, Charlotte, Biomimetic design of matrix-functionalized angiogenic injectable hydrogel scaffold for spinal cord repair. MSc, TCD, 2024.

Publications

Barcellona M N, Neill T N, O'Brien F, Dixon J E, Curtin CM, & Buckley, C (2024). Modulation of inflammation and regeneration in the intervertebral disc using enhanced cell-penetrating peptides for microRNA delivery. doi:[10.1002/anbr.202300112](https://doi.org/10.1002/anbr.202300112)

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Browne S, Petit N, Quondamatteo F (2024). Functionalised biomaterials as synthetic extracellular matrices to promote vascularisation and healing of diabetic wounds. *Cell Tissue Res.* Feb; 395(2):133-145. doi: 10.1007/s00441-023-03849-4. Epub 2023 Dec 5. PMID: 38051351 Review.

Brunetti G, Patton D, Moore Z, Palomeque . C, O'Brien F, & Boyle C J (2023). Validation of a sub-epidermal moisture scanner for early detection of pressure ulcers in an ex vivo porcine model of localized oedema. *Journal of Tissue Viability.* doi:[10.1016/j.jtv.2023.06.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jtv.2023.06.008)

Carroll P, Dervan A, McCarthy C, Woods I, Beirne C, Harte G, O'Flynn D, O'Connor C, McGuire T, Leahy L, Gutierrez-Gonzalez J, Stasiewicz M, Maughan J, Quinlan J, Smith E, Moriarty F, O'Brien FJ, Flood M (2023). The role of Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) in pre-clinical spinal cord research: an interview study. *PLOS One* 19(4):e0301626

Carroll P, Smith É, Dervan A, McCarthy C, Beirne C, Quinlan J, Harte G, O'Flynn D, O'Brien FJ, Moriarty F, Flood M. Perspectives of researchers and clinicians on patient and public involvement (PPI) in preclinical spinal cord research: An interview study. *Health Expectations.* 2024 Feb;27(1):e13967. doi:[10.1111/hex.13967](https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.13967)

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Croghan SM, O'Meara S, Cunnane EM, Somani B, Skolarikos A, Jack GS, O'Brien FJ, Walsh MT, Manecksha RP, Breen KJ, McGuire BB. The Impact of Hand-Pump versus Pressurised-Bag Irrigation on Intrarenal Pressure During Flexible Ureteroscopy: A Prospective Multi-Centre Analysis. *European Urology Open Science.* 2023 Sep 1;55:S13. doi:[10.1016/s2666-1683\(23\)00958-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/s2666-1683(23)00958-8)

Croghan S M, Cunnane C V, Cunnane E M, O'Meara S, O'Brien F J, Walsh M T, & Davis N F (2023). Ureteric Flow Dynamics in an Ex Vivo Porcine Model and Implications of Stenting and Extrinsic Compression. *European Urology Open Science*, 55, S11. doi:[10.1016/s2666-1683\(23\)00953-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/s2666-1683(23)00953-9)

Croghan SM, Cunnane EM, O'Meara S, Muheilan M, Cunnane CV, Patterson K, Skolarikos A, Somani B, Jack GS, Forde JC, O'Brien FJ. In vivo ureteroscopic intrarenal pressures and clinical outcomes: a multi-institutional analysis of 120 consecutive patients. *BJU international.* 2023 Nov;132(5):531-40. doi:[10.1111/bju.16169](https://doi.org/10.1111/bju.16169)

Croghan S M, O'Meara S, O'Brien F J, Manecksha R P, McGuire B B & Davis N F (2023). Intraoperative Renal Pelvic Pressure Dynamics during Retrograde Surgery. *European Urology Open Science*, 55, S29. doi:[10.1016/s2666-1683\(23\)00999-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/s2666-1683(23)00999-0)

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Croghan SM, O'meara S, Cunnane EM, O'Brien FJ, Walsh MT, Manecksha RP, MCGuire BB, Breen KJ, Davis NF. A multicentre RCT assessing the influence of pressure bag versus manual-pump irrigation on intrarenal pressure during retrograde intrarenal surgery. *European Urology.* 2024 Mar 1;85:S1292. doi:[10.1016/s0302-2838\(24\)01018-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0302-2838(24)01018-2)

Esparza A, Jimenez N, Borrego E A, Browne S, Natividad-Diaz S L (2024) Human stem cell-based 3d in vitro angiogenesis models for preclinical drug screening applications. *Molecular Biology Reports* doi: [10.1007/s11033-023-09048-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11033-023-09048-2)

Fisher SM, Murally AR, Rajabally Z, Almas T, Azhar M, Cheema FH, Malone A, Hasan, B, Aslam N, Saidi J, O'Neill J, Hameed A (2023). Large animal models to study effectiveness of therapy devices in the treatment of heart failure with preserved ejection fraction (HFpEF). doi:[10.1007/s10741-023-10371-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10741-023-10371-w).

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Liu J, Garcia J, Leahy LM, Song R, Mullarkey D, Fei B, Dervan A, Shvets IV, Stamenov P, Wang W, O'Brien FJ, Coleman JN, Nicolosi V. (2023) 3D Printing of Multifunctional Conductive Polymer Composite Hydrogels. *Advanced Functional Materials*, 33::2214196.

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Monaghan M G, Borah R, Thomsen C, & Browne S (2023). Thou shall not heal: overcoming the non-healing behaviour of diabetic foot ulcers by engineering the inflammatory microenvironment. doi:[10.1016/j.addr.2023.115120](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.addr.2023.115120)

Murphy C, Devis L, Struck R, Boloix A, Gallagher C, Gavin, C, Cottone F, Soriano Fernandez A, Madden S, Roma J, Segura MF, Piskareva O (2024). In vivo cisplatin-resistant neuroblastoma metastatic model reveals Tumour Necrosis Factor Receptor Superfamily Member 4 (TNFRSF4) as an independent prognostic factor of survival in neuroblastoma. *PLoS ONE* 19(5): e0303643.

O'Connor C, Woods I, Hibbitts A, Dervan A, O'Brien FJ. (2023) The Manufacture and Characterization of Biomimetic, Biomaterial-Based Scaffolds for Studying Physicochemical Interactions of Neural Cells in 3D Environments. *Current Protocols*, 3(2): e688.

- O'Meara S, Croghan S, O'Brien F, & Davis N (2023). A good craftsman knows their tools: understanding of laser and ureter mechanics in training urologists. *J Lasers Med Sci*. doi:[10.34172/jlms.2023.29](https://doi.org/10.34172/jlms.2023.29)
- O'Meara S, Cunnane EM, Croghan S, Cunnane CV, Walsh MT, Mulvihill JJ, O'Brien FJ, Davis NF. Comparative Study of Tensile Strength of Buccal Mucosa with Ureter in Porcine Specimens. *European Urology Open Science*. 2023 Sep 1;55:S12. doi:[10.1016/s2666-1683\(23\)00956-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/s2666-1683(23)00956-4)
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- O'Shea D G, Hodgkinson T, Dixon J E, Curtin C M, & O'Brien F J (2024). Development Of An 'Off-The-Shelf' Gene Therapeutic Nanoparticle Formulation For Incorporation Into Biomaterials For Regenerative Medicine Applications. *European Cells and Materials*, 47, 152-169. doi:[10.22203/eCM.v047a11](https://doi.org/10.22203/eCM.v047a11)
- O'Shea D, Hodgkinson T, Curtin C, & O'Brien F (2023). An injectable and 3D printable pro-chondrogenic hyaluronic acid and collagen type II composite hydrogel for the repair of articular cartilage defects. *Biofabrication*. doi:[10.1088/1758-5090/ad047a](https://doi.org/10.1088/1758-5090/ad047a)
- Pang N, Laiva A.L, Sulaiman N Z, Das P, O'Brien F, & Keogh M (2024). Dual glyoxalase-1 and β -klotho gene-activated scaffold reduces methylglyoxal and reprograms diabetic adipose-derived stem cells: prospects in improved wound healing. *Pharmaceutics*. doi:[10.3390/pharmaceutics16020265](https://doi.org/10.3390/pharmaceutics16020265)
- Rohrer L, Kato S, Browne S A, Striedinger-Melo K, Heal, K, & Pomerantz J H (2024). Acrylated Hyaluronic-Acid Based Hydrogel for the Treatment of Craniofacial Volumetric Muscle Loss. *Tissue Engineering - Part A*. doi:[10.1089/ten.tea.2023.0241](https://doi.org/10.1089/ten.tea.2023.0241)
- Runzer C D T. , Sadowska J, Plank C, O'Brien F J, van Griensven M, & Balmayor E R (2024). Transfection of hMSCs with chemically modified mRNA coding for BMP-7 enhances osteogenesis. *Orthopaedic Proceedings*, 106-B(SUPP_2), 89. doi:[10.1302/1358-992x.2024.2.089](https://doi.org/10.1302/1358-992x.2024.2.089)
- Sadowska J, Power R, Genoud K, Matheson A R, Vazquez A G, Costard L, Eichholz K, Pitacco P, Hallegouet T., Chen G, Curtin C M, Murphy CM, Cavanagh B, Zhang H, Kelly D J, Boccaccini A R, O'Brien F J (2023). A multifunctional scaffold for bone infection treatment by delivery of microRNA therapeutics combined with antimicrobial nanoparticles. *Advanced Materials* doi:[10.1002/adma.202307639](https://doi.org/10.1002/adma.202307639)
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- Shaqrah H J N A, O'Shea D G, Wood I, O'Brien F, & Hodgkinson T (2023). Development of a Composite Scaffold for Load-bearing and Biomaterial-controlled Regeneration of Zonal Articular Cartilage Properties. *European Cells and Materials* (n.d.). doi:[10.22203/ecm](https://doi.org/10.22203/ecm)
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Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Browne S & Petit N, A peptide-decorated bilayered hyaluronic-acid based hydrogel with antimicrobial and pro-angiogenic properties for the treatment of diabetic wounds, 13/RC/2073_P2/MedtrainPlus 101081457, Science Foundation Ireland/EU Horizon Europe, March 2024, €255,572.

Browne S & Chang J, 3D Endothelial-macrophage interactions in the ischemic microenvironment, 18/EPSC-CDT/3583 Science Foundation Ireland, October 2024, €224,688.

Browne S & Gawenda J, The contribution of intestinal bacteria to the pathophysiology of peristomal skin complications in models of ileostomy, EPSPG/2023/1651, Irish Research Council/Hollister Inc., €61,000.

Conway C. Ventricular hypertrophy and dilation in relation to cardiac mechanics, CRYUG/2024/003, CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) Ireland, 2024, €3,700.

Conway C. Digital models for Next generation MITral prostheses, 20/FFP-P/8588, Science Foundation Ireland, October 2021, €610,852.

Curtin C & Piskareva O, AMBER Spokes J&J Project, FF78 JJSI 03, 2024-2026, €399,443.

Curtin C, Health Research Board / HRB Summer Student Scholarships, 2024, €3,200.

Curtin C, Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Programme, 2021-2025, €112,000.

Curtin C, Saudi Government Postgraduate Scholarship, 2020-2024, €140,000.

Curtin C, RCSI, Student Selected Projects (SSP) 2024, 2024-2025 €600.

Curtin C, Higher Education Authority, HEA Support for COVID-19 Related Research Costed Extensions, 2024, €15,000.

Curtin C, RCSI, RCSI-Soochow Joint PhD Programme 2023 Cohort, 2023-2027, €18,000

Curtin C, Anatomical Society, Collagen-nanohydroxyapatite gene-activated scaffolds as treatment platforms for 3D breast cancer bone metastasis, 2023, €3,200.

Curtin C, RCSI, Collaborate Initiative – IPO, 2021-2024, €5,000.

Curtin CM (Lead Applicant), O'Brien F.J. (Co-applicant), 3D collagen-based scaffolds as gene delivery platforms for the treatment of human breast cancer, ILP-POR-2019-023, Health Research Board. HRB funding allocated: €360,000.

Curtin C & Kennedy O, RCSI, StAR Intl PhD Programme, 2019-2025, €1,000.

Davis, N., O'Brien F.J. (co-applicant). Exploring failure of ureteric stents due to radial and circumferential compressive forces exerted on the stented ureter, RCSI-MD-202112, RCSI star MD funding, 10/2021, funding allocated: €20,000.

Dervan A, Scaffold-based Therapeutic Delivery for Spinal Cord Repair IRFU Charitable Trust, 2023-27, €350,000

Dervan A, Development of an implantable gene-activated iPSC neuronal scaffold for spinal cord repair. IRC PG Scholarship, 2024, €123,000

Dervan A, Development of a drug loaded electro spun implant for dura healing post SCI. HRB Summer Student Scholarship, 2023, €3,200.

Dervan A, Development of a cell optimised dural patch for central nervous system repair applications. TCD MSc student stipend, 2024, €2,400.

Dervan A, Testing the efficacy of a bioengineered drug eluting synthetic dural patch for spinal cord injury repair applications. Anatomical Society Undergraduate Summer Vacation Research Scholarship, €4,500.

Hodgkinson T. Development of a gene activated construct targeting proinflammatory signalling to promote zonal regeneration of osteoarthritic cartilage (GAPROC). Emerging Investigator Award for Health 2023-27, €729,486.

Hodgkinson T. Regeneration of articular cartilage through biomaterial-controlled in situ cell reprogramming to recover youthful epigenetic information (RESTORE). SFI-IRC Pathway Programme 2022-26, €552,140.

Hodgkinson T & O'Brien F. Repair of articular cartilage using advanced Gene Therapy based biomaterials (ReGenT; T-RCSI-TRP-023). SFI ARC Hub for Therapeutics – Cógas, 2024-26, €499,894.

Kars, M.,...O'Brien F.J. (co-applicant) Consolidating the Expertise of Necmettin Erbakan University Towards the Development of Biofibers for Wound Healing and Tissue Regeneration (Regeneu), 101079123, EU Horizon Europe WIDERA Twinning call project, 07/2022, funding allocated: €148,070.

Kennedy O D. Subchondral Bone Microdamage in PTOA, CDA-17-1401, Science Foundation Ireland, 2018, €607,981.

Kennedy O D. Osteoleukins: osteocytes as a source of inflammatory factors in PTOA. FFP -06-2314, Science Foundation Ireland, 2022, €602,232.

Kennedy O D. Arthroscopic synovial microneedle technology for drug delivery to prevent PTOA. ON21-008, Orthoregeneration Network, 2021, €25,000.

Kennedy O D. Arthroscopic microneedle design for PTOA. AS-2112, Anatomical Society, 2020, €109,000.

Mehari Abraha H, SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship, MVR: Modelling mitral valve realities – a framework for creating a virtual patient population for Finite Element Analysis, 23/IRDIFB/12075, SFI & Synopsys Simpleware, 2024, €91,513.

Murphy C. EU Horizon Europe, RESTORE - Regenerative Stenting for Osteoporotic Vertebral Fracture Repair, 2024-29, €2,039,473.

Murphy C & Lee TC. Investigating selenium doped collagen-glycosaminoglycan scaffolds as a novel treatment strategy for bone cancer. Anatomical Society Studentship, 2023-26, £92,509.

Murphy C. Industry, A comparative study of the safety and performance of distraction-based rods in the treatment of patients with early-onset scoliosis. 2023-25, €150,000.

Murphy C. Characterising cellular biology in paediatric scoliosis spine for clinical impact in treatment strategies. RCSI, 2022-24, €73,876.

Murphy C. EU Horizon 2020, NanoBOOST, 2022-23, €184,591.

Murphy C. Cost Savings from Marie Curie Award, RCSI, 2018-24, €70,533.

Nicolosi, V., O'Brien, F.J. (Co-PI) The development and assessment of tunable electroconductive materials for the repair of spinal cord injury, 18/EPSRC-CDT/3581, 09/2019, funding allocated: €26,130.

O'Brien, F.J. (PI), Dobricic, M. (applicant). Gene-Activated Scaffolds: A Novel Approach to Treat Epidermolysis Bullosa, Irish Research Council Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postdoctoral Fellowship (with DEBRA Ireland), 05/2024, funding allocated: €112,986.50.

O'Brien, F.J., Mullally, R. (applicant). Development of a gene-activated iPSC neuron-seeded scaffold (GAINS) for spinal cord injury repair, Irish Research Council Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship, 05/2024, funding allocated: €124,000.

O'Brien, F.J. A biomimetic tissue engineered biomaterial for ureteric grafting, 12/RRC/2278_P2, SFI-AMBER Centre -Director's Fund project, Emerging Research Fund, 05/2024, funding allocated: €30,000.

O'Brien, F.J., Calero, F. (applicant). PancmiR: Biomimetic collagen-based scaffolds for the study of pancreatic cancer and delivery anti-tumoural miRNA for enhanced cancer therapy, 101153243, European Union Marie-Sklodowska Curie Actions Individual Fellowship, 08/2024, funding allocated: €199,694.40.

O'Brien, F.J. (PI), O'Brien, L., Kennedy, O.D., Brunetti, G. DocLeaf: A Tissue Oxygenation System for wound healing. Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Fund, CF-2023-2238-I, 03/2024, funding allocated: €825,506.81.

O'Brien, F.J. (PI), Woods, I. (applicant) Biomaterial-enabled immunoengineering strategies for the development of Treg-enabled therapeutics for treatment of graft vs host disease and other immune pathologies, Ulysses Scheme 2024, Irish Research Council, 01/2024, funding allocated: €5,000.

O'Brien, F.J. (PI) IRFU CT Phase 2 - Scaffold-based Therapeutic Delivery for Spinal Cord Repair, Irish Rugby Football Union Charitable Trust, IRFUCT-RCSI-2023, 10/2023, funding allocated: €356,500.

O'Brien, F.J. (PI) IRFU CT Phase 2 - Scaffold-based Therapeutic Delivery for Spinal Cord Repair, AMBER Co Fund, 10/2023, funding allocated: €350,000.

O'Brien, F.J. (PI), Engel, T. (Co-PI), O'Callaghan, A. (applicant) Developing An Injectable Hyaluronic Acid Based Hydrogel Containing P2X7 Receptor siRNA Nanoparticles For The Treatment Of Temporal Lobe Epilepsy, GOIPG/2023/3485, Irish Research Council Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship, 09/2023, funding allocated: €112,000.

O'Brien, F.J., Gene-activated scaffolds for the treatment of Epidermolysis Bullosa, OBrien 2022, DEBRA Ireland Seed Funding, 09/2022, funding allocated: €20,000.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Burke, J. (Student) Functionalizing Next Generation Nerve Regeneration Biomaterials with Electrical Stimulation and Gene Therapy, Fulbright Programme, 09/2023, funding awarded: €167,000.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Burke, J. (Student) Functionalizing Next Generation Nerve Regeneration Biomaterials with Electrical Stimulation and Gene Therapy, Irish Research Council Postgraduate Scholarship, 09/2023, funding awarded: €112,000.

O'Brien, F.J. (PI), Sheehy, E. (applicant) Decellularised extracellular matrix derived scaffolds as orthobiologic implants for musculoskeletal tissue engineering applications, 22/IRDIFB/10921, Science Foundation Ireland Industry Fellowship, 08/2023, funding allocated: €172,641.

O'Brien F.J. PI), Zheng, Y., An, S. (Student), The application of 3D printed biomaterials for the delivery of therapeutics to enhance cartilage repair and reduce inflammation in joint defects, StAR International PhD Programme, collaboration with Soochow University, funding allocated: €20,000.

O'Brien, F.J., McCarthy, H., WoundActiv: Bioactive scaffolds functionalised for the delivery of genetic cargoes for the healing of complex wounds, FOB-HEANS-2022, Health Education Authority NorthSouth programme, 05/2022, funding allocated: €199,021.

O'Brien, F.J. (PI), Development of neurotrophin receptor p75 extracellular domain (p75NTRECD) modified nerve guidance conduits ("TP27 Integra 3 Project"), SFI-Integra-003, 12/RC/2278, Integra LifeSciences/ Science Foundation Ireland /AMBER, 12/2020, funding allocated: €550,484.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Development of a nerve guidance conduit (NGC) incorporating nerve growth factor to promote accelerated repair of peripheral nerve defects, 12/RC/2278_P2, SFI-Integra-004, Integra LifeSciences/Science Foundation Ireland/ AMBER, 12/2021, funding allocated: €1,472,745.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Matheson A. (postdoctoral researcher), Gene-Activated Multi-Layered Biomaterials for Superior Bio-lubrication and Enhanced Cartilage Repair, GA 945168, EU Horizon 2020 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions CoFund, 10/2021, funding allocated: €167,952.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Boyle .C., Patton D., Verification and Validation of the Provizio® SEM Scanner's operational claims in a clinical skin tissue model. BBI Ltd. Collaboration with Bruin Biometrics LLC, Bruin Biometrics funding allocated: €138,247.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Woods I. (lead applicant), ElecTrophINK: Multifunctional conductive 3D printed scaffolds for enhanced spinal cord regeneration, GOIPD/2021/262; RCSI/2021/262, GOI Postdoctoral Fellowship Funding (Irish Research council), 08/2021, funding allocated: €103,032.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), 3D tissue engineering-based model of non-syndromic craniosynostosis for identifying potential therapeutic targets that control premature ossification, RPAC 19-01, Temple Street Children's University Hospital Foundation, 02/2020, funding allocated: €209,014.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), AMBER Phase 2, 12/RC/2278_P2, Science Foundation Ireland, 03/2019, funding allocated: €2,373,430.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), McCarthy, H., Donahue, S., Dunne N., Non-viral Delivery of Genetic Cargo on Biomaterial Scaffolds for Bone Regeneration, 17/US/3437, Science Foundation Ireland US-Ireland R&D Partnership Planning Grant, 11/2018, RCSI funding allocated: €464,054.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Scaffold-based Therapeutic Delivery for Spinal Cord Repair, N/A, Irish Rugby Football Union Charitable Trust, 20/08/2018, funding allocated: €500,000.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Regeneration of Articular Cartilage using Advanced Biomaterials and Printing Technology (ReCaP), 788753, EU Horizon 2020 ERC Advanced Grant, 04/2018, funding allocated: €2,999,410.

O'Brien F.J. (PI), Development and evaluation of a novel product to promote osteogenesis, Marigot, Private Donor, 21/01/2011, funding allocated: €63,205.

Piskareva, O., Woods, I., Dervan, A., O'Brien, F.J., Macrophage Targets for Metastatic Treatment, Mac4Me, EU Horizon-Doctoral Network, 04/2024, funding allocated: €572,976.

Piskareva O. From bench to pre-clinical evaluation: a novel nucleic acid vaccine targeting tumour-associated antigens. RCSI StAR PhD Fellowship-Demonstratorship 2024-2028, €150,000 (Applicant).

Piskareva O. Development of mRNA-based vaccine for children with neuroblastoma, HRB-HRCI 2022-2025, 280,000 (Applicant).

Piskareva O. NeuVac-mRNA based vaccine for neuroblastoma, The HEA North-South Programme 2022-2023, €170,000 (Applicant).

Piskareva O. Regulation of crosstalk and signaling switches between RAF and MST2 pathways in neuroblastoma, DevelopMed MSCA COFUND Action 2022-2025, €260,000, (co-Applicant).

Piskareva O. Exosome-based liquid biopsies for children with neuroblastoma The Fulbright-RCSI StAR PhD Programme 2022-2026, €125,000 (co-Applicant).

Piskareva O. Exosome based nanomedicine for neuroblastoma RCSI-SU StAR Strategic International Partnership Programme 2021-2025, €125,000, (Applicant).

Piskareva O. Enterprise Ireland H2020 Support 2022-2024 €12,500 (Applicant).

Piskareva O. Advanced humanised 3D in vitro system for modelling immune response and testing novel therapies for children with neuroblastoma The IRC Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scheme/EPS 2021-2025, €110,000, (co-Applicant).

Piskareva O. Development of DNA vaccine for children with neuroblastoma RCSI StAR PhD Fellowship-Demonstratorship 2020-2024 €125,000 (Applicant).

Piskareva O. Decrypting cascades of tumour - immune cell interactions using a 3D in vitro tissue-engineered model, The IRC Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scheme, 2019-2023, €96,000, (co-Applicant).

Quondamatteo F & Browne S. Harnessing stem-cell derived vascular cells for the development of a pro-angiogenic ECM scaffold to treat diabetic foot ulcers. Anatomical Society Studentship , 2023-26, €222,000.

Quondamatteo F & Sreenan S. Assessment of debrided material from chronic diabetic wounds - are we currently discarding useful information? Star MD RCSI, 2024-26, €116,000.

Stenson S & Hameed A. 'SmartPleuro', CF-2024-4715-Y, Enterprise Ireland (EI), 8th February, 2024, €15,000.

Stenson S & Hameed A. 'SmartPleuro - Malignant Pleural Effusion', Health Service Executive (HSE), 19th July 2023, €3,000.

Innovation and Commercialisation Activities

Patent applied: Donald Aloysius Hickey, Andrew Malone, Aamir Hameed, Darragh Colgan, 'A system for acute treatment of heart disease in a subject', European Patent Office, Application No. 24162348.7.

Exclusive License Agreement with Integra LifeSciences for a new biomaterial in the area of nerve repair.

IDFs filed: Claire Brougham, Francisco Almeida, Fergal O'Brien, Nigel Kent, Heart valve tissue model system for assessment of applied pharmacological effects.

IDFs filed: Claire Brougham, Fergal O'Brien, Conditioning parameters to achieve elastogenesis in tissue engineered heart valves, EI number: 2023-RCSI-011-1.

IDF filed: Ian Woods, Fergal O'Brien, Adrian Dervan, Tara McGuire, TrophINK: A Gene-Activated, Immunomodulatory, Neurotrophic Platform for Neural Injury Repair, 2023-RCSI-006-I.

Patent filed: Zuzana Kočí, Fergal O'Brien, William Lackington, Alan Hibbitts, Alan Ryan, Simon James Archibald, A device and method for creating localised degradation in biomaterials, 63/601,898.

Patent filed: Fergal O'Brien, John Gleeson, Eamon Sheehy, Cian O'Connor, Cian O'Leary, Andrew Cameron, Ronaldo do Amaral, Elizabeth Sainsbury, Alec Blayney, Irina Pascu, A layered implant and system to repair a perforation in a tympanic membrane, EP23201992.

Patent issued: Simon J. Archibald, Fergal O'Brien, Amos Matsiko, Devices and methods for nerve regeneration, US 11,730,479 B2.

CHEMISTRY

Overview

The Chemistry Department continued to sustain a blended undergraduate chemistry education in the Schools of Medicine, Physiotherapy and Pharmacy while expanding its thriving research programmes for PhD students and postdoctoral researchers.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Departmental:

Notable events during the year include; the sustained international profile of the departmental research, international recognition of research outputs, participation by academic staff on international peer review panels, and organising of scientific and education conferences.

Individual:

O'Shea Donal

- Interviews on BBC World Service and numerous national radio stations discussing published AI research into the public health risks of vaping. The publication was picked up by 190 news outlets worldwide including the Guardian Newspaper, reaching an Altmetric Score of 1,480.
- Invited lecture tour of Universities and research institutes in Japan as part of the 10th Catalysis and Sensing for Our Environment Symposium Series in the National Institute for Material Science, Tsukuba, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Osaka University and the University of Kitakyushu, April 2024.
- Invited lecture titled "*Real-time near infrared fluorescence imaging; research tools with the potential for clinical use*" at Newcastle University.
- Authored an article in The Conversation titled "*Flavoured vapes may produce many harmful chemicals when e-liquids are heated – new research*". Published: May 8, 2024.
- H2020-MSCA-IF-2023 and the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research (INSERM) grant funding reviewer.
- PhD External Examination in Newcastle University, February 2024.

Barlow James

- Member of HPRA Herbal Medicines Sub-committee.
- External examiner for Pharmacy Technician Programmes at TUD.
- Review Editor for Frontiers in Ethnopharmacology.

Devocelle Marc

- Appointment to the Executive Committee of the International Antimicrobial & Host Defence Peptide Network (iAMPNet).
- PhD External Examiner Maynooth University and Trinity College Dublin.
- Member of the Scientific Advisory Board for the 37th European Peptide Symposium /14th International Peptide Symposium.

Heise Andreas

- Proposal reviewer for the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique – FNRS, Belgium.
- Proposal reviewer for University Research Fellowship proposal (URF) of the Royal Society.
- Expert panel member for the PhD Fellowship programme Strategic Basic Research of the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), Belgium.
- Expert panel member for the evaluation of Junior/Senior research projects "Fundamental Research (Chemistry)" of the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), Belgium.
- Expert panel member for Cluster of Excellence review panel for German Science Foundation (DFG).
- PhD External Examiner, TU Eindhoven, The Netherlands.
- PhD External Examiner, UCD.

Marmion Celine

- Member of the AMEE ASPIRE Academy – an international committee comprising representatives from universities which have been recognised with an ASPIRE award for excellence in medical education.
- Council member of the International Society of Biological Inorganic Chemistry.
- Member of the International Scientific Committee and co-chair of the Local Organising Committee for the 9th European Chemical Society (EuChemS) Congress held July 2024.
- Council member of the Institute of Chemistry of Ireland (ICI).
- Committee member of the Irish Biological Inorganic Chemistry Society (IBICS).
- Member of the National Student Engagement Programme (NStEP) Advisory Committee.
- RCSI Deputy Dean for Student Engagement.
- Recipient of the RCSI Excellence in Teaching Award 2024 (Foundation Year).
- Academic Lead, Memorandum of Understanding between RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences and Mahidol University, Thailand (signed February, 2024).
- Thai Medical Education Conference (TMEC) Pre-Conference Workshop entitled ‘ASPIRE Schools Talk on Student Engagement’, Centara Grand and Bangkok Convention Centre, 4th February, 2024.
- Symposium entitled ‘Enhancing Medical Education for a Healthier World Through a University-Wide and Highly Structured Student Engagement and Partnership Programme’, Centara Grand and Bangkok Convention Centre, 6th February, 2024.
- Invited lecture, Mahidol University International College, Bangkok, Thailand ‘Embedding a Universal Culture of Student Engagement and Partnership - A Multi-Step and University-Wide Approach’, 8th February, 2024.
- Invited lecture, ‘It’s a mind-set change’ – student and staff perceptions of embedding a university-wide culture of student partnership’, INHED Conference, RCSI, 25th January, 2024.
- NStEP Networking Event ‘Student Engagement, Well-Being and Belonging’, RCSI, 28th November, 2023.
- Invited lecture QQI AQR Conference (Quality in Higher Education: Sectoral Findings & Enhancement Showcase), ‘RCSI Student Engagement and Partnership Programme and ASPIRE’ 17th October, 2023.
- Symposium entitled ‘East meets West’ - Experiences of Two AMEE ASPIRE Awardees for Excellence in Student Engagement’, Celine J. Marmion, Muirne Spooner and Sarah Ghobrial (RCSI), Anant Khonsitseth, Pongtong Puranitee and Chawisa Teansue (Mahidol University), AMEE Glasgow 2023: Transforming Health Care Education Through Inclusivity and Innovation, 30th August, 2023.
- Host and organiser of the National Student Engagement Programme (NStEP) Networking Event ‘Student Engagement, Well-Being and Belonging’, RCSI, 28th November, 2023 (~100 delegates).
- PhD external examiner, University of Vienna, Austria, January 2024.

Griffith Darren

- Mentor of the Year Award recipient from the SFI SSPC Research Centre, June 2024.
- PhD External Examiner, University of Wollongong, October 23.
- PhD External Examiner, Maynooth University, May 24.

Adamo Mauro

- Advisory Board member of Parterra Ltd (UK), 2023.
- PhD external Examiner for University of Faisalabad (Pakistan), Feb 2024.
- PhD external Examiner for University of Faisalabad (Pakistan), Mar 2024.
- PhD external Examiner for University of Cagliari (Italy), Mar 2024.
- Plenary lecture, Organised European School of Medicinal Chemistry ESMEC, Urbino “Fluorine in Medicinal Chemistry”.

Monopoli Marco

- Design of postgraduate course in nanotechnology at the ETPN.
- OECD Expert Group member on GSPD (testing safety methods of nanomaterials).
- WG Education and Learning ETPN.
- External PhD defence politecnico di Milano -13th June 2024.
- Organised ETPN academy- Milan July 2024.

Staff List

Professor & Head of Department

Donal O'Shea BSc (NUIG), PhD (NUIG)

Professors

Mauro F A Adamo MSc (Florence), PhD (Sheffield), MRSC, MACS, MPSI

Celine J Marmion BSc, PhD, PGCE, FRSC

Andreas Heise PhD (Hannover)

Associate Professors

Marc Devocelle MSc, PhD (Lille)

Senior Lecturers

James Barlow BSc (Pharm), PhD, MPSI

Darren Griffith BSc, PhD (NUI), PGDip (Leadership & Management)

Marco Monopoli PhD (UCD)

Honorary Lecturer

Dan Wu PhD (UCD)

Laboratory Manager

Emmet Campion BSc (DCU), MSc (NUI, RCSI)

Senior Technicians

Suzanne Donnelly BSc (DIT)

Graeme Kelly BSc (UCD), PhD (NUI, RCSI)

Imaging Specialist

Massimiliano Garre MSc (University of Pisa)

Operations Coordinator-Scientific

Yuan Ge MSc (Donghua University)

Postdoctoral Research Fellows

Paul O'Dowd PhD

Mahmoud Soliman PhD

Bo Li PhD

Rafal Bielas PhD

Robert Denis Murphy PhD

Thomas Leigh PhD

Smiljana Stefanovic PhD

Viviane Chiaradia

Josué Muñoz Galindo PhD

Stephen Barrett BSc, PhD

Abuelmagd Ahmed PhD

Asia Saorin PhD

Anais Bourges PhD

Nikitas Ostrovitsa PhD

Neeladri Roy PhD

Apjohn Scholars

Sebastian Pim BSc

Brian Durkan BSc

Number of Postgraduate Research Students: 23

Number of Undergraduate Research Student: 16

Number of Erasmus Students:3

Higher Degrees

Cahill, Ronan A. (BAO, MB, BCh, FRCS, MD), Aerosols, Airflows and Airspace Contamination During Laparoscopic Surgery. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

O'Dowd Paul, Exploiting Click Chemistry in the Design of Next Generation Pt(II) Probes. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

O'Flaherty Siobhán, New Approaches to Enhance the Sustainability of Solid-Phase Peptide Synthesis and the Applicability of Solution-Phase Peptide Conjugation, PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Publications

Booth, E., Garre, M., Wu, D., Daly, H.C., **O'Shea, D.F.** (2024). A NIR-Fluorochrome for Live Cell Dual Emission and Lifetime Tracking from the First Plasma Membrane Interaction to Subcellular and Extracellular Locales. *Molecules*, 29(11), 2474. doi:10.3390/molecules29112474

Cheeseman, J., Badia, C., Elgood-Hunt, G., Gardner, R. A., Trinh, N. D., **Monopoli, M.P.**, Osborn, H. M. I. (2023). Elevated concentrations of Neu5Ac and Neu5,9Ac₂ in human plasma: potential biomarkers of cardiovascular disease. *Glycoconj J.*, 40(6):645-654. doi:10.1007/s10719-023-10138-3

Ciofani, G., **Monopoli, M.P.** (2023). Editorial: Insights in nanobiotechnology 2022/2023: novel developments, current challenges, and future perspectives. *Front. Bioeng. Biotechnol.* 11:1331760. doi:10.3389/fbioe.2023.1331760

Cormick, K.M., Herrero, J.M., Haas, H., Fattah, S., **Heise, A.**, O'Brien, F., Cryan, S-A. (2024) Optimizing the Delivery of mRNA to Mesenchymal Stem Cells for Tissue Engineering Applications. *Mol. Pharmaceutics*, 21, 4, 1662–1676. doi:10.1021/acs.molpharmaceut.3c00898

Ferreira, A., Alarcon, J. F., Guffanti, F., Morelli, A., Russo, L., Violatto, M. B., Cognet, V., Barrientos, A., Soliman, M. G., Dobricic, M., Moya, S. E., Bigini, P., **Monopoli, M.P.** (2024) Tuning of Ultrasmall Gold Nanoparticles Surface Properties Affect Their Biological Fate. *Acc. Chem. Res.*, 50, 6, 1383-1390. doi:[10.1002/ppsc.202300168](https://doi.org/10.1002/ppsc.202300168)

Finnegan, E., Ding, W., Ude, Z., Terer, S., McGivern, T., Blümel, A.M., Kirwan, G., Shao, X., Genua, F., Yin, X., Kel, A., Fattah, S., Myer, P. A., Cryan, S. A., Prehn, J. H. M., O'Connor, D. P., Brennan, L., Yochum, G., **Marmion, C.J.**, Das, S. (2024). Complexation of histone deacetylase inhibitor belinostat to Cu(II) prevents premature metabolic inactivation in vitro and demonstrates potent anti-cancer activity in vitro and ex vivo in colon cancer. *Cell Oncol. (Dordr)*, 47(2), 533-553. doi:10.1007/s13402-023-00882-x.

Flood, M., Strawbridge, J.D., **Barlow, J.W.** (2023). The experiences of migrant pharmacists: A phenomenographical study. *Explor. Res. Clin. Soc. Pharm.*, 12, 100367. doi:10.1016/j.rcsop.2023.100367

Guerrero, A.S., O'Dowd, P.D., Pigg, H.C., Alley, K.R., **Griffith, D.M.**, DeRose, V.J. (2023). Comparison of click-capable oxaliplatin and cisplatin derivatives to better understand Pt(II)-induced nucleolar stress. *RSC Chem. Biol.*, 4, 785-793. doi:10.1039/d3cb00055a

Henwood, A.F., Curtin, N., Estalayo-Adrián, S., Savyasachi, A.J., Gudmundsson, T.A., Lovitt, J.I., Sigurvinnsson, L.C., Dalton, H.L., Hawes, C.S., Jacquemin, D., **O'Shea D.F.**, Gunnlaugsson T. (2024). Time-resolved fluorescence imaging with color-changing, "turn-on/turn-on" AIE nanoparticles. *Chem.*, 10(2), 578-599. doi:10.1016/j.chempr.2023.10.001

Judge, N., **Heise, A.** (2024). Investigation of the Effectiveness of Photo Deprotection of Polypeptides in Solution and within the Core of Miniemulsion-Derived Nanoparticles. *Macromolecules*, 57, 5, 1979–1987. doi:[10.1021/acs.macromol.3c02538](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.macromol.3c02538)

Kishimoto, A., Wu, D., **O'Shea, D.F.** (2024). Forecasting vaping health risks through neural network model prediction of flavour pyrolysis reactions. *Sci. Rep.*, 14(1), 9591. doi:10.1038/s41598-024-59619-x

- More O'Ferrall, L., Piatek, M., Twamley, B., Kavanagh, K., O'Connor, C., **Griffith, D.M.** (2023). Synthesis, characterisation and antibacterial activity of novel Ga(III) polypyridyl catecholate complexes. *Dalton Trans.*, 52, 11958-11964. doi:10.1039/d3dt01761c
- Murphy, R., Delaney, C., Kolagatla, S., Florea, L., Hawker, C.J., **Heise, A.** (2023). Design of statistical copolypeptides as multipurpose hydrogel resins in 3D printing. *Adv. Funct. Mater.*, 33, 2306710. doi:10.1002/adfm.202306710
- O'Dowd, P. D., Guerrero, A. S., Alley, K. R., Pigg, H. C., O'Neill, F., Meiller, J., **Griffith, D.M.** (2024). Click-Capable Phenanthriplatin Derivatives as Tools to Study Pt(II)-Induced Nucleolar Stress. *ACS Chem. Biol.*, 19, 4, 875–885. doi:10.1021/acscchembio.3c00607
- O'Dowd, P. D., Sutcliffe, D. F., **Griffith, D.M.** (2023). Oxaliplatin and its derivatives – An overview. *Coordination Chem. Rev.*, 497, 215439. doi:10.1016/j.ccr.2023.215439
- O'Dowd, P., Sullivan, G., Rodrigues, D. A., Chonghaile, T. N., **Griffith, D.M.** (2023). First-in-class metallo-PROTAC as an effective degrader of select Pt-binding proteins. *Chem. Commun.*, 59, 12641-12644. doi:10.1039/d3cc03340f
- O'Shea, D.F.** (2024). Flavoured vapes may produce many harmful chemicals when e-liquids are heated – new research. The Conversation, <https://theconversation.com/flavoured-vapes-may-produce-many-harmful-chemicals-when-e-liquids-are-heated-new-research-229319>
- Pineda, A., Carr, J., Rodríguez-Padrón, D., Ronco, N.L., Fox, K., Gonzalez-Arellano, C., Gillick-Healy, M.W., Kelly, B.G., **Adamo, M.F.A.**, Luque, R. (2024). A continuous flow approach for the desulfurative bromination of sulfides. *Chem. Rev.*, 120, 15, 7219–7347. doi:10.1016/j.scp.2024.101490
- Rabadán González, I., McLean, J.T., Ostrovitsa, N., Fitzgerald, S., Mezzetta, A., Guazzelli, L., **O'Shea, D.F.**, Scanlan, E.M. (2024). A thiol-ene mediated approach for peptide bioconjugation using 'green' solvents under continuous flow. *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 22(11), 2203-2210. doi:10.1039/D4OB00122B
- Ramtoola, Z., Catibusic, A., Ameen, H., Cullen, S., **Barlow, J.W.** (2023). Evaluation of the type and frequency of extemporaneous formulations dispensed in hospital and community pharmacies. *Explor. Res. Clin. Soc. Pharm.*, 12, 100380. doi:10.1016/j.rcsop.2023.100380
- Saorin, A., Martinez-Serra, A., Paparoni-Bruzual, G. J., Crozzolin, M., Lombardi, V., Back, M., **Monopoli, M.P.**, Rizzolio, F. (2024). Understanding the impact of silica nanoparticles in cancer cells through physicochemical and biomolecular characterizations. *Mater. Adv.*, 5, 5106-5117. doi:10.1039/d4ma00084f
- Soliman, M., Dobricic, M., Trinh, D. N., Cheeseman, J., Spencer, D., **Monopoli, M.P.** (2024). Protocols for isolation and characterization of nanoparticle biomolecular corona complexes. *Front. Toxicol.*, 6. doi:[10.3389/ftox.2024.1393330](https://doi.org/10.3389/ftox.2024.1393330)
- Soliman, M. G., Trinh, D. N., Ravagli, C., Meleady, P., Henry, M., Movia, D., **Monopoli, M.P.** (2024). Development of a fast and simple method for the isolation of superparamagnetic iron oxide nanoparticles protein corona from protein-rich matrices. *J. Colloid. Interface Sci.*, 659, 503-519. doi:10.1016/j.jcis.2023.11.177
- Stefanovic, S., Cormick, K.M., Fattah, S., Brannigan, R., Cryan, S-A., **Heise, A.** (2023) Star-shaped poly(L-lysine) with polyester bis-MPA dendritic core as potential degradable nano vectors for gene delivery. *Polym. Chem.*, 14, 3151-3159. doi:10.1039/D3PY00346A
- Tomasino, D.V., Ahmad, A., Ahmad, T., Salimbeigi, G., Dowling, J., Lemoine, M., Ferrando, R.M., Hibbitts, A., Brannigan, R.P., Gibson, M.I., Lay, L., **Heise, A.** (2024) Surface mannosylation of dispersion polymerisation derived nanoparticles by copper mediated click chemistry. *Polym. Chem.*, 15, 1093-1101. doi:10.1039/D3PY01361H
- Zhang, T., O'Connor, C., Sheridan, H., **Barlow, J.W.** (2024). Vitamin K2 in Health and Disease: A Clinical Perspective. *Foods*, 13, 1646. doi:10.3390/foods13111646

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Donal O'Shea

Donal O'Shea, Bio-conjugations in flow for drug conjugates and theranostic imaging agents, 17/RC-PhD/3487, SFI, 01/10/2018, €194,550.00

Donal O'Shea, SSPC_Phase 2, 2/RC/2275_P2, SFI, 01/06/2019, € 551,531.00

Donal O'Shea, Super-resolution imaging facility access fees, DOS-SFIRI-2021, 08/06/2021, € 50,000.00

Sebastian Pim/Donal O'Shea, Continuous flow Bio-conjugations for Targeted Fluorescence Imaging Agents, Apjohn Scholarship, AJ-RCSI-2022, RCSI, 03/10/2022, €121,780.00.

Eden Booth/Donal O'Shea, Investigation of Exosome-Cell Interactions through Imaging Fluorescent Exosomes, GOIPG/2022/1939, IRC, 01/09/2022, €110,500.00.

Sebastian Pim/Donal O'Shea, Additional Funding supplementary to NE:NC Award, 12/RC/2275_P2 (23-SOW-013), SFI, 01/09/2023, €12,178.00.

Devocelle Marc

PI: Eoghan O'Neill/Collaborator: Marc Devocelle. Wound infections: biofilms and the search for novel antimicrobial agents. ILP-POR-2019-009, HRB, 25-07-2019, Total Grant Value: € 366,087

PI: Donal O'Shea/FI: Marc Devocelle. SSPC_Phase 2. 2/RC/2275_P2, SFI, 01-06-2019, FI share: €140,333

PI: Marc Devocelle. Antimicrobial Peptides. 19/FFP/6889, SFI, 01-10-2020, Total Grant Value: €200,128.

PI: Marc Devocelle. StAR International PhD Programme 2020, RCSI, 01-10-2020, Total Grant Value : €36,000

PI: Marc Devocelle. Research and development of PNA Synthesis, Altratech, Total Grant Value: €7,000

PI: Zeden Merve/Collaborators: Paul Murphy and Marc Devocelle. Targeting essential genes with chimeric antisense oligonucleotides (ASOs) as novel antibacterial agents and antibiotic adjuvants to overcome antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and other AMR pathogens. 22/PATH-S/10804, SFI-IRC Pathway Programme 2022, 31 May 2023, Total Grant Value: €436,053.60

Griffith Darren

Darren Griffith, The Development of a Bioorthogonal Toolkit for the Functionalisation of a Clinical Platinum-based Anticancer Drug, 12/RC/2275_P2, Science Foundation Ireland, SSPC PharM5, €134,000.

Stephen Barrett/ Darren Griffith, Pretargeted "Click-to-Release" Activation of a Platinum Anticancer Drug, GOIPD/2022/160, IRC, 30th March 2022, €106,365.00

Darren Griffith, Development of Pt-based PROteolysis TArgeting Chimeras (Pt-PROTACs) as Molecular Probes for Pt-binding proteins and Next Generation Anticancer Agents, 21/FFP-P/10216, SFI, 24th October 2022, €536,148.

Barlow James

Mouna Hind Laiche/James Barlow, Design, synthesis and screening of novel bibenzyls and heteroaryls as optimised anti-cancer agents, GOIPG/2022/1312, IRC, 1/10/2022, €110,000.00.

Marmion Celine

RCSI Collaborative Initiative 2023/24, £5,000

Monopoli Marco

Marco Monopoli, Characterisation of iron-based nanoparticles in biological fluid - SFI Amber co-fund grant-201,100euro 12/RC/2278_P2 1/12/2022 - 1/12/2024.

Marco Monopoli, Safe and sustainable design for advanced nanomaterials- Sunshine, 1/1/2021, grant agreement No 952924, €6,521,348 total amount, €204,125 awarded to the PI.

Marco Monopoli, Platform Optimisation To Enable Nanomaterial safety assessment for rapid commercialisation - Potential, Grant agreement ID: 10109290, 1/1/2023, €2,999,787, €347,000 awarded to the PI.

Marco Monopoli, Using nanotechnology and glycoscience to identify effective biomarkers for detection of chronic diseases, SFI Amber co-fund grant, €623,319, 12/RC/2278_P2, 18/09/2023 - 17/09/2027

Heise Andreas

Andreas Heise; Polypeptides-based tissue adhesives; 13/RC/2073_P2; SFI-CURAM Centre; 08/2021; €159,480.00.

Andreas Heise; Synthesis and Evaluation of Biodegradable Crosslinked Materials; Industry (Syngenta); 18/05/21; €100,000.

Sally-Ann Cryan/Andreas Heise; Development of an advanced tubular scaffold prototype for tracheal regeneration; 13/RC/2073_P2; SFI-CURAM Centre; 08/2021; €215,250; Heise: €57,711.

Andreas Heise/Thomas Leigh; Polypeptide hybrid nanoparticles for the delivery of inhalable drugs; 101063749; Horizon Europe – Marie Curie Action; 04/2023; €199,694.

Andreas Heise; Unprecedented photolithographic structuring of novel light-sensitive poly(amino acid) materials – POLINA; CS20231580; 01/2023; total € 4,428 (Heise € 630,000)

Andreas Heise/Bo Li; PEA-MAT: Novel poly(ester amide)s (PEA) as functional biomaterials in tissue engineering applications; 945168-1 and 12/RC/2278_P2; 11/2022; €183,552

Mick Morris/AMBER; Alcon lens project; Alcon (Industry); 06/2022; total €687,923 (Heise €191,575).
Andreas Heise/AMBER; Henkel project; Henkel (industry); 03/2023; €172,048.

Andreas Heise; RCSI/Soochow 2+2 PhD; 05/2023 RCSI; €50,000

Andreas Heise; RCSI/Quatar University 2+2 PhD; 02/2024; RCSI; €50,000

Adamo Mauro

Application of the Pummerer's fragmentation to the formation of C-F, C-C and C-O bonds in natural product synthesis and drug manufacture. Apjohn's Fellowship, €121,780

Additional Funding NE: NC SFI, €12,178

Development of Fc-gamma-Ila antagonists, Professor Dermot Cox applicant, Professor Mauro F A Adamo coapplicant, EI FPP, €480,000.

Innovation and Commercialisation Activities

Monopoli Marco

Duong Trin Ngoc, Marco Monopoli International (PCT) Patent Application No. PCT/EP2022/084435 - Corona Enrichment - for RCSI Office of Research and Innovation - Our Ref. JDM126882P.WOP [BB-CASES.FID2431273]

Adamo Mauro

GB Patent Application: Valorisation process of Levoglucenone, Adamo, Mauro FA; Ceradini, Davide, KelAda Pharmachem Ltd, 2024, P12986

CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY

The Department teaches in the School of Medicine, across all the RCSI teaching sites (Dublin, Bahrain), as well as delivering courses in the Schools of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences, Physiotherapy and School of Nursing & Midwifery in Dublin. The Department is at the forefront of technology-enhanced learning (TEL) approaches for students, which include podcasts, online quizzes, and interactive in-class and online teaching materials.

Our multidisciplinary translational research programme addresses the societal challenge of infection and AMR, covering epidemiology, infection prevention and control as well as delineating pathogenic mechanisms of infection and developing novel antimicrobials. One strand focuses on novel ways to prevent and treat healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). Herein we investigate the epidemiology of *Clostridioides difficile* infection to identify areas for infection prevention and antimicrobial stewardship intervention. We also study acute and chronic infections involving bacterial biofilms for example device-related infections and infections associated with cystic fibrosis and diabetes mellitus. Our research informs healthcare policy to shape clinical practices leading to improved patient safety and clinical outcomes.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Professor Fidelma Fitzpatrick

- Co-director Year 2: undergraduate medical programme, RCSI
- Member: Medicine and Health Sciences Board, RCSI
- The Chinese University of Hong Kong, External Examiner: Clinical Microbiology Undergraduate Medicine, January 2023.
- University of Dublin, Trinity College, External Examiner: MSc in Healthcare-associated Infection Management, June 2019 –present.
- RCPI Trainer - SpRs in Microbiology, SHOs in general internal medicine
- Chair (elected): European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Study Group for *Clostridioides difficile*, June 2020 – present
- Chair: National Sepsis Steering group, HSE (May 2013 - present)
- Member: Dublin Dental Hospital Board, September 2019 – present.
- Member: National Steering Group, ECDC PPS in acute hospitals 2023, HPSC.
- Member: Community antimicrobial prescribing committee, HSE Antimicrobial Resistance Infection Control (AMRIC).
- Epidemiology and surveillance of *C. difficile* infection. Seminar on Infectious Diseases and Infection Control Management, December 2023, Hong Kong.
- The Conversation: Will we still have antibiotics in 50 years? We asked 7 global experts. October 2023.
- RCSI My Health: Antimicrobial Resistance, November 2023
- ESCMID Study Group: ESGCD 'Back to Basics surveillance of *C. Difficile*' Feb 2024

Professor Hilary Humphreys

- RCSI Hospital Group Chief Academic Officer, 2021-2024
- European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Guideline Group on the Diagnosis and Treatment of Brain Abscess, Member, 2021-2023
- HIS and ESCMID Study Group on Nosocomial Infections (ESGNI) Working Group on Operating Theatre Rituals and Behaviours, Chair, 2018-2023.
- External Reviewer for NHS Scotland, ARHAI literature review of transmission-based precautions, 2022-2024.
- External Member of Data 7 Safety Monitoring Committee for *EXTENDED antibiotic durations compared to standard antibiotic durations for patients with complicated intra-abdominal infection*. Trials Unit, University of York, UK, 2022-.
- Member, Invasive Respiratory Infections Surveillance (IRIS) Group, 2021-
- Abstract Reviewer for European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, 2024
- Invited Lectures:
 - *Epidemiology of Device Related Infections and Ventilation & Air Conditioning Systems in Healthcare Settings*. Two lectures at European Committee on Infection Control (EUCIC) Advanced

Module for Infection Prevention & Control Technical Hygiene & Occupational Safety 5-6th October 2023, Vienna, Austria.

- *An Introduction to Major Waterborne Pathogens of Concern & Outbreak Management, Emergency Control Measures- Setting Targets, When to Deescalate.* Two lectures at European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Postgraduate Education Course Organised by European Study Group on Legionella Infections (ESGLI) in Association with ESCMID Foodborne and Waterborne Infections Study Group (EFWISG) & European Study Group on Nosocomial Infections (ESGNI) 31st Oct. - 2 Nov. 2023 ESCMID Course.
- *Environmental Sampling Practices of Innate Hospital Surfaces.* Don't Panic Meeting, Healthcare Infection Society, 29th November, 2023.
- *New Approaches to Prevention of Surgical Infections,* 28th February 2024, Pre-European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (ECCMID) Day on Infection Control & Prevention, Optimisation of Preventative Measures.
- *Water & Surfaces: Where is the Risk & How to Prevent It.* Design Does Matter: Prevention Through Creating a Microbe-Safe Hospital. 34th ECCMID, 27th April 2024
- *Managing Air Quality in Operating Rooms: Challenges & Solutions.* ESCMID Study Group for Nosocomial Infections. Safer Hospitals in the Future: Design, Ventilation, Water and Sustainability 12-13th June 2024.
- *Infection & Air – What we should have known before, & what we learned from COVID-19.* Infection Prevention & Control Team, Beaumont Hospital, Dublin Hilton Hotel, Dublin Airport 12th June 2024. Infection Prevention & Control in the Built Environment – Combining Evidence & Experience.

Professor Eoghan O'Neill

- Director, Year 2 Graduate Entry Medicine (GEM), RCSI
- External Examiner: Trinity College Dublin, School of Medicine, Clinical Microbiology (undergraduate program), August 2020 – June 2024
- Associate Editor, Irish Journal Medical Science
- RAMI Research Awards judging panel
- Member of National Antimicrobial Consumption Committee
- Extern member of two PhD review committees, NUIG (GRC April/May 2024)
- Year 2 Lead for GEM THEP integration
- Flu season started early in Australia – countries in the northern hemisphere took note. *The Conversation, September 11th 2023.* Deirdre Fitzgerald Hughes and Eoghan O'Neill, RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences

Professor Catherine Greene

- Deputy Head, School of Postgraduate Studies with responsibility for PhD Programmes
- Co Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Innate Immunity, 2022 to-date
- Associate Editor, European Respiratory Journal 2021 to-date
- Editorial Board Member, American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine 2022 to-date
- Fellow, European Respiratory Society 2021 to-date
- Monitor, European Commission Horizon 2020 Programme Grants, 2024
- Invited Speaker, 2nd Respiratory Drugs Summit: Formulation & Drug Delivery. Prague, October 2023.
- Invited Chairperson, Pittsburgh Ireland International Lung Conference, Dublin, October 2023.

Professor Deirdre Fitzgerald-Hughes

- Deputy Head of School of Postgraduate Studies, Academic Quality
- PhD External Examiner, University of Galway, 2023
- Secretary, Irish Biological Inorganic Chemistry Society, 2024-2026
- Member – Department of Agriculture Food & Marine National One Health Thematic Network
- Member – National Framework for Doctoral Education Advisory Forum
- Member – European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Study Groups for Biofilms and for Nosocomial Infections (ESGB, ESGNI)
- Expert Reviewer, European Commission, European Innovation Challenge, Pathfinder call 2024
- Invited Presentation 17th International Conference on Advanced Technologies & Treatments for Diabetes, Florence, Italy, March 2024

- Invited Presentation, National IPS Conference, Infection Prevention and Control in the Built Environment, June 2024
- National Webinar – Innovations in AMR – Pfizer sponsored public webinar, Antibiotic Awareness Week, 2023 November 2024

Dr Sinead O'Donnell

- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) Operational Contact Point (OCP) for Bioinformatics for Ireland (Nominated Microbiologist) (Sept 2022 – Present)
- Member: Antimicrobial Stewardship Advisory Group, National Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control Team (AMRIC) (2020 – present)
- Member: Act for Meningitis Charity Board Member (2021- Present)
- Member: European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Study Groups for *Clostridioides difficile* (ESGCD) and for Genomic and Molecular Diagnostics (ESGMD)
- RCPI Trainer - SpR's in Microbiology, SHO's in general internal medicine

Dr Niall Stevens

- Director, Research Summer School
- Co-director Year 2, undergraduate medical programme, RCSI
- Academic Director of the Learning Environment at RCSI
- Member: THEP-II implementation team
- Member: European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Study Groups for *Clostridioides difficile* (ESGCD)

Dr Rachel Grainger

- Member: Community antimicrobial prescribing committee, HSE Antimicrobial Resistance Infection Control (AMRIC).
- Member: Expert Advisory Group for antibioticprescribing.ie

Staff List

Professor and Head of Department

Fidelma Fitzpatrick BA (Mod), MD, BCh BAO, PGDip HPE, FRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI

Emeritus Professors

Hilary Humphreys MD, DSc, BCh, BAO, DipHIC, FRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPath RCPI, FRCP Edin, FESCMID
Mary Cafferkey BA (Mod) (Physiol), MB, BCh, BAO, MD, FFPPath (RCPI), FRCPath, FRCPI

Associate Professor & Deputy Head of School of Postgraduate Studies

Catherine Greene BA (Mod), PGDip HPE, PhD

Associate Professor & Deputy Director Year 2 of Graduate Entry Medicine Program

Eoghan O'Neill MB, BCh, BAO, PhD, MRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI, PGDip HPE

Associate Professor & Deputy Head of School of Postgraduate Studies

Deirdre Fitzgerald-Hughes BSc, PGDip HPE, PhD

Senior Lecturers

Sinead O'Donnell BSc, PhD, MB, BCh, BAO (NUI, RCSI), LRCP & SI, MRCPI, MRCPUK, FRCPath, PGDip HPE

Niall T Stevens BA (Mod), PGDip HPE, PhD

Lecturers

Rachel Grainger MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI, FRCPath

Niamh Reidy MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI

Zainab Baker MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI

Muaaz Ather MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI

Melanie Cunningham LRCP & SI, MB, BCh NUI

Aoife Kearney BSc Nursing, MSc, PhD

Postdoctoral Researchers - 2
PhD/MD/MSc Students - 6
ICAT Fellow - 1

Honorary Clinical Associate Professors

Edmond G Smyth MB, BCh, BAO, MSc, FRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI.
Karen Burns MB, BCh, BAO, MSc, FRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI
Robert Cunney MB, BCh, BAO, MSc, MRCPI, FRCPath,
Karina O'Connell MB, BCh, BAO, MSc, MRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI
Binu Dinesh MBBS, MD (Micro), FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI
Richard Drew MB, FRCPI, FRCPath, MD, DipHIC

Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturers

Suzanne Corcoran MB, BCh, BAO, FRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI
Ciara O Connor MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI.
Hélène McDermott MD, BCh, BAO, MD, FRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI
Roisin Connolly MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI.
Alida FeTalentó MD, FRCPath, FFPPath, FRCPI
Marta Trzos-Grzybowska MD, FRCPath, FFPPathRCPI

Honorary Lecturers

Mary Corcoran BSc, PhD
Robert Mulhall BSc, PhD
Edel O'Regan BSc, PhD, FACSL
Sadhbh Gash BSc, PHD

Teaching Co-ordinator

Tracey Dillane BSc, MSc
Cristina Heredia Acuna BSc, MSc

Administrator

Ann Shannon

Higher Degrees

Aaron Doherty, Progressing the Clinical Applications of Novel Antimicrobial Peptides Polymers for Recalcitrant Infections, MD, RCSI & NUI, November 2024

Aoife Kearney, Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales: identifying drivers of transmission in healthcare environments. PhD, RCSI & NUI, May 2024

Publications

Barry R, Houlihan E, Knowles SJ, Eogan M, Drew RJ. Antenatal pyelonephritis: a three year retrospective cohort study of two Irish Maternity centres 2023. *Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis* 2023.

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Fitzpatrick F, Humphreys H (joint PI): The Reality of Controlling the Three C's: COVID-19, carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales and *Clostridioides difficile* infection in the Acute Hospital Setting. Analysing Real-Life Data to Drive Improvements. Irish Research Council, Workplace-based Fellowship - EBPPG/2022/196. Funding for Beaumont Hospital staff member for PhD programme, Sept 2023, €82,500

Eoghan O'Neill, (PI) Wound infections: biofilms and the search for novel antimicrobial agents, ILP-POR-2019-009, Health Research Board / HRB, 01 Dec 2019 to 31 Aug 2024, €366,089.00

Eoghan O'Neill (Co-applicant), Using guanine to re-sensitise MRSA to methicillin: Is purine nucleotide homeostasis the Achilles' heel of MRSA antibiotic resistance?, ILP-POR-2019-102, Health Research Board / HRB, 01 Dec 2019 to 31 Dec 2024, €369,887.36, Co-applicant (PI: Prof James O'Gara, NUIG)

Greene C (PI). Dual antimicrobial and therapeutic application of microRNAs for cystic fibrosis. RCSI-Soochow StAR PhD Programme 2023, €120K

Sun Y (PI)/Greene C. *In silico* and *in vitro* testing of novel antibacterial agents for cystic fibrosis. Student Traineeship Award. Cystic Fibrosis Foundation USA SUN24H0. \$4,000.

Fitzgerald Hughes D (PI), Mary Pryce (Co-applicant), Caoimhe Finn (Societal Champion) New OneHealth OneWater AMR Solutions, Science Foundation Ireland, National Challenge Fund, Healthy Environment for All Challenge 22/NCF/HE/11252, 2023, €249,527

Mary Pryce/Deirdre Fitzgerald Hughes. Exploiting Singlet Fission: An Innovative Design Strategy For Antimicrobial Materials, Science Foundation Ireland, 5th October 2020, €883,260/€364,287

Aoife Kearney/Deirdre Fitzgerald Hughes/Hilary Humphreys. Carbapenemase producing Enterobacterales (CPE): Identifying the drivers of transmission to patients in the healthcare-environment, Irish Research Council, 2nd November 2020, €79,500

Aoife Kearney, Fidelma Fitzpatrick: Case Feasibility Fund, Enterprise Ireland, €15,000

CLINICAL NEUROLOGICAL SCIENCES

Overview

The Department of Clinical Neurological Sciences comprises all of the clinical specialists in neurology, neurosurgery, neuroradiology, neurophysiology and neuropathology. Each independent department has its own separate clinical and research structures but in several areas such as epilepsy, and mitochondrial and neuromuscular disease, there is considerable interaction. Each of these clinical groupings is involved in the teaching of RCSI medical students.

Staff List

Professor and Head of Department

Ciaran Bolger MB, BCh UDubl PhD FRCSI, Consultant Neurosurgeon

Publications

Brosnan C.; Dablouk M.O.; Healy V.; Murray D.; Soleiman H.A.; Bolger C. When does too little pressure become too much? A case of spontaneous intracranial hypotension presenting with acute loss of consciousness. 2023, Surgical Neurology International 10.25259/SNI_293_2023

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Treanor C.; Gallagher C.; Lenehan W.; Gantly H.; Bolger C.; Malone A. Flipping the mJOA: Clinical utility of the modified Japanese Orthopaedic Association score as a tool for detecting degenerative cervical myelopathy. 2024, Brain and Spine 10.1016/j.bas.2024.102853

DENTISTRY

Overview

The School of Dentistry at RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences was established on February 28th 2024. It becomes the third Dental School in the State, and the first to open in over 100 years. It also marked RCSI's return to undergraduate dentistry after 47 years, when the then LDSRCSI programme was closed after 99 years.

The School of Dentistry at RCSI is committed to creating a learning environment that fosters active, engaged, and authentic learning experiences which promotes lifelong learning for professional practice. Our learning will actively promote positive growth, resilience and wellbeing and our students will benefit from RCSI's well-established student welfare and career support ecosystem.

The new Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) is a five-year programme, and is scheduled to admit the first cohort of students, September 2025. It will meaningfully increase the number of dentists that qualify in Ireland year by year, following the graduation of the first cohort of dentists in the summer of 2030.

Summary of Key Achievements

Year	Month	Milestone
2023	July	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Business Case Development - School of Dentistry and Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) business case finalized following the Government announcing policy support for RCSI to commencing the BDS programme.Confirmation of Preferred Curriculum & Advisory - University of Plymouth (UoP) / Peninsula Dental School (PDS) identified as the programme of choice, and partner for collaboration in relation to RCSI delivering Ireland's first community based BDS programme in line with the National Oral Health Policy. Contract negotiations commenced.

		3. NUI Accreditation (commencement) - NUI Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) accreditation preparation
2023	August	1. A&QC Submission - RCSI Bachelor of Dentistry A&QC Submission. 2. NUI Submission - RCSI Bachelor of Dentistry NUI Submission.
2023	September	1. Senior Management Team (SMT) Approval - SMT approval of the proposed Bachelor of Dental Surgery programme to continue to progress and proceed. 2. Plymouth (UoP) / Peninsula Dental School (PDS) Ranking - the Guardian announces Plymouth (UoP)/ Peninsula Dental School (PDS) BDS programme as the number 1 dental school in the UK for 2024.
2023	October	1. Finance Committee (FC) Review - RCSI FC presentation and reviewed the proposed BDS programme.
2023	November	1. NUI Accreditation Approval – NUI accredited and approved BDS NUI by RCSI. 2. Finance Committee (FC) Approval – FC approval of the proposed BDS programme.
2023	December	1. RCSI College Council – College Council approval of the BDS programme. 2. Times Higher Award - Plymouth (UoP) / Peninsula Dental School (PDS) announced as the winner of the Times Higher Education, category for the “Outstanding Contribution to the Local Community category”. 3. Academic Recruitment – Academic recruitment programme commenced.
2024	January	1. Contract Agreed with for Curriculum & Advisory - RCSI / University of Plymouth (UoP) / Peninsula Dental School (PDS) – contract for curriculum purchase and collaboration support finalized and executed. 2. Dental Council Ireland (DCI) Accreditation application - submission of proposed BDS programme accreditation collaterals by RCSI. This included a 200+ page document, with over 100 supporting appendices. 3. Programme Discovery Visit (Estates Design Team) – School of Dentistry estates design team visit to University of Plymouth (UoP) / Peninsula Dental School (PDS), Plymouth, as part of a discovery exercise to support the design of the School of Dentistry Headquarters and Dental Education Facilities (DEFs).
2024	February	1. Capital Programme: School Headquarters (Sandyford) – planning permission submitted to Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC). Planning permission reflected: 12 clinical chairs Dental Education Facility (DEF); 55 state-of-the-art dental simulation units; Central Sterilization Supply Department (CSSD); Teaching facilities and staff areas. 2. Frist Implementation Steering Group Meeting – commencement of the first BDS steering group. This group represents all key senior stakeholders who are provided with programme implementation updates, and where applicable, guidance for direction, advice and feedback on programme progress. 3. Medicine and Health Science Board (MHSB) RCSI .- MHSB under the Chair of Professor Hannah McGee, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs RCSI officially established the School of Dentistry RCSI on February 29 th 2024.

2024	March	1. Formal Contract Signing (Curriculum & Advisory) – Senior representatives from the University of Plymouth (UoP) / Peninsula Dental School (PDS) attended RCSI for a formal contract signing event, marking a major milestone for both RCSI and UoP/PDS.
2024	April	1. Academic Recruitment – Professor Albert Leung formally announced as the foundation Head of School for the School of Dentistry. 2. Capital Programme: Dental Education Facility #02 (Connolly) – planning permission submitted to Fingal County Council (FCC). This will be the School of Dentistry's second DEF with 40 dental chairs. 3. Dental Council Ireland (DCI) Accreditation Endorsement - DCI confirmed its endorsement of BDS NUI RCSI to accept the first cohort of students in September 2025.
2024	May	1. Capital Programme: School Headquarters (Sandyford) Development – planning permission granted by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC). 2. CAO Listing – RCSI BDS Dental Programme receives formal programme code (RC007) as part of the CAO access process for admission of Irish Leaving Certificate students onwards from 2025
2024	June	1. Programme Discovery Visit (Simulation Team) – School of Dentistry programme office and simulation team visited the University of Plymouth (UoP) / Peninsula Dental School (PDS), Plymouth, as part of a discovery exercise regarding the setup and operation of the dental simulation units in the Sandyford School Headquarters.

Staff List

Head of School of Dentistry

Albert Leung BDS LLM MA PhD FGDSRCSI FDSRCS FDSRCPSG FFGDP FHEA

Programme / Project Manager

Colm Murphy

Project Implementation Executive

Galina Meshcherskaya BDS BBusSc

Publications

Arunachalam R, Nathwani N, Nejatian T, Fine P, Leung A. Assessing Dentists' Awareness Of The Orthodontic–Restorative Interface, *Journal of Dentistry*, Volume 141, 2024, 104811, ISSN 0300-5712, PMID: 38141806

Louca C, Fine P, Tonni I, Leung A. Reviewing Assessment Strategies in European Dental Schools. *Journal of dentistry*, May 2024, 105091, ISSN 0300-5712, PMID: 38797487

Rajarajan S, Nathwani N, Nejatian T, Fine P, Leung A. Longevity of Anterior Composite Restorations for Localized Tooth Wear: A Scoping Review. *Dentistry Journal*. 2023; 11(11):255. PMID: 37999019

Wilson NHF, Blum IR, Leung A, Lynch CD. What Is Primary Care Dentistry? *Journal of Dentistry*, Volume 146, 2024, 104995, ISSN 0300-5712, PMID: 38616009

FAMILY MEDICINE AND GENERAL PRACTICE

Overview

The Department of General Practice is involved in teaching across both Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels within RCSI. Throughout all GP education, there is a strong emphasis on the practice of evidence-based medicine, professionalism, appropriate prescribing and reflection. At undergraduate level, the department is involved in teaching throughout the medical programme being responsible for the Introduction to Professional Clinical Practice (ICPC) for Year 1 and 2. The Department also runs the main general practice clinical rotation in Year 1 utilising a network of over 90 GP tutors. At postgraduate level the department is responsible for the delivery of the MSc in Healthcare Ethics and Law and the methodological component of the Masters of Surgery programme.

In terms of research activity, the department has been the home to the HRB Centre for Primary Care Research (2008-2021) which developed an international research profile in medicines management and drug safety; medicines optimisation and clinical prediction. More recently the department has a developing collaborative profile in cancer screening and diagnosis in primary care. The Department continues to support two Collaborative Doctoral Award Programmes “*Right Care – Enhancing safe and appropriate care to older patients in Ireland*” and “*Managing complex morbidity in primary care*”, both due for completion in 2024.

New Staff

Mohammed Gharbia, SPHeRE PhD Scholar, October 2023
Oisin Brady Bates, Research Fellow, July 2023
Sinead Dilworth, GP Registrar - Special Interest, July 2023
Caoimhe Hughes, GP Intern, July 2023
Bridget Kiely, Clinical Lecturer, February 2024
Rossa McCloskey, Operations Assistant, May 2024
Patrick Moynagh, Clinical Lecturer, June 2024

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Awards

Bridget Kiely - The Professor James McCormack Prize for best research presentation at AUDGPI Annual Scientific meeting. March 2024. Limerick
Karen Kyne - ASME New Voices Award for Health professions education 2023-2024
WONCA Europe Educational Scholarship 2024-2028

Public Lectures

David Smith

Medical Error - Professor Denis Harkin; Professor David Smith and Dr Shaista Salman, June 2023
Confidentiality, healthcare context - Professor Denis Harkin; Professor David Smith; Donal O Neill, Dr Kelly Stuart, June 2023.
Assisted Dying, Ethical considerations – Professor David Smith,BSHS/RCSI, January 2024.
Case Study Discussions – looking at ethical and professionalism issues that arise in care situations - Professor Denis Harkin; Professor David Smith; Donal O Neill, Dr Kelly Stuart, March 2024
Consent, HSE Guidelines - Professor David Smith, April 2024
Cultural Awareness and Cultural Safety - Professor David Smith; Professor Denis Harkin, May 2024
Misconduct, Professionalism and Ethical considerations - Professor David Smith; Professor Denis Harkin, June 2024.
Presentation on Ethical Research to INCENTIVE Conference, October 2023, Frankfurt
Presentation at ICGP Conference, Euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide, October 2023
Presentation on Ethical Research to PKDL Conference, December 2023
Presentation on Ethical Research to SHIGETECVAX Conference, February 2024
Presentation on Ethical Research to TransVac Conference, April 2024
Presentation on Ethical Research to TT4CL Conference, May 2024
Presentation on Ethical Research to the HIPPOCRATES Conference, June 2024
What Makes Research Ethical - UCD Graduate Diploma in Health Risk, 2024
Global Brain Health Institute University of California, San Francisco | Trinity College Dublin 2023-2024 - series of 6 lectures
RCPI Course Ethics Foundation - series of 12 lectures

Committees

Tom Fahey

Editorial board membership peer review publications

Current-Editorial board member, Cochrane Collaboration *Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) Group* 2001 - present.

Editorial board advisory member *BMJ Open*, 2010 – present.

Editorial board member, *Medical Decision Making*, 2014 – present.

Editorial board member, *Evidence-Based Medicine* (BMJ publishing), 2017 – present.

Committee membership peer review funding organisations

International-

Panel Board Member, Advisory Panel on University selection: NIHR School for Primary Care Research (NIHR SPCR), 2014.

Panel Board Member. Public Funding Agency of Portugal– Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), Member Health and Sport Sciences panel, 2016 – present.

Panel Board Member, Research Council of Norway- Programme for High-quality and Reliable Diagnostic, Treatment and Rehabilitation interventions, 2017 – present.

International research activities

Peer review referee- peer reviewer for many national funding agencies- UK (NIHR, Wellcome Trust, MRC, ESRC, King's Fund, British Heart Foundation, British Lung Foundation), Belgium, Germany, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, US and Canada.

Committee membership national health organisations

Board Member, Health Research Board 2018 to present.

Research governance

Chair Programme Steering Committee, NIHR Programme Grant for Applied Research (PGfAR). Avoiding patient harm through the application of prescribing safety indicators in English general practices (PRoTeCT), Prof Tony Avery (PI), University of Nottingham 2016 onwards.

Chair, Study Steering Committee, NIHR/HTA funded study. Primary care Management of lower Urinary tract Symptoms in men (PriMUS Study): Development and validation of a diagnostic and decision-making aid. Prof Adrian Edwards (University of Cardiff) and Mr Chris Harding (University of Newcastle) 2017 onwards.

Chair, NIHR School of Primary Care Research, Research evidence and synthesis programme. Prof Carl Hennigan (University of Oxford) 2017 onwards.

David Smith

Appointed Ethics Consultant to the Bon Secours Health System - ongoing

Chairperson of the Bon Secours Research Ethics Committee - ongoing

Member of European Patient's Forum (EPF) Data Saves Lives

Ethical Advisor to SAGE

Appointed Ethics Advisor to the AVISTA Services – on going

Chairperson of the AVISTA Services Ethics Committee - ongoing

Appointed to the CervicalCheck Interval Cancer Audit Implementation Group - 2021 ongoing

Appointed to the National Research Ethics Committee 2021. Appointed Deputy Chairperson 2024

Member of the Research Ethics Committee in Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

Appointed Ethical Advisor to the Ethics Irish Association for Palliative Care - ongoing

Member of the Beaumont University Research Ethics Committee - ongoing

Appointed Ethical Advisor to the St Vincent's Healthcare Group - ongoing

Appointed to the Commission on Care for Older People, 2024

Appointed to the Scientific and Ethics Advisory Committee of the following Research Projects to a number of EU Vaccine Projects and other projects

ADVANCE VAC: The ADVANCE_VAC4PM project aims to advance the clinical development of placental malaria (PM) vaccines in the context of capacity building and use of digital health technologies.

BRain Tumor Biobanks: A brain tumour biobank in RCSI and Beaumont Hospital to develop novel biomarkers and treatments for brain tumour patients.

Breastfeeding in Preterm Infants: This cross sectional validation study will assess methods of measuring breastmilk transfer during breastfeeding in babies who are born at less than 35 weeks gestation.

Cruzivax: Vaccine for prevention and treatment of Trypanosoma Cruzi Infection.

Family Sleeps: Development and Optimisation of Sensor-Based Technology for Assessment of Sleep and Circadian Rhythms in Families with Autism

Glioresolve: Glioresolve a Doctoral Network that will train 10 new scientists, with a specific focus on improving treatment outcomes in glioblastoma (GBM).

HIPPOCRATES: The HIPPOCRATES Prospective Observational Study (HPOS) is a study of patients with psoriasis. The aim is to identify people with psoriasis who are at risk of developing psoriatic arthritis.
INCENTIVE: The INCENTIVE consortium between Indian, European and US groups aims to provide knowledge on the mechanisms of poor responsiveness to influenza vaccines and to develop two new vaccines.

NeuroInsight: To enhance the creative and innovative potential of experienced researchers who are seeking to diversify their individual competences in terms of skill acquisition through advanced training, international and inter-sectoral mobility.

The ethics expert is responsible for drafting the Ethics Individual Report (EthIR).

PREV-PKDL: Phase II clinical trials in Sudan of a therapeutic vaccine to prevent post kala azar dermal leishmaniasis to be supported by European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership

PRIME: The PRIME project aims to develop an innovative diagnostic-therapeutic treatment for people with epilepsy and other neurological diseases, by implanting engineered biological cells in the brain that will act as biocomputers to treat and suppress impending seizures.

DRIVE: Diabetes Reversing Implants for enhanced Viability and long-term Efficacy

RECOVER: An e-health platform that will integrate the data from all of the different e-health technologies to provide both a full clinical profile of an individual patient as well as pictures of the Covid-19 status at a regional, national and European level.

SHIGETECVAX: The SHIGETECVAX project is dedicated to advancing a new vaccine approach against Shigella and ETEC.

TRANSVAC2: To support innovation for both prophylactic and therapeutic vaccine development.

TRICALS: Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a debilitating neurodegenerative disorder leading to muscle weakness, respiratory failure and, ultimately, death within three years after symptom onset. In this study, an innovative and adaptive multi-arm trial design to investigate multiple treatments simultaneously.

TT4CL: Safety and pharmacokinetics of oleylphosphocholine (OIPC), administered orally in healthy adults: A Phase 1, single center, open-label, staggered, dose-escalation trial

VL Inno-RDT Development: A randomized, open-label, phase II, single-centre study to evaluate the efficacy, safety and pharmacokinetics of LXE408 in patients with primary visceral leishmaniasis in Ethiopia

Patrick Redmond

Editorial Board membership

RCSI ambassador, UK Society of Academic Primary Care (2022 - present)

British Journal of General Practice Open Editorial Board (2021- 2024)

Editorial board member Prescriber journal (2022- present)

RCSI Undergraduate GP Society - Faculty mentor (2021 – present)

Member, Society of Academic Primary Care & Medicines Optimisation Special Interest Group (2020-Present)

International research activities

Peer review referee – NIHR School of Primary Care Research; Medical Research Council (UK)

Clinical Practice Research Datalink Research Expert Review Committee member (2021- present)

Committee membership/Board responsibilities

Board member, Beaumont Hospital 2023-

Cancer and Primary Care Research International Network (Ca-PRI) Board Member (2024 – present)

National Cancer Control Programme Early Diagnosis Working Group 2022-present

National Cancer Control Programme Research Committee (2023-present)

Irish Lung Cancer Alliance Board Member (2023 – present)

Academic University Department of General Practice Ireland Executive committee member & Mid-Career Representative (2021- present)

Caroline McCarthy

National Committee Membership

Chair, Knowledge Translation and Exercise for Degenerative Meniscal Tears in Primary Care (KNEE-DEeP) Trial Steering Committee, November 2023-current date

Member, ICGP Quality and Safety in Practice Committee, November 2023-current date

Member, ICGP Research Ethics Committee, January 2022-current date

Member, AUDGPI Early Career Representative, March 2022-current date

Member, Priority Setting Partnership (PSP) - Managing chronic conditions in Irish primary care, Steering committee. June 2022-current date

Member, International Conference on Deprescribing Scientific Committee, October 2023-current date

Member, Editorial board of the Journal of Multimorbidity and Comorbidity, October 2023-current date
Evidence Advisor to [iHealthFacts](#) (2022-present)

Karen Kyne

Member of the Irish College of General Practitioners research ethics committee (2021- Present)
Member of the Irish College of General Practitioners Postgraduate Clinical Knowledge Test (CKT) Exam Committee (2021- Present)
Member of the Irish College of General Practitioners Quality and Safety in Practice (QSIP) Committee (2024-Present)
Member of the Irish College of General Practitioners Research and Quality Improvement Committee for GP Training (2024- Present)
Assistant Scheme Director, ICGP Dublin Mid Leinster GP Training Scheme (2021-Present)
Member of Association of Study of Medical Education (ASME) Educator Development Committee (2022-Present)
Member of Society for Academic Primary Care Quality and Safety Improvement Special Interest Group (2022-Present)

Máirtín Ó Maoláin

Member of the Ethics Committee of the Medical Council 2020 – 2023
Co-chair of Migrant Health in Primary Care Special Interest Group 2022 – present

Ellen Stuart

President of the All-Ireland Association of Undergraduate Societies of General Practice, Ireland
Member of national Childhood Obesity Education working group
Member of Case-Based Learning Development Support Group, RCSI
Mentor on International Citizenship Programme, RCSI

Emer O'Brien

Member of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Visability Forum. RCSI committee member April 2021 to present
Member of the ICGP QSIP committee. July 2020 to June 2023
Chair ICGP QSIP committee June 2023 - present
ICGP QSIP national clinical lead – June 2023 to present.
MSc Healthcare Ethics and Law Board Member. November 2022 – present
Member PPI in Education Working Group. RCSI committee member November 2023 – present
RCSI Head of Teaching representative, UK Society of Academic Primary Care. April 2024 - present
Member of the ICGP Research, Policy and Information Committee April 2024 - present

David Byrne

Editorial Fellow for British Journal of General Practice Open 2023-present

James Larkin

Editorial board membership peer review publications
Editorial Board Member of Journal of Multimorbidity and Comorbidity, 2020 – present
Committee membership national health organisations
Board Member, Alcohol Forum Ireland 2024 to present.

Staff List

Academic Department – Undergraduate Programme

Professor & Head of Department

Tom Fahey MB, BCh, BAO, DCH, DO, MSc, MFPH, MD, FRCGP

Associate Professor of Healthcare Ethics and Programme, Director MSc in Healthcare Ethics and Law
David Smith MSc, BPhil, BD, MA, STL, STD

Associate Professor in General Practice

Patrick Redmond MB BCh BAO PhD MMed MRCPi MICGP FRACGP FHEA PG Dip(Statistics)

Clinical Lecturers

Caroline McCarthy MD MB BCh BAO, MICGP DROG
Emer O'Brien MB, BCh, BAO, DRCOG, BSc (Pharmacology), MICGP
Ellen Stuart MB BCh BAO, MICGP, MSc (Clinical Education), BSc (Physiotherapy), DME, PGDip (Derm), PGCert (Pall Care)
Karen Kyne MB BCh BAO MICGP MSc DRCOG
Sumi Dunne BM BSc (Hons) MICGP MSc FFSEM
Máirtín Ó Maoláin Diplóma sa Ghaeilge, MB, BCh, BAO, PDipHSc (Clin Ed), DOWH, MICGP
Benjamin Jacob MB BCh BAO, MRCGP, MICGP, MSc (Statistics), GradStat
David Byrne MICGP MRCPI DME DRCOG PGDipHPEd PGDipHCM
Shane Dunlea MB, BCh, BAO DOWH BSc MSc DCP
Bridget Kiely MB BCh BAObs MRCPI MRCGP MPH
Patrick Moynagh BMBS MPharm (Hons) MPH DRCOG MICGP MRPharmS
Noreen O'Carroll MA, HDip Ed PhD DPMSA

Year 1 & Year 2 GP Tutors

Laura Barker MB BCh BAO DFP MRCGP
Aine Greene MB BCh BAO MICGP DCH DObst
Erika Keane MB BCh BAO LRCSI LRCPI MRCGP MICGP DObs DCH DME
Muireann O'Shea MB BCh BAO MICGP
Shane Dunlea MB, BCh, BAO DOWH BSc MSc DCP
Lia Egan MB DCH DObs LRCSI MICGP
Majella Hillery MB BCh BAO DCH DObs FPC PgDipPrDerm PGDipTher PgDipHPE MICGP
Dean Murray MB BCh BAO MICGP
Amelia Sookdeo MB BCh BAO, MICGP, MPH, DRCOG
Fiachra Lambe BSc MB BCh BAO DCP AdvDipEMS MPH MICGP MFMMI

Postgraduate Programme

Masters in Health Care Ethics and Law

Associate Professor Health Care Ethics and Law and Director MSc Course in Health Care Ethics and Law
David Smith MSC, BPhil, BD, MA, SL, STD

Postdoctoral Researchers /Research Fellows/Senior Research Fellow/MDs/Research Assistants and PhD students

Caroline McCarthy MD MB BCh BAO, MICGP
David Byrne MICGP MRCPI DME DRCOG PGDipHPEd PGDipHCM
Bridget Kiely MB BCh BAObs MRCPI MRCGP MPH
Aisling Croke BA MPharm MPSI
James Larkin PhD, MSc. B.A.
Benjamin Jacob MB BCh BAO, MRCGP, MICGP, MSc (Statistics), GradStat
Oisín Brady Bates MB BAO Bch MSc
Mohammed Gharbia MD MSc MPH

Masters in Surgery and MSc in Healthcare Ethics and Law

28 students graduated from MSc in Healthcare Ethics and Law in November 2023
18 students graduated from Masters in Surgery in November 2023 and 9 students graduated in May 2024

Seminars, Conferences & Workshops

Kyne, K. New Quality in Practice (QiP) Module for GP trainees in the Dublin Mid Leinster GP Training scheme. Association of University Departments of General Practice in Ireland ICGP Joint Scientific Conference. 8 March 2024.

McCarthy C, Moriarty F. Economic evaluations of deprescribing interventions. Workshop. International Conference on Deprescribing, Nantes, France. September 2024.

Moynagh P, Moriarty F, Clyne B, McCarthy C. Effectiveness of interactive dashboards to optimise prescribing in primary care: a systematic review. Oral Presentation. WONCA Europe, September 2024.

McCarthy C, Moriarty F, Doherty A. S, Feighery M, Boland F, Fahey T, Wallace E. Laboratory monitoring of selected higher risk medicines in General Practice: a five-year retrospective cohort study of community dwelling older adults. Oral Presentation. WONCA Europe, September 2024

McCarthy C, Moriarty F, Doherty A. S, Feighery M, Boland F, Fahey T, Wallace E. Laboratory monitoring of selected higher risk medicines in General Practice: a five-year retrospective cohort study of community dwelling older adults. Oral Presentation. AUDGPI ASM, March 2024

McCarthy C, Moynagh P, Boland F, Fahey T, Moriarty F. Core Medication use in General Practice Prescriptions: A pilot study evaluating the DU90% in Irish General Practice. Oral Presentation. AUDGPI ASM, March 2024

Invited Lectures

Patrick Redmond, Marie Keating Early Diagnosis Manifesto Launch. June 2024

Caroline McCarthy. Invited expert for the Irish Institute of Pharmacy's educational module on polypharmacy, 2023-2024

Teaching

Bridget Kiely, Co-lead for Student Choice Migrant Health Module. An innovative module using small group teaching, film and reflection to introduce students to the main concepts in migrant health and to understand the challenges and barriers faced by vulnerable migrants accessing healthcare.

Caroline McCarthy, Module Lead for Polypharmacy and Deprescribing in Everyday Practice for the Irish College of General Practitioner's "Better, Safer, Prescribing" CPD programme, 2023-2024

Publications

Byrne D, Boland F, Fahey T, et al. Quality of life outcomes in patients with chronic heart failure using sacubitril/valsartan: results from a systematic review. 65 Quality of life outcomes in patients with chronic heart failure using sacubitril/valsartan: results from a systematic review. *BMJ Supportive & Palliative Care* 2024;14:A26

Connolly H, Delimata N, Galway K, **Kiely B**, Lawler M, Mulholland J, O'Grady M, Connolly D. Exploration of Evaluation Practices in Social Prescribing Services in Ireland: A Cross-Sectional Observational Study. *Healthcare*. 2024; 12(2):219. <https://doi.org/10.3390/healthcare12020219>

Larkin J, Mulinari S, Ozieranski P, Lynch K, Fahey T, Ozaki A, Moriarty F. Payments to healthcare organisations reported by the medical device industry in Europe from 2017 to 2019: an observational study. *Health Policy and Technology*. 2024 Mar 24:100865

Larkin J, Foley L, Smith SM, Harrington P, Clyne B. The experience of financial burden for people with multimorbidity: A systematic review of qualitative research. *Health Expectations*. 2021 Apr;24(2):282-95.

Larkin J, Pericin I, Collins M, Smith SM, Byrne D, Moriarty F. GPs' perceptions of their relationship with the pharmaceutical industry: a qualitative study. *BJGP open*. 2021.

McCarthy C, Pericin I, Smith SM, Moriarty F, Clyne B. Recruiting general practitioners and older patients with multimorbidity to randomized trials. *Fam Pract*. 2023 Apr 4:cmad039. doi: 10.1093/fampra/cmad039.

McCarthy C, Flood M, Clyne B, Smith SM, Boland F, Wallace E, Moriarty F. Association between patient attitudes towards deprescribing and subsequent prescription changes. *Basic Clin Pharmacol Toxicol*. 2023 Mar 17. doi: 10.1111/bcpt.13859.

Moriarty F, Larkin J, Fahey T. Payments reported by the pharmaceutical industry in Ireland from 2015 to 2019: An observational study. *Health Policy*. 2021 Aug 3.

O Shea M, Kiely B, O'Donnell P, Smith SM. An evaluation of the social deprivation practice grant in Irish general practice. *BJGP Open*. 2024 Feb 23:BJGPO.2023.0195. doi: 10.3399/BJGPO.2023.0195. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38395435

Pierce M, Foley L, Kiely B, Croke A, Larkin J, Smith SM, Clyne B, Murphy E. Embedding formal and experiential public and patient involvement training in a structured PhD programme: process and impact evaluation. *Res Involv Engagem*. 2023 Nov 24;9(1):105. doi: 10.1186/s40900-023-00516-4. PMID: 37996882; PMCID: PMC10668398

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Patrick Redmond. Co-investigator. 2022-23. Systems based exploration of patient's and carer's self-management of medication at care transitions in Ireland. Meath Foundation. €49,534

Patrick Redmond. Co-PI Beaumont RCSI Irish Cancer Society Lung Cancer Research Programme. Linking Cancer Care to Primary Care. €4,900,000

Patrick Redmond. Collaborator. TEAMCARE Project. ERASMUS Lump Sum Grants – Alliances for Education and Enterprise). €1,104,868

Patrick Redmond. Co- Investigator. Strengthening the screening of Lung Cancer in Europe (SOLACE). April 2023-March 2026. EU4Health Project Grant. €9,707,367

Patrick Redmond. PI. Lung Cancer Screening Recruitment Intervention Development. HRB PCTNI Seedfund Award June 2023. €12500

Patrick Redmond. PI Irish Cancer Society Networking Award 2023. €2,000

Patrick Redmond. PI Irish Cancer Society Patient and Public Involvement Award 2023. €5,000

Patrick Redmond. PI Cancer Awareness Tender. National Cancer Control Programme 2024. €25,000

Patrick Redmond. PI Health Research Board. Tailoring LCS to Ireland. Secondary Data Analysis. €250,000

Caroline McCarthy. Lead applicant, Personal formularies in general practice to support safe, effective and cost-effective prescribing. 2023-2028. Health research Board Clinician Scientist Fellowship €381,280

Caroline McCarthy Lead applicant/Supervisor, 2023-2024 HSE Post CSCT Fellowship. GP Fellowship in Essential Medicines, €89,000

Caroline McCarthy. Co-applicant. Sjögren's - beyond dry eye: Advancing policy and practice through co-creation of integrated care journeys for patients and education for healthcare professionals – The SYNERG-IE Programme. 2023-2028 Health Research Board, Applied Partnership Award, €2,498,925

Caroline McCarthy. How many medicines make up 90% of a doctor's prescribing; the evaluation of prescriber and practice DU90% in a sample of Irish General Practices. Health Research Board Summer School 2023 €2,400

Caroline McCarthy. Public and Patient Involvement Seed Funding, 2023 RCSI University of Medicine & Health Sciences €500

GRADUATE ENTRY MEDICINE

Overview

The Graduate Entry Medicine programme (GEM) is a four year medical degree programme. The programme is bespoke for the first two years and delivered in dedicated facilities in Mercer (year 1) and Connolly Hospital (year 2). Following this, the students join those in the direct entry programme for their senior clinical years. The class size of approximately 80 students per year facilitates the delivery of the programme using a hybrid of large group didactic sessions and significant small group work to develop communication, team working and clinical skills. RCSI was the first university in Ireland to introduce a graduate medicine programme and the success of the programme is reflected in the quality of the graduates, the excellent match rates for North American students and the position of RCSI as the number one GEM programme in the country based on admission GAMSAT score.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activity

In September 2023 a new class of 87 students commenced the programme and all successfully completed the year. The GEM year 2 class of 82 also all successfully advance to year 3. The GEM students continued to perform very well in the programme. The 2024 graduating GEM class was the fifteenth group of graduates. The GEM students performed very well with 93% achieving honours degrees and the North American students were again highly successful in the matches in the US and Canada with an 82% success rate.

In year 2, Profs Richard Farrell (Gastroenterology) and Trevor Duffy (Rheumatology) stepped down as year 2 module leads. Prof Claire Smyth took up the role of module lead for Gastroenterology and Drs. Eithne Murphy and Claire Louise Murphy took over as joint module leads for Rheumatology.

Staff List

Director & Professor

Professor Seamus Sreenan MB, BCh, BAO, MD, FRCPI, FRCPUK

Deputy Directors

Pre-clinical

Professor Marian Brennan BSc, PgDipEd, MSc, PhD

Clinical

Professor Eoghan O'Neill MB, BCh, BAO, PhD, MRCPI, FRCPath, PgDipEd

Faculty

Professor Annette Byrne (Physiology), BSc, PhD

Professor Dermot Cox (Pharmacology), BSc, PhD

Dr Aamir Hameed (Anatomy), MBBS, MD, PgDipEd (Health Professions Education)

Professor Jim O'Neill (Medicine/Cardiology), MB, BCh, BAO, MD

Clinical Lecturers

Rory Crean MB, BCh, BAO, Surgery, Year 1

Abhishek Pallippattu MB, BCh, BAO, Cardiology

Darren Rattigan MB, BCh, BAO, Endocrinology

Ethan Gilkinson MB, BCh, BAO, Surgery, Year 2

Elizabeth Dolan MB, BCh, BAO, Rheumatology

Alex Robinson MB, BCh, BAO, Respiratory

Izabella Orban MB, BCh, BAO, Emergency Medicine

Katie de Jong MB, BCh, BAO, Endocrinology

Cathal Delaney MB, BCh, BAO, Gastroenterology

Administrative

Gerard Farrell

Laura Finnegan

Helen Rennick

Sara Tubb

Ann Slattery

Aisling Ryan

Active grants and grants awarded

Several GEM students were awarded StEP funding to complete projects in 2023-24. GEM student Merhan Soltan (class of 2026) was awarded a summer research grant by the Irish Endocrine Society to work with Prof Fabio Quondamatteo in the department of Anatomy and Regenerative Medicine and Liam Manning (class of 2025) received grant funding from the HRB Collaborative Diabetes Clinical Trial Network to participate in research with Prof Ed Gregg and Dr Jonathan Briody in the School of Population Health

Irish Medical Council INHED Research in Medical Education (RIME) award. Exploring attitudes towards inter-professional teams and the team approach to care, from the perspectives of graduate entry medical students and physician associate students. May 2023, €4,916. This project was completed during the academic year 2023-24 and the data are currently being prepared for publication.

Innovations in teaching

Curriculum changes

For the first time, GEM year 1 incorporated some of the changes introduced into the direct entry THEP 2 programme, particularly in the area of assessment. A programmatic approach to assessment was commenced with students being assessed across the pillars of knowledge, skills and PPID. Progress tests and GPA were introduced for the first time. We incorporated a modified resilience programme with 3 large group teaching sessions across year 1. Students were offered a choice option during one week in semester 2. Faculty worked on developing a suite of 5 choice options which included: an introduction to Radiology; Emergency Medicine Boot Camp; writing skills for medical students; LGBT health; project on mechanism of drug action. Students were also offered the online Lifestyle Medicine module that had previously been developed for DEM. These were well received by students.

Minor restructuring of the year 2 teaching programme was undertaken to facilitate clinical placements across the university with students having one 10 week clinical block at the end of the academic year rather than separate clinical blocks at the end of each semester. Other curriculum changes included introduction of ward based tutorials in each module, midweek case of the week sessions and one reading week during February. There was continued consultation with various members of faculty regarding upcoming curriculum and assessment changes and engagement with IT to develop the Kaizen templates and dashboard for implementation of THEP 2 changes in year 2 in September 2024.

Dr Claire Stenson, former clinical tutor in year 1 of the GEM programme, developed a new ECG teaching workshop delivered in the simulation center during semester 2 of 2022-23 incorporating digital simulation of ECG traces using SimpliSim. Dr Stenson also introduced a communications skills recording session for students which was well received by the students. GEM piloted and implemented OSCE marking using iPads with automated feedback. Dr Stenson reviewed the student experience of these initiatives as well as the automated learning outcome feedback for MCQ exams as part of an MSc. which indicated a positive user experience from these TEL initiatives incorporated in our programme.

Peer mentoring programme

The peer-mentoring programme was initiated in the GEM programme in 2018 based on a student quality improvement project (PRISM projects). The programme aims to provide a mentor in the senior years for incoming GEM students. This has been extended incrementally each year and in 2021 all incoming GEM1 students were assigned a GEM2 mentor. This programme is led by GEM students in collaboration with GEM faculty. A research project is currently in progress to investigate the impact of this programme in collaboration with GEM graduates Nandini Nandeesh, Savannah Naylor and Olivia Lodise. This research was presented at AMEE in August, 2023.

EDI initiatives

Professor Brennan has continued in her lead role for the Education work-stream of the Race Equality Forum. Activities during this year have included:

Anti-racism reading programme

The RCSI anti-racism reading programme, developed by RCSI graduates Therese Lynn, Oluwarotimi Vaughan-Ogunlusi, Kathryn Weisendanger, Sarah Colbert Kaip, Austin Capcara, Sarah Chen and Katrina Durzo during their time as students, in partnership with EDI and GEM Faculty (Professor Sreenan and Professor Brennan) was incorporated into the GEM programme for all students in 2022 and expanded to DEM Y3 in 2023.

EDI in Healthcare Education

Professors Brennan and Sreenan worked closely with Dr Reena Karani to plan a conference on race equality in medical education to take place during the subsequent academic year. Profs. Brennan and Sreenan were awarded RCSI Collaborate funding to support the conference and the EDI department also supported the conference

Professor Sreenan led on introducing a student choice module on LGBTQ+ health for year 1 GEM student based on an SSP project completed by Dr Jacqui Clifford during her time at RCSI. Prof. Sreenan was invited to present on this initiative at the International Education Forum in June 2024. The project was also shortlisted as a finalist for the RCSI Innovation in Education award.

Professor Sreenan was invited to participate in a discussion panel at the LGBT Ireland conference which was hosted by the EDI department at RCSI in June.

RCSI Student-led Schwartz Rounds

GEM-2 students, Mark Polemidiotis and Nadim Sayani, were built on their experience from StEP projects to continue to deliver Schwartz rounds for students. Mark and Nadim were also invited to present their work at the National Student Engagement Network event at RCSI in December 2023 and submitted an abstract for consideration for presentation at the Association for Medical Education in Europe in August 2024.

Community Clinic

Professors Brennan and Sreenan along with GEM students Caitriona O'Sullivan and Matthew Linvill were awarded a StEP1 Project for the planning of a student-led, Faculty-supervised Community Clinic. This application was submitted as a collaborative project with Michelle Kirrane Scott (PBS), Maria Kelly (REACH) and Prof. Kevin McGuigan. Follow on StEP2 funding for this project was awarded in June 2023 for the expansion of the planning to develop an inter-professional model incorporating Physiotherapy, Pharmacy and Nursing students and faculty. The pilot is planned for 2024 including Medicine, Physiotherapy and Pharmacy. Additional contributors to the project include Louise Keating, Sharon Cullen and Helen Heery from Physio, Pharmacy student Pedram Pirghasemi, Sinead McGonagle from PBS, Declan Patton from Nursing, Fiona Kent from HPEC. Dónall King from Legal and Robbie Fitzpatrick PPI participant

Facilities

The building work on the new Research and Education facility at Connolly Hospital, a €22 million investment by RCSI progressed well during the year. Professors Sreenan and Eoghan O'Neill together with the administration staff worked with the Estates team and Rebecca Kirrane from the simulation centre on the design of the teaching space in the new building. A tour of the new facility for faculty, Connolly clinical staff and students was hosted at Connolly on June 4th by Professor Laura Viani, President of RCSI.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT

Overview

The RCSI Graduate School of Healthcare Management (GSM) is a postgraduate School offering healthcare management education to healthcare and related professionals worldwide. GSM strives to drive excellence and impact through education, training and increasingly through applied research.

GSM offers a suite of postgraduate academic programmes in the areas of healthcare management, leadership, innovation, quality, safety and digital health. Programmes are delivered via a digital delivery model, with the credit-bearing element of all programmes delivered online, as part of an engaging, context-specific and experiential learning approach. GSM's innovative approach to teaching and learning was recently recognised through a HEA grant award for the development of a suite of short online entrepreneurship micro-credential courses.

GSM also offers a range of bespoke co-designed multidisciplinary professional and executive development programmes. These are delivered both in-person and virtually to public health bodies in Ireland and internationally as well as to international private healthcare providers.

The research activity of the GSM is directed at tackling the challenges and complex problems inherent in supporting health and care. GSM collaborates nationally and internationally with public and private stakeholders to support and shape health and healthcare delivery with partners, such as the HSE CHO Areas, regional hospital groups and the WHO.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Over the past year GSM have continued to optimise on-line delivery, including the use of the state-of-the-art X20 facility to create a vibrant and engaging learner experience. Working closely with colleagues on the RCSI Online postgraduate team, GSM faculty have honed the delivery modality to optimise the engagement level of learners in the on-line environment.

To boost learner engagement and create a sense of community amongst remote learners, GSM hosted a number of in-person learning and networking events involving international guest speakers, current and past students as well as RCSI colleagues from across the university.

Student numbers continue to grow and the Masters in Healthcare Management saw an intake of 181 in 23/24 making it one of the largest taught post-graduate programmes in the university.

GSM faculty member, Dr Siobhán McCarthy, led the establishment of EQUIPS in RCSI, an evidence-based research network focusing on quality improvement and patient safety, collaborating across seven universities and receiving funding from the Health Research Board (HRB) and the HSE.

During this year GSM research activity continued and will be supported by the creation of a formal Head of Research role which will support individuals in their research activity but also support the development of a strong research culture in the school.

Executive Education Activities

GSM delivers executive leadership development programmes and conferences that support the implementation of the governments health reform programme, Sláintecare, and health systems change. GSM also provides consultancy and advisory services nationally and internationally.

In the past year, GSM delivered the HSE National Clinical Directors Executive Skills Programme, graduating 24 Clinical Directors. A new programme, HSE Embracing New Ways of Working, was delivered in 6 regional locations to 32 multidisciplinary teams who completed integrated projects spanning community and acute settings. These programmes were co-designed with national and regional executive management teams.

The RCSI/HSE 2nd National Clinical Director Conference took place in Croke Park. The Conference theme was "Developing Compassionate cultures nationally and internationally." It was launched by the Minister for Health and the HSE CEO, with a panel of national and international speakers and 280 registrants.

The HSE Chief Directors of Nursing and Midwifery Group (CDONM) commissioned GSM to facilitate a national consultation process to report findings and recommendations on how nurses and midwives across all specialties can collaborate and support the new Health Regions as well as national structures and policy.

Internationally, PureHealth (Abu Dhabi), in partnership with the Emirati Development Centre, commissioned GSM to design and deliver an executive leadership development programme for Emirati executive leaders using a hybrid delivery approach. Twenty seven graduated the programme and completed strategic projects.

Individual Activities

Dr Alexis Amaye

- Rosalind Member of London Journals Press, London Journal of Research in Computer Science and Technology (LJRCST) 2021-present.

Dr Anjali Westwood Raj

- Fellow of Advance HE
- Association for Coaching, Member, 2021-present
- International Network for Health Workforce Education, Member, 2021-present

Ms Caroline O'Regan

- Association for Coaching (AC);
- Accredited AC Professional Executive Coach;
- AC Coach Accreditation Assessor (coach; leader, executive, master) and
- AC Lead: Coach Accreditation Assessor (2023)
- Accredited Coaching Supervisor (Oxford) (2023)
- Accredited Mediator and Member of the Mediator Institute of Ireland (MII) (2023)
- Health Management Institute (HMI) Council Member and Hon. Editor Health Manager Journal
- Editorial Board Member, European Association Hospital Managers (EAHM)
- Member Global Compassion Coalition (GCC), Health Impact Cluster (2023)
- Member Five Nations Compassionate Collaborative Leadership The Kings Fund UK
- Member of the British Psychological Society (BPS)

Ms Cathy Doyle

- Appointed to the Board of Directors of St Francis Hospice, Dublin (SFHD).
- Board representative on Board's Quality and Safety Committee
- Chairperson, Research Ethics Committee at SFHD.

Dr Claudine Kearney

- RCSI School of Pharmacy – Innovation in Healthcare Module Development.
- Editorial Board Member: Advances in Business-Related Scientific Research Journal.
- Scientific Board Member: Advances in Business-Related Scientific Research Conference (ABSRC).
- Association: Academy of Management – Member.
- Association: Strategic Management Society – Member.

Dr Éidín Ní Shé

- Editorial Board Member Journal of Health Organisation and Management. 2024-Current.
- Honorary Senior Research Fellow, Healthcare Engagement and Workplace Behaviour Stream, Australian Institute of Health Innovation, Macquarie University, Sydney. 2021-Current
- Member of UCD Centre for Interdisciplinary Research Education and Innovation in Health Systems (IRIS). 2018-Current

Dr Gloria Kirwan

- Co-Editor, Journal of Social Work Practice. Taylor & Francis/Routledge. UK (2024-2026).
- Co-Editor, Groupwork. Whiting & Birch Publishers. UK (2018 - ongoing).
- Editor, Irish Social Worker, Irish Association of Social Workers (2023 – ongoing).

- Member, KOINONIA: Interdisciplinary Research Group on Social Work, History, Law and Social Intervention, UNED, Spain (2021-).
- Management Committee Member (Ireland), COST Action SlowMemo. Proj. CA20105 (2021-2025).
- Trustee, GAPS (Group for the Advancement of Psychodynamics) (2021 to-date).
- Member, Workforce Issues in Social Work Special Interest Group, European Association of Social Work Research.
- Member, All Ireland Mental Health Research Network (2023 to-date).
- Member, All Ireland Student Mental Health Research Network (2023 to-date).
- External Examiner, Professional in Practice (PiP) Award, Northern Ireland Social Care Council (2021-2024).
- Member, National Research Ethics Committee (Medical Devices) (2023 to-date).
- Board Member, International Association of Social Work with Groups.
- Conference Paper: Kirwan, G., O'Sullivan, JP. & Mara, A. (2024). "All Together Now": Integrating Change Management Theory in Anti-Human Trafficking Policy Expansion. Event: Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Human Trafficking from Research and Practice', Human Trafficking Research Network in conjunction with the Department of Law, University of Á Coruna, Spain, June 2024.
- Invited Lecture: Lopez Pelaez, A., & Kirwan, G. (2024). Digital Social Work in a Global Context. Event: 'Digital Social Work in a Global Context', Columbia University, New York, USA, February 2024.
- Invited Lecturer: Lopez Pelaez, A., & Kirwan, G. (2024). 'Challenges for Digital Inclusion: Networked Relationships in Social Work Practice. Event: Digital Social Work: Challenges for Digital Inclusion after the Covid-19', City University of New York, City College Center for Worker Education, February 2024.
- Guest Speaker: Kirwan, G. (2023). The Value of Social Science Research. Event: Social Science International Seminar, University of La Rioja, Logroño, Spain, December 2023.
- Chairperson and Speaker: Kirwan, G. (2023). Networked Relationships: Working with Service Users in the Digital Age. Event: 1st International Conference of Digital Social Work, RCSI, Dublin, Ireland, October 2023.
- Guest Presentation: Kirwan, G. (2023). Casework in a Post-Pandemic Digital Era. Event: Ontario Municipal Social Services Association Annual Forum 2023 (hybrid event), Ontario, Canada, September 2023.

Dr John-Paul Byrne

- Board member, and chair of Research Advisory Sub-committee, for the Childhood Development Initiative [<https://www.cdi.ie/>]
- Chaired a Health Workforce Seminar and Networking Event (organised by Dr Niamh Humphries) in RCSI on 8 November 2023. Co-funded by RCSI Collaborate and the RCSI Graduate School of Healthcare Management (GSM), the event featured a keynote address from Dr Tomas Zapata, Head of Health Workforce and Delivery Unit with WHO Europe with talks from Dr Ellen Kuhlmann, President of the health workforce research section of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) and Dr Niamh Humphries, RCSI GSM.
- Research cited in National Taskforce on the Non-Consultant Hospital Doctor (NCHD) Workforce: Final Recommendations Report published on 07/02/24; <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/631e7-national-taskforce-on-the-non-consultant-hospital-doctor-nchd-workforce-final-recommendations-report/>.
- Proposal for a research project exploring formal and informal solidarities in healthcare has been selected as a project for the national SPHeRE 2024 PhD recruitment campaign [08/03/24]

Dr Niamh Humphries

- Member of the national Taskforce on the NCHD workforce (2022-24).
- Event organising: Organising a Symposium on GP Retention in collaboration with the Irish College of General Practitioners to be held in the Dublin Convention Centre 24.09.24.
- Invited Presentation: Humphries, N (2023) Hospital Doctor Retention and Motivation. Invited presentation to the HSE 2nd National Clinical Director Conference, Croke Park. 01.11.23.

Ms Sarah Jane Kavanagh

- Received Fellow status with CPA Australia (2023).

Dr Siobhán McCarthy

- Conference Organiser. Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Research Symposium and World Café, RCSI (15/04/24).
- Conference Organising Committee Member. Artificial Intelligence and Healthcare Outcomes Research Conference, RCSI (16/04/24).
- Editorial Board Member: International Journal for Quality in Healthcare (2024 to-date).
- Expert Panel Member. Framework for Improvement. American College of Surgeons & THIS Institute (2024)
- Invited Lecture: Health Economics & QI Work – an overview of research studies. Health Economics Study Day, Faculty of Public Health Medicine, RCPI (1/05/24)
- Invited Lecture: McCarthy SE, Doing an After Action Review of a Medication Error, at Monitoring & Reducing Medication Errors: High Risk Medicines & Patient Groups, Healthcare Conferences, UK (24/05/24).
- Invited Lecture: McCarthy SE, Researching Quality and Safety – current and future trends. Yekatit 12 Medical College, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (21/03/24).
- Invited Lecture: McCarthy SE, Leading a Culture of Patient Safety in Teams, Higher Specialist Training Masterclass, College of Psychiatrists of Ireland (10/02/24).
- Invited Lecture: McCarthy SE. How a Just Culture can improve Patient Safety, Prevention and Responding in Adult Safeguarding, Advancing a Strong Safety Culture. Annual Learning and Development Seminar, HSE National Safeguarding Office. Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise, Co Laois (17/10/23).
- Invited Lecture: McCarthy SE, Finn M, Hogan C, Jenkins L, Keane T, Mellon L, Schwanberg L, Walsh A, Williams DJ, Rafter N. The iCAARE study: a HSE/RCSI implementation research collaboration. NHS Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF) Webinar (14/09/23).
- Invited Lecture: McCarthy SE, Jenkins L. Implementation of AAR in the Irish Health System. HSE Patient Safety Together Webinar (13/07/23).
- Invited International Policy Development Work: McCarthy SE, Jenkins L. UK Health Services Safety Investigation Body (HSSIB) AAR Awareness Co-Design Workshop (11/07/23)
- Member of Evidence-based Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (EQUIPS) Research Network National Steering Group (2024 – 2029)
- Member of Q Community UK & IRL

Ms Tina Joyce

- Association of Coaching, Member, 2018 to-date.
- Member of the 5 Nations Health and Social Care Group.

Staff List

Managing Director of Healthcare Management

Eunan Friel MBS, BComm

Executive Director

Sara McDonnell MA, BSc

Director of Academic Programmes

Colm Foster, PhD, MBA, MSc, MBS

Director of RCSI-Dubai

Hasan Altug MBA

Lecturers

Anjali Raj BBA, MSc, PhD

Alexis Amaye MA, PhD

Cathy Doyle MBA, MA ED

Claudine Kearney PhD,

Dorothy Breen MD, FFARCSI, FCICM, MBBS

Éidín Ní Shé BA, MSc, PhD

Gloria Kirwan PhD, M.Litt, LL.M, MSc ApplSocRes, LL.B, BSS, PG Cert Higher Ed.

John Paul Byrne BSocSc, MSocSc, PhD
Kristina Brown PhD FHEA, MBA, Dip PFS (Dr)
Niamh Humphries BSocSc, MPhil, PhD
Siobhán McCarthy PhD, MSocSc, BSocSc, PGDipLHPE
Tina Joyce MSc, MBA, FIBMS, IDHA

Senior Executive Development Specialist

Caroline O'Regan MEd, HDip P&IR, Dip HSMgt, MCIPD, MIITD

Post-Doctoral Researcher

Holly Hanlon PhD

Operations and Continuing Education Team

Alexandra St John BSc (Hom. Val.), MPH
Anna Morris BA, PG Dip
Eimear Finnegan BA
Elaine Carton MA, BA, HSDA
Elaine Hurley MAppSc, MSc, HDipEd
Jean Carter BEd, MSc, QFA
Lenka Kertisova BA, MSc
Lucas Irrazabal BEng
Myriam O'Farrell MA, BA
Siún Aherne MSc, MiM, BSc, Dip Nursing (General)
Winona D'Souza BA

Marketing and Recruitment Team

Anthony Cahill BComm Pg. Dip
Anusmita Mukherjee MSc, BTech
Franco Francisco BBA
Lucy Dawson
Monika Ghita MBA BBs
Sarah Sultan
Tara Hyland MSc, BA

Adjunct Faculty – Module Leads

Professor Austin Leahy MB, DCH, MCh, FRCS, FRCSEd, FRCSI
Ms Catherine White MSc, BSc
Dr Ciara Scott MSc, BDS, MDentCh, MOrth, FFD, FDS, Cert in HCM
Ms Clare Harney MSc, BA
Dr Denis Murphy MBA, MSc, PDCPSE, PhD
Dr Paul O'Dwyer BDS, MSc, Dental Care Ireland Mgt, Dip Personnel, BSocSc
Ms Sarah Jane Kavanagh MSc, FCPA(Aust).

Higher Degrees

Murphy Denis, Professional Doctorate Programme, Governance, PhD, University of Sunderland, 2024.

Publications

Bedenik, T., **Kearney, C and Ní Shé É**, (2024), "Trust in embedding co-design for innovation and change: considering the role of senior leaders and managers", Journal of Health Organization and Management, Vol. 38 No. 9, pp. 36-44. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JHOM-07-2023-0207>

Brennan, N., Langdon, N., Gale, T., **Humphries, N.**, Knapton, A., & Bryce, M. (2023). Exploring recent patterns of migration of doctors to the United Kingdom: a mixed-methods study. BMC Health Services Research 23, 1204 (2023). doi:10.1186/s12913-023-10199-y

Brennan, N., Langdon, N., Bryce, M., Burns, L., **Humphries, N.**, Knapton, A., & Gale, T. (2023). Drivers and barriers of international migration of doctors to and from the United Kingdom: a scoping review. BMC Human Resources for Health 21, 11 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12960-022-00789-y>

Broderick, G., **Kirwan, G.**, Melaugh, B., & Loughran, H. (2023). The Lived Experience of Poverty in Ireland: A Commentary on the 'Object Poverty' exhibition. *Journal of Social Work Practice*, 37(2):199-212.

Byrne JP, Creese J, McMurray R, Costello RW, Matthews A and **Humphries N** (2023) "Feeling like the enemy: the emotion management and alienation of hospital doctors" *Frontiers in Sociology* 8:1232555; <https://doi.org/10.3389/fsoc.2023.1232555>

Byrne, J. P., Humphries, N., McMurray, R., & Scotter, C. (2023). COVID-19 and healthcare worker mental well-being: comparative case studies on interventions in six countries. *Health Policy*. 2023 Sep;135:104863. doi: 10.1016/j.healthpol.2023.104863

Creese, J., and **Humphries, N.** (2024). The international health labour market and health worker migration. In *Research Handbook on Contemporary Human Resource Management for Health Care* (pp. 25-40).

Creese J, Byrne JP, Conway E, O'Connor G, Humphries N. "They say they listen. But do they really listen?": A qualitative study of hospital doctors' experiences of organisational deafness, disconnect and denial. *Health Services Management Research*. 2024;0(0). doi:10.1177/09514848241254929

Dadich, A., Kearns, R., Harris-Roxas, B., Ni Chroinin, D., Boydell, K., **Ní Shé, É.**, Lim, D., Gonski, P., & Kohler, F. (2023). What constitutes brilliant aged care? A qualitative study of practices that exceed expectation. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 00, 1– 17. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.16789> *Q1 Ranking

Finn, M., Walsh, A., Rafter, N., Mellon, L., Chong, H.Y., Naji, A., O'Brien, N., Williams, D.J. and **McCarthy, S.E.**, 2024. Effect of interventions to improve safety culture on healthcare workers in hospital settings: a systematic review of the international literature. *BMJ Open Quality*, 13(2), p.e002506.

Fitzmaurice Y, Beeke S, Isaksen J **Ní Shé, É** et al. Communication partner training for student health and social care professionals engaging with people with stroke acquired communication difficulties: A realist review. [version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]. *HRB Open Res* 2023, 6:60 (<https://doi.org/10.12688/hrbopenres.13783.1>)

Fulham-McQuillan H, O'Donovan R, Buckley CM, Crowley P, Gilmore B, Martin J, **Ní Shé É**, et al. (2024) Exploring the needs and experiences of contact tracing staff during the COVID-19 pandemic in Ireland. *PLoS ONE* 19(3): e0298799. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0298799> *Q1 Ranking

Humphries, N., Creese, J., McDermott, A. M., Colleran, G., McDermott, C., & **Byrne, J. P.** (2024). 'That's just how medicine is': a remote ethnographic study of Ireland's failure to meet the core work needs of its hospital doctors. *SSM - Qualitative Research in Health*. Vol 5 (June 2024). 100392 doi:10.1016/j.ssmqr.2024.100392

McGlynn A, **Ní Shé É**, Liaw T, Jackson T, Harris-Roxas B. Mapping the HealthPathways literature: a scoping review protocol. *HRB Open Research*. 2024 Feb 20;7:10. (<https://doi.org/10.12688/hrbopenres.13737.1>)

McGlynn, A., **Ní Shé, É.**, Bennett, P., Liaw, S.-T., Jackson, T. and Harris-Roxas, B. (2023), "Exploring the spread and scale of a web-based clinical decision support portal in Sydney, Australia, during COVID-19: a case study", *Journal of Integrated Care*, Vol. 31 No. 4, pp. 315-330. <https://doi-org.proxy.library.rcsi.ie/10.1108/JICA-01-2023-0006>

O'Donnell D, Ahern E, Davies C, De Brún A, Donnelly S, Doran T, Drury A, Dunne N, Finucane L, **Ní Shé É**, NHarnett PJ, Harrison R. A realist process evaluation of an intervention to promote competencies in interprofessional collaboration among interdisciplinary integrated care teams for older people: Study protocol. *HRB Open Research*. 2023;6. (<https://doi.org/10.12688/hrbopenres.13729.1>)

Finn, M., Walsh, A., Rafter, N., Hogan, C., Keane, T., Jenkins, L., Mellon, Schwanberg, L., Valentelyte, G., Williams D.J., **McCarthy, S.E.** (2024). Applying the theoretical domains framework to identify enablers and barriers to after action review: an analysis of implementation in an Irish tertiary specialist hospital. *Safety Science*. doi:10.1016/j.ssci.2024.106489

Hetherington, A., Horgan, F., Sorensen, J., & **McCarthy, S. E.** (2023). Contextual factors and intentional rounding in acute hospitals: understanding what works, for whom, in what settings: a realist synthesis protocol. HRB Open Research doi:10.12688/hrbopenres.13792.1

McCarthy, S.E. (2024). The need for an equity-focused quality improvement strategy. *Health Manager Journal*. June/July.

McCarthy, S.E., Finn, M., Valentelyte, G., Boland, F., Hogan, C., Jenkins, L., Keane, T., Mellon, L., Schwanberg, L., Walsh, A., Williams, D.J., Rafter, N. (2024). Proceedings of the 6th UK and Ireland implementation science research conference. *Implementation Science*. doi:10.1186/s13012-024-01341-3

McCarthy, S. E., Hogan, C., Jenkins, L., Schwanberg, L., Williams, D., Mellon, L., Walsh, A., Keane, T., Rafter, N. (2023). Videos of simulated after action reviews: a training resource to support social and inclusive learning from patient safety events. *BMJ Open Quality* doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2023-002270

McFadden, P., Bloomberg, H., Kallio, J., Kroll, C., McCartan, C., Flanagan, N., **Kirwan, G.,** Pentaraki, M., & Wilson, E. (2024). A Common Purpose? Social Work Students' Social Justice-Related Views in Finland and the island of Ireland. *British Journal of Social Work*, 54(3):1236–1255. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjsw/bcad270>

Edited Books

McGarry, K., Bradley, C., & **Kirwan, G.** (Eds) (2024) *Rights and Social Justice in Research: Advancing Methodologies for Social Change*. Policy Press / Bristol University Press (pp. 1–303).

Lopez Pelaez, A. & Kirwan, G. (Eds) (2023). *The Routledge International Handbook of Digital Social Work*. Routledge.

Book Chapters

Byrne, J. P. and **Humphries, N.** (2024). Cycles of deterioration: The medical workforce and the working lives of hospital doctors. In *Research Handbook on Contemporary Human Resource Management for Health Care* (pp. 117-131).

Kirwan, G. (2024). 'Leave No-one Behind' - Leveraging the Power of Hope in Social Work and Social Development: A Theoretical Approach. In A. López Peláez, A. Keet & C. Moon Sung (Eds), *Social Welfare Programs and Social Work Education at a Crossroads*. Routledge (pp. 24-34).

Kirwan, G. (2024). Threshold Concepts. In F. Darbellay (Ed), *Elgar Encyclopedia of Interdisciplinarity and Transdisciplinarity*. Elgar Publishers. [peer reviewed encyclopedia entry]

Kirwan, G., & Swords, C. (2024). When Objects Speak Louder than Words: Material Ethnography in Social Justice Research. In K. McGarry, C. Bradley, & G. Kirwan (Eds), *Rights and Social Justice in Research Advancing Methodologies for Social Change*. Policy Press/ Bristol University Press (pp.183-200).

McCarthy, S. E., Jabakhanji, S. B., O'Mahony, J., Lachman, P., & Sorensen, J. (2024). The Economics of Quality Improvement. In P. Lachman (Ed.), *Oxford University Practice Handbook for Quality Improvement in Healthcare*. Oxford University Press.

McGarry, K., Bradley, C., & **Kirwan, G.** (2024). Researching for Social Justice: An Introduction. In K. McGarry, C. Bradley, & G. Kirwan (Eds), *Rights and Social Justice in Research: Advancing Methodologies for Social Change*. Policy Press/ Bristol University Press (pp. 1–12).

McGarry, K., Bradley, C., & **Kirwan, G.** (2024). Concluding Thoughts. In K. McGarry, C. Bradley, & G. Kirwan (Eds), *Rights and Social Justice in Research: Advancing Methodologies for Social Change*. Policy Press/ Bristol University Press (pp. 283–290).

O'Driscoll, B., & **Kirwan, G.** (2024). Social Justice as Tool and Process in Research: Progressing Insight into the Facilitators of Children's Rights to Participation through Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis. In K. McGarry, C. Bradley, & G. Kirwan (Eds), *Rights and Social Justice in Research Advancing Methodologies for Social Change*. Policy Press/ Bristol University Press (pp. 222–242).

Commissioned Reports

Kirwan, G., O'Driscoll, B., & Swords, C. (2023). *See Me See Child: A Holistic Approach to Supporting the Participation of Children in Decisions that affect their Lives.* Tusla/ Youth New Ross. ISBN 978-1-7392351-1-6.

Reviewer/ Editor Issues

- Hingley-Jones, H., & **Kirwan, G.** (Eds) (2023). Poverty – Social Work Perspectives *Journal of Social Work Practice*, 37(2): 131 – 278. Special Issue.
- **Humphries, N.** (Editorial Board Member) (2023 to date): BMC Human Resources for Health;
- **Humphries, N.** Associate Editor (2020-2023) BMC Human Resources for Health; 2020-23
- **Humphries, N.** Reviewer (2016 to date) BMC Human Resources for Health.
- **Kirwan, G.** (Ed) (2023). *Irish Social Worker*, Winter 2023: 4–178.
- **Kirwan, G.** (Ed) (2024). *Groupwork*, 31(3). Special Issue
- **Kirwan, G., & Whittaker, A** (Eds) (2023). *Journal of Social Work Practice*, 37(1): 3 – 130.
- **Kirwan, G., & Whittaker, A** (Eds). (2024). *Journal of Social Work Practice*, 38(2): 111-213.
- Whittaker, A., & **Kirwan, G.** (Eds) (2023). *Journal of Social Work Practice*, 37(3): 279-398.
- Whittaker, A., & **Kirwan, G.** (Eds) (2023). *Journal of Social Work Practice*, 37(4): 399-491.
- Whittaker, A., & **Kirwan, G.** (Eds) (2024). *Journal of Social Work Practice*, 38(1): 1 – 110.

Media Engagement and Research Impact

Humphries, N (2024) 'We're very, very expendable': Why junior doctors are leaving Ireland. Irish times. <https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/2024/02/22/niamh-humphries-were-very-very-expendable-why-junior-doctors-are-leaving-ireland/>

Ní She É., (18/12/23) The real 'failure' is judging hospitals solely on how fast they discharge patients. Irish Examiner <https://www.irishexaminer.com/opinion/commentanalysis/arid-41291608.html>

Ní She É., (9/11/23) Comfort-seeking in trolley numbers instead of problem sensing in the care of older people. Irish Examiner <https://www.irishexaminer.com/opinion/commentanalysis/arid-41266033.html>

Ní She É.,(28/10/23) An tSeachtain (Panel), RTÉ RnaG

Ní She É.,(3/8/23) New HSE health regions plan: Will it really deliver much-needed healthcare reform? Irish Examiner <https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-41196580.html>

Grants

Co-Applicant: Cahalane, Cummins, Foley, McHugh, Horgan (RCSI) **Ní Shé,** Murphy et al., APA: Falls Management Exercise Programme: Improving Reach, Effectiveness, Value and Sustainability in Ireland. Case Studies for Learning PI: McCullagh (UCC), HRB 2023 €239,000

Applicant/ Co- Applicant: **Niamh Humphries (PI), Holly Hanlon,** Health Worker Migration and Ireland Project. World Health Organisation (WHO) 2024, €10,000.

Co-Applicant: Kennedy Locock, McGeown, McSharry, Meade, **Ní Shé,** Gilmore, Foley et al., APA: No data about us without us: Co-designing the Integration of Health Inequalities into the National Inpatient Experience Survey to Enhance the Participation of and Data about Marginalised Communities PI: Noone (UCG), (562), HRB, 2023, €233,000.

Co-Applicant: Sinead Lydon, NUIG (PI), **Niamh Humphries.** Motherhood and Medicine (MAM) Project. Medical Protection Society (MPS) Ireland 2024-25. Grant value: €163,000 (held by NUIG).

Applicant/ Co-Applicants: **Niamh Humphries (PI),** Fintan Foy and Claire Collins (ICGP), **J-P Byrne,** Laura Cullen, Michael Harty, Andrew Murphy, Mark Murphy, **Ní She,** Susan Smith. General Practitioner Retention (GP-R) Project. HRB Applied Partnership Award (APA) 2023-25, €240,000.

Applicant: Niamh Humphries (PI), Richard Costello, Anne Matthews, Lucia Prihodova, Aoife McDermott Hospital Doctor Retention and Motivation Project (HDRM). HRB Emerging Investigator Award (EIA) 2017-24, €799,000.

Co-Applicant: PI: O'Donnell, Brennan, **Ní Shé**, Davies, De Brún, et al., A realist process evaluation of an intervention to promote competencies in interprofessional collaboration among interdisciplinary integrated care teams for older people. Health Research Board (HRB) ILP-HSR- 2022-007, €369,882.

Co-Applicant: Sam Cromie, Orla Healy, **Siobhán McCarthy**, Ed Gregg, Siobhán Corrigan, Aoife De Brun, Ailis McAuliffe, John Brown, Sinead Lydon, Paul O'Connor. Evidence-Based Quality Improvement & Patient Safety (EQUIPS) Research Network 2024 – 2029. Health Research Board (HRB) and Health Service Executive (HSE) 2024, €1.5million.

Applicant: **Siobhán McCarthy** (PI), Hammond, O'Mahony, Lachman, Sorensen. Development of Health Economics Informed Quality and Patient Safety (QPS) Competencies. Dec 2021, €24,999.

Co-Applicant: Rafter, **McCarthy, Keane**, Williams, Jenkins, Stuart, Hogan, Walsh, Mellon. The effect of After Action Review in enhancing safety culture and second victim experience and its implementation in an Irish hospital. HRB 2019 – 2024, €232,000.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH & TROPICAL MEDICINE

Overview

The department of International Health and Tropical Medicine has a focus on research and teaching. This includes teaching in the new curriculum, for THEP2, Year 1 and Year 2 PIH with a focus on topics in GIHEP and Respiratory including lectures and case-based learning (CBL) with the team supporting workshops for the rollout of the new curriculum. We contribute to the Intermediate Cycle 2 GEM students, based at Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown. The GEM2 module Haemato-Lymphoid Tropical Medicine offers tropical medicine components and integrates cross-departmental and interdisciplinary teaching. During the academic year 2023/24 we completed the final programme of Tropical Medicine content for the Public and International Health (PIH) module.

The department runs outpatient clinical services from Beaumont Hospital and Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda and provides a service for people with infectious disease and tropical diseases, sepsis, tuberculosis, HIV, hepatitis, and other infections.

The research activities of this department continues to focus on control and prevention of diseases in travellers and particularly refugees and migrants coming from resource-poor areas; however, methodologically the activities span from the molecular and immunological, through clinical trials and cohort studies to health systems. Members of the academic department attended The European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ECCMID) conference in Spain on behalf of RCSI presenting research studies in April 2024. The 15th annual Infectious Disease Society of Ireland, IDSI, the theme was: "Challenges in Infectious Diseases", which took place at the Marine Hotel, May 2024.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Direct Entry Medicine, Year 3 Tropical Medicine delivery of final academic programme for PIH and completion of THEPI - lectures and case-based in-person for both Dublin and Bahrain students (2023/24). Graduate Entry Medicine IC2 programme was delivered in January 2024, in-person lectures and small group clinical case teaching with additional support from Clinical Team at Connolly Hospital.

Dr Melva Tan

Awarded a diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from Glasgow in August 2023

Awarded Membership of RCPI in December 2023.

Presented at Infectious Disease Society of Ireland, IDSI May 2024, NeuroIID Conference Liverpool and ESCMID Utrecht, Netherlands - June 2024.

Dr Stephen Hatton

Awarded membership of RCPI in April 2024.

Awarded the Professor David Foley Medal in November 2023.

Presented at the joint Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health (BEH) NHS Trust and Camden and Islington (C&I) NHS Foundation Trust BEH & C&I Hospital Trusts, London, 29 May 2024.

Dr Eoghan de Barra

Chaired the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (ESCMID) Esam Board, Netherlands, June 2024.

Presented at The European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases ECCIMD, Spain - April 2024.

Professor Sam McConkey

Appointed Chair of European Vaccine Initiative (EVI), Heidelberg Germany, January 2024

Staff List

Vice Dean for International Curriculum Engagement, Professor & Head of Department
Sam McConkey MD, FRCPI, FRCP(London), DCH, AM(Statistics), DTM&H(Liverpool)

Consultant and Senior Lecturer

Eoghan de Barra BSc, BAO, BCh, MD, MRCPI

Honorary Senior Lecturer

Peter Coakley MB, BCh, DTM&H, FRCPI, FACP

Honorary Clinical Lecturer

Cora McNally MB, BCh, BAO, FRCPI, MPH, MSc Health Care Management

Honorary Lecturer

Niall Roche BSc (Env. Health), MHSc(Public Health and Health Promotion)

Clinical Lecturers

Melva Tan MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI, DTM&H

Stephen Hatton [aka.Stiofán MacGiolla Catháin] MB, BCh, BAO, MSc, DFSRH, MRCPI

Research Nurses

Benson Jacob (PhD student)

Suchitra Vengathodi

Administrator

Camilla Wemyss

Publications

Dana Alalwan, Riya Negi, Alejandro García-León, MS, Gurvin Saini, Colette Marie Gaillard, Grace Kenny, Stefano Savinelli, Eoin R Feeney, Aoife Cotter, Michael Carr, Gabriel Gonzalez, Alan Landay, Eoghan de Barra, Obada Yousif, Mary Horgan, Patrick Mallon, Genetic Variation at the Interferon λ Locus and Association with Clinical Outcome and Severity of COVID-19 *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*, Volume 10, Issue Supplement_2, December 2023, ofad500.1183, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofad500.1183> Published: 27 November 2023

Byrne, Joanne and Gu, Lili and Garcia Leon, Alejandro Abner and Gaillard, Colette Marie and Saini, Gurvin and Alalwan, Dana and Tomás-Cortázar, Julen and Kenny, Grace and Donohue, Sean and Reynolds, Bearach and O'Gorman, Tessa and Landay, Alan and Doran, Peter and Stemler, Jannik and Koehler, Philipp and Cox, Rebecaa and Olesen, Ole F. and Lelievre, Jean-Daniel and O'Broin, Cathal and Savinelli, Stefano and Feeney, Eoin R. and O'Halloran, Jane A. and Cotter, Aoife G. and Horgan, Mary and Kelly, Christine and Sadlier, Corrina and de Barra, Eoghan and Cornely, Oliver A. and Gautier, Virginie and Mallon, Patrick and Group, All Ireland Infectious Diseases Cohort Study and consortium, the VACCELERATE, Robust and Persistent B Cell Responses Following Third-Dose SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Determine Protection from SARS-CoV-2 Infection. SSRN:<https://ssrn.com/abstract=4828828> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4828828>

Hatton, S. HIV article Hospital Doctor of Ireland Journal, December 2023 edition
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:EU:b1acbc91-8f6b-4b61-ad93-6b7f1f1e9799>

Grace Kenny, Sophie R O'Reilly, Neil Wrigley Kelly, Riya Negi, Colette Marie Gaillard, Dana Alalwan, Gurvin Saini, Tamara Alrawahneh, Nathan Francois, Matthew Angeliadis Close correlation of RBD with Live Viral Neutralising Capacity Across Variants and Time Supports Use of RBD Thresholds to Predict Protective Host Immunity. *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*, Volume 10, Issue Supplement_2, December 2023, ofad500.1977, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofad500.1977> Published: 27 November 2023

Kenny G, McCann K, O'Brien C, O'Broin C, Tinago W, Yousif O, O'Gorman T, Cotter AG, Lambert JS, Feeney ER, De Barra E. Impact of vaccination and variants of concern on long COVID clinical phenotypes. *BMC Infectious Diseases*. 2023 Nov 16;23(1):804. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12879-023-08783-y>.

O'Connell J, McNally C, Stanistreet D, de Barra E, McConkey SJ. Ending tuberculosis: the cost of missing the World Health Organization target in a low-incidence country. *Ir J Med Sci*. 2023 Aug;192(4):1547-1553. doi: 10.1007/s11845-022-03150-3. Epub 2022 Sep 19. PMID: 36121600.

O'Reilly S, Kenny G, Alrawahneh T, Francois N, Gu L, Angeliadis M, de Masson d'Autume V, Garcia Leon A, Feeney ER, Yousif O, Cotter A. Development of a novel medium throughput flow-cytometry based micro-neutralisation test for SARS-CoV-2 with applications in clinical vaccine trials and antibody screening. *Plos one*. 2023 Nov 30;18(11):e0294262. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0294262>

Luke B Snell, Aimee McGreal-Bellone, Clemency Nye, Sarah Gage, Prijay Bakrania, Tom G S Williams, for the All Ireland Infectious Disease Cohort Emma Aarons, Alina Botgros, Samuel T Douthwaite, Patrick Mallon, Iain Milligan, Catherine Moore, Brendan O'Kelly, Jonathan Underwood, Eoghan de Barra, Gaia Nebbia A Multinational Case Series Describing Successful Treatment of Persistent Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Infection Caused by Omicron Sublineages With Prolonged Courses of Nirmatrelvir/Ritonavir *Open Forum Infectious Diseases*, Volume 11, Issue 1, January 2024, ofad612, <https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofad612> Published:07 December 2023

Spooner M, Larkin J, Liew SC, Jaafar MH, McConkey S, Pawlikowska T. "Tell me what is 'better'!" How medical students experience feedback, through the lens of self-regulatory learning. *BMC Medical Education*. 2023 Nov 22;23(1):895. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12909-023-04842-9>.

Pelvic Inflammatory Disease article and staff spotlight article for RCSI students' publication, OBGYN review November 2023.

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Patrick Mallon PI/Co-Applicant: Eoghan de Barra RCSI, PI: An International Multicentre, Phase 2, Randomised, Adaptive Protocol to determine need for, optimal timing of and immunogenicity of administering a 4th homologous mRNA vaccination dose against SARS-CoV-2 in the general population (18+ years) already fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2 (EU-COVAT- 2 BOOSTAVAC). Grant Code: 101037867, EU Horizon 2020, 11/10/2022.

Paddy Mallon, PI/Co-Applicant: Eoghan de Barra RCSI, PI: Infectious Diseases Clinical Trials Network Ireland (ID-CTNI). Grant Code: CTN-2021-014, Health Research Board / HRB - (CTN), 16/05/2023 €127,206.44

Gianpiero Cavalleri PI/Co-Applicant: Eoghan de Barra: National Covid-19 Biobank. Grant Code: NCov19BB-2021-1, Health Research Board, 07/09/2022, €157,948.74

Eoghan de Barra, PI/Co-Applicant: Amir Bachari: Redefining Institutional Stigma Education (RISE). Grant Code: 17817, Industry – Gilead, 04/11/2022, €50,000. Fellowship for RCSI student Amir Bachari

Eoghan de Barra, PI/Co-Applicant: Samuel J. McConkey: Understanding what matters to patients in Antimicrobial Stewardships in hospitals. Grant Code EBPPG/2023/695, Irish Research Council, 14/06/2023, €92,000. Fellowship for PhD scholar

Eoghan de Barra RCSI/PI Co-Applicant: Joe Eustace: WHO Solidarity Trial – Ireland. Grant Code: WHO-SOLI-2020-001, WHO Solidarity - Health Research Board, 18/08/2020, €461,935

LIBRARY

Overview

RCSI Library supports the learning, teaching, research and clinical activities of RCSI and preserves and promotes RCSI Heritage Collections. Our team of health information specialists provide advice and services ranging from expert search and retrieval, information and digital literacy skills development, research data management, clinical information, bibliometric profiling, open access publishing, digital preservation and onsite and online services.

On behalf of RCSI we manage a wide range of systems and services for discovery, curation and preservation of institutional information assets, past and present and library spaces in 26 York Street, the Mercer building and RCSI Library Beaumont Hospital.

Summary of Key Achievements & Team Highlights

Impactful Research

- Open Research is a significant and growing area of work for RCSI Library. This year we
 - continued managing IReL agreements covering open access publishing fees for many core journals, with 188 articles approved in 2023,
 - held the first Open Science Café for staff in January on sharing qualitative research data and
 - developed an Open Science module for postgraduates in partnership with SPGS, that will launch in September 2024.
- At national level RCSI Library staff are active in national Open Science developments through NORF (National Open Research Forum), contributing to funded projects on open access monitoring and aligning open access repositories, and hosting events at RCSI to help create a national guide to open research for early career researchers, and on data stewardship.
- The RCSI Open Access Repository continued to grow rapidly, exceeding 6,000 items in June 2024. This year projects with School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences, Departments of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Chemistry, and RUMC increased their respective content in the repository, and the Student Medical Journal (SMJ) archive was made fully accessible at article level.
- Research data workshops were delivered to research groups and postgraduates including PSI-STAR, GLIOTRAIN, the SPHeRE programme, the School of Nursing, NeuroInsight fellows and IPASTAR fellows.

Engagement

- RCSI Library Heritage Collections formed the basis of several RCSI engagement and promotion activities including:
 - *National Heritage Week 2023* – celebration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Colles included: the digitisation of Colles' papers; the launch of a virtual exhibition; a collaboration with the Irish Men's Sheds Association to create bespoke display cabinets for heritage materials; and a panel discussion exploring Colles' ground breaking approach to the teaching of anatomy and its influence on modern day anatomy education.
 - *Explore Your Archives Week* November 2023 engagement event for staff and students
 - Art Committee – in their capacity as co-convenors Jessica Handy & Susan Leyden led out on several initiatives to raise the profile of arts in RCSI aligned with the Arts Strategy 2023/25 including the creation of 11 video mini documentaries under the banner of 'Art in RCSI', launching throughout 2024, and coordinating the Art Talks series.
- Public engagements, in partnership with Alumni & Development, to promote and engage RCSI audiences, and the wider public, with new history of RCSI, *Every Branch of the Healing Art* by Dr Ronan Kelly.
- Faculty of Nursing 50th Anniversary – preparatory work began to appraise, catalogue and make available the archives of the Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery to mark its 50th year in 2024.

Education and Student Success

- 2023 Research Summer School, the ERC team provided information skills lectures to all participants and the Heritage team supervised two humanities-based projects.
- Student Choice Module "Pathologies Through Time" in Semester 2, 2023/24 developed and delivered by the Heritage team
- LibGuides expanded to include new guides on Open Resources and Artificial Intelligence.

- #FairSpaceForAll, the library's seat reservation policy, was relaunched for the 2023/24 academic year in response to student feedback.
- The Library Services Delivery Team were nominated for the *Vice Chancellor Awards - Team Impact*, for their engagement with EDI, their emphasis on showing inclusivity and making sure all students and staff feel welcome.
- New collections to support student learning and RCSI strategy were launched including Anatomy Models (Feb 2024); EDI & Allyship (Jun 2024); and, Wellbeing (Feb 2024).
- In support of enhancing the student experience the library worked with Student Services & the Student Clubs and Societies to host a wide range of events at the Expo Stage in the Library Learning Commons throughout the academic year.
- Campaigns to promote the benefits of reading for wellness ran throughout the year e.g. *Squeeze in a Read*, *One City One Book* promotion, *Love your Library*, book swop.

Foundations for Sustainable Impact

- RCSI Library Heritage Collections Disaster Management Plan developed and included in RCSI's Master Disaster Management Plan and Risk Management schedules.
- Library Sustainability Agreement developed and agreed by the team.
- RCSI Library Beaumont, staff restructuring, review and update of clinical textbooks for students and a new Beaumont Library Libguide tailored for the clinical setting to support non RCSI-affiliated Beaumont hospital staff in using RCSI provided resources and service – a significant contribution to clinical relationships management and development.
- Activation and rollout of Edugate enhancing off campus access options to e-resources for all users in Jan 2024.
- Launch of RefAnalytics for query data capture in August 2023.

Library in Numbers 1st June 2023 – 31 May 2024 (unless otherwise noted)

- E-resource use (Jan-Dec 2023)– 1,814,963, average of 4,972.5 daily uses
- Repository use: 1,147,947 repository views, 902,135 repository downloads, 1,354 open access items added. On average that's 2,471 downloads a day, and each item is downloaded an average of 152 times per year.
- Primo VE: 247,877 searches. An average of 20,656 searches per month. The most popular searches are Basic Search (86%, 206,658), Journal Search (8%, 18,880) Advanced Search (6%, 15,980) and Search for Databases (2%, 6,145)
- 117,440 library website views
- 120,712 unique user LibGuides sessions
- 9,753 views of library videos on Panopto and YouTube.
- 5,836 queries received via the virtual & in-person service desks in 26 York Street, Beaumont Hospital and Heritage Collections.
- 6,241 Digital Heritage Collections site page views
- 2,253 attendees of 50 live information skills taught classes, 28 of them delivered in person, 22 online, plus 9 recorded videos were provided to courses.
- Expert advice to 543 users in 476 consultations, 82% of them online, on topics connected to literature searching, referencing, systematic reviews, metrics and open access publishing.
- 52 projects supported with creating or updating their Data Management Plan, and 12 funding calls supported with the FAIR data section of funding applications.
- 438 document supply queries of which 237 (54%) identified in existing RCSI collections and 84 (19%) sourced from other libraries.
- 30.88GB of digital heritage ingested into Preservica for long-term preservation
- 7,073 Heritage Blog page views and 1,554 view of Colles & Cameron microsites
- 16,190 Library Group Study Room bookings
- Print book circulation:
 - 8,487 items were borrowed – 76% via self-service in York Street and 24% via in-person service points in York Street (21%) and Beaumont Hospital (3%).
 - 93% of renewals were facilitated by the autorenewal feature of the library management system and 7% of renewals took place in person at service desks or via self-service machines.

Staff List

Library Management Team

Kate Kelly BA, DLIS, MSc, AHIP, FLAI, *Director Library Services*

Andrew Simpson BSc, MScEcon, MCLIP, *Associate Librarian, Education Research & Clinical Support*

Kathryn Smith BSc (Hons), MLIS, *Associate Librarian, Library Services Delivery*

Library Team

Sinead Byrne BA, MLIS, Library Assistant (from June 2024)

Chiara Cecchinelli BA, MA, MSc, Teaching & Learning Support Librarian

Claire Costigan BA, MLIS, Library Assistant

Carol Creavin DipInfStud, Library Assistant

Christine Cullen BAMod, MLIS, Customer Services & Communications Coordinator

Christina Doherty, Library Assistant

Ruth Geraghty BA, MA, MSc, Research Data Coordinator

Anne Gregg, Library Assistant

Jessica Handy BA, MA, Digital Archivist

Patrick Keegan MLIS, PGDip Ed; HDip, Teaching & Learning Support Librarian

Ronan Kelly BA, DipLIS, MFA, PhD, Heritage Research and Outreach Officer

Bc Eliška Komárková MLIS, Content & Metadata Management Librarian

Susan Leyden BA, HDip Archival Studies, Archivist

Sinéad Magee BA, Dip, Library Assistant

Erin McRae BA, MA, MSc, Project Cataloguing Archivist (from March 2024)

Grainne McCabe BA, DLIS, Scholarly Communications and Research Support Officer

Maeve McElligott BA, MLIS, Content & Metadata Management Librarian (from January 2024)

Kathryn Moorhouse, Library Shelver

Lorna Murphy MSc, MBCS, Dip Sci, Administrator

Breffni Smith BA, DLIS, MPhil, MSc, Clinical Librarian

Nicola Smith BA(Hons), PGDip Library Assistant

Killian Walsh BA, MLIS, Information Specialist

Bethany Webb McConville BA, MLIS, Library Assistant

Emeritus

Mary O'Doherty *Emeritus Heritage Librarian*

Retirements

Maire O'Donovan *Library Assistant (April 2024)*

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Chiara Cecchinelli

Committee Member, Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) Training & Development Committee and CONUL 2025 ERASMUS Staff Mobility Week

Claire Costigan

Member: Library Association of Ireland (LAI) including Health Sciences Libraries Group and Academic & Special Libraries Section

Christine Cullen

Committee Member, Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) Customer Services Group
Member: Library Association of Ireland (including Health Sciences Libraries Group)

Ruth Geraghty

Member: National Research Service and Infrastructure Forum (RESIN)

Anne Gregg

Member: Acquisitions Group of Ireland

Jessica Handy

Member: Archives and Records Association Ireland and Digital Scholarship Network Ireland
Guest Lecturer: MA Archives & Records Management, UCD

Patrick Keegan

Committee Member, Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) Teaching & Learning Committee

Member: Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Kate Kelly

Board Member, Irish Consortium of National & University Libraries (CONUL)

Board of Directors, Society of College, National & University Libraries (SCONUL) UK

Working group member, SCONUL Future of Libraries Group and Horizons sub-group

Panel member SCONUL Library Design Awards

Editorial Board member, *An Leabharlann, Journal of the Library Association of Ireland (LAI)*

Member: Distinguished Member Academy of Health Information Professionals (AHIP); Library Association of Ireland (LAI) - Fellow; University Health & Medical Librarians Group (UHMLG); European Association for Health Information & Libraries (EAHIL); US Medical Library Association (MLA)

Eliška Komárková

Committee Member, Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) Collections Group

Member: Acquisitions Group of Ireland (AGI); Library Association of Ireland (including Rare Books Group, Health Sciences Libraries Group and Academic & Special Libraries Section), Ex Libris Products User Group (UK and Ireland)

Susan Leyden

Committee Member, Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) Unique and Distinct Collections Group

Member: Irish Society of Archives and Archives & Records Association (ARA) UK & Ireland

Sinéad Magee

Member: Library Association of Ireland (LAI) and Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)

Grainne McCabe

Committee Member, Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) Research Support Sub-Committee

Member: SciVal User Group Ireland; UK and Ireland Figshare User Group; IReL APC Approvers Group; NORF Repository Working Group

Erin McRae

Committee Member: New Professionals Representative, Archives and Records Association (ARA) Ireland Committee

Member: Archives and Records Association UK & Ireland (ARA); International Council on Archives (ICA)

Maeve McElligott

Committee Member, 2025 CONUL Conference Organising Committee

Member: Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Andrew Simpson

Working Group Member, Open Research Europe Library Advisory Group

National Open Research Forum Groups: National Open Access Monitoring; Open Access Repository Assessment and Alignment; SCOIR (Secondary rights, Copyright, Open access, Institutional policies and Rights retention).

Chartered Member: Chartered Institute of Library & Information Professionals (CILIP)

Member: CILIP Health Libraries Group; CILIP Academic and Research Libraries Group; and European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL)

Breffni Smith

Member: Library Association of Ireland (LAI); Health Sciences Library Group (HSLG);

European Association for Health Information & Libraries (EAHIL)

Nicola Smith

Committee member, 2024 CONUL Conference Organising Committee

Kathryn Smith

Committee Member, CONUL Regulatory Affairs Committee

Committee Member, Irish Research Electronic Library (IRel) Steering Group (until February 2024)

Committee Member, Irish Research Electronic Library (IRel) Negotiations Group (from March 2024)

Committee Member, Library Association of Ireland (LAI) Education Committee – Continuing Professional Development

Committee Member (Programme & Financial Planning Lead), 2024 Graphic Medicine Conference, 16-18 July, TUS, Athlone.

Committee Member, ScienceDirect National Consortium Monitoring Group

Member: Library Association of Ireland (LAI); University Health & Medical Librarians Group (UHMLG);

Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL); and European Association for Health Information & Libraries (EAHIL).

Bethany Webb McConville

Member: Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Grants

Awarded €25,000 from Heritage Council to celebrate the life and legacy of pioneering Irish Surgeon Abraham Colles on the 250th anniversary of his birth in 2023.

Publications

Book (while on secondment to a special project for the Vice Chancellor)

November 2023 launch of “Every Branch of the Healing Art” by **Dr Ronan Kelly** a new history of RCSI, recounting its contributions to a near-quarter-millennium of surgical, medical and societal change.

Journal Articles

Donnelly N, Linvill M, Zaidan R, **Simpson A**, Brent L, Hickey P, Masterson, S, Deasy C Doyle, F *et al*. Prehospital characteristics that identify major trauma patients: A hybrid systematic review protocol *HRB Open Res* 2023, **6**:31

Loughnane C, Joy C, Callaghan F, Ronan S, Schmidt-Supprian C, Drohan A, Ó Doibhlin D, Holden D, Harnett S, Connell B, **Simpson A**, Manning P, Derven C, & Brennan N. (2024). Advancing Ireland's Open Repository Landscape: A Strategic Roadmap. University of Galway.
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10810233>

McCormack Z, Kerr A, **Simpson A**, Keating D, Strawbridge J. What works for whom, how and why in mental health education for undergraduate health profession students? A realist synthesis protocol. *BMJ Open* 2024;**14**:e078130

Qaoud Y, Al Tali M, Boland F, **Simpson A**, Davis N. Comparative evaluation of urolithiasis management options in patients with horseshoe kidney: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Curr Urol*. 2023;**17**(3):193-205

Acquisitions & Donations (Heritage Collections)

- Hayes, Conyngham, and Robinson Limited Archive donated by Michael Shiell, grandson of Henry Conyngham. The collection provides unique insights into the history and development of pharmaceutical healthcare in Ireland and its impact in Irish society.
- J Dermot Flynn Papers donated by Mr O'Flynn's family. James Dermot O'Flynn, President of RCSI (1992-1994) archival collection, material includes correspondence, photographs and artefacts during his time as RCSI President.

MEDICINE

Professor McElvaney leads a department, which emphasises excellence in teaching, research and clinical medicine. The Department has re-issued its very popular clinical medicine book, now in its fifth edition, with added features to enable access to on line teaching videos and tutorials. The Department is developing an app which will encompass all the contents of the book and will be available for the next edition. Professor McElvaney as Head of the Medical School, works closely with Professor Hill, Dean of Medical Programmes, in driving the THEP2 programme. This programme is already showing signs of being an enormous success in the first three years and is now progressing to year 4 and then year 5. The Department owes a considerable debt to the Medicine tutors and lecturers and medical staff in Beaumont hospital, Connolly hospital, OLOL hospital Drogheda, Waterford University hospital, and affiliated teaching hospitals in Kilkenny, Mullingar, Cavan-Monaghan, Navan and Enniskillen for their tremendous contribution to teaching and examining throughout the year.

Professor McElvaney continues his work in the areas of CF and AATD. A new unit for rare lung diseases encompassing CF and AATD, with 20 in-patient beds and ancillary services has been commissioned in Beaumont hospital and the foundations have been laid with opening of the unit expected within the next year. The group is at the forefront of new clinical trials in AATD, specifically aerosolization of AAT, intravenous administration of recombinant AAT, gene therapy, DNA and RNA base editing, many of which are run through the clinical research centre (CRC) in Beaumont hospital. The group has received significant funding this year from the National Institutes of Health (NIH, USA), North American Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Alpha 1 Foundation US, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) and the Health Research Board. Professor McElvaney has been appointed Associate editor of the Journal of COPD and is on the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Respiratory Critical Care Medicine.

Dr Tomás Carroll is Senior Scientist in the Department of Medicine and runs the National Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency (AATD) targeted detection program and coordinates the Irish AATD registry, one of the largest of its kind in Europe. He is an active researcher in the field of genetic lung disease and a senior lecturer in RCSI. He teaches in the MSc in Technologies and Analytics in Precision Medicine and the Cell Signalling and Molecular Medicine module, a pan-institutional educational module for post-graduate students. He has been appointed chair of a US task force tasked with repurposing diagnostic nomenclature in AATD.

Dr Mark Murphy is a scientist/lecturer in the Department of Medicine. His work focusses on inflammatory lung disease and has resulted in a number of important publications in this area. His work has been recognised by grants from the Alpha 1 Foundation (US), SFI and the HRB. His work on lung senescence has raised interest as a therapeutic option attracting the interest of pharmaceutical companies in the area.

Professor Peter Branagan runs the post graduate teaching program in Beaumont Hospital which has been immensely successful in attracting top class NCHDs to the hospital, many of whom are active teachers in the undergraduate teaching program. His success rate in facilitating doctors pass the various stages of the MRCPI exam is unparalleled and has played a major role in Beaumont's ability to attract the highest grade NCHDs.

Dr Muirne Spooner has spearheaded novel teaching methods in the undergraduate teaching programme in the Department of Medicine. In addition to her work on educational technology, assessment and teacher education she has published in the areas of feedback, inter-professional learning and the challenges and opportunities associated with the emergence of artificial intelligence. She has spearheaded the school of Medicine self-assessment review, encompassing quality improvement planning and internal quality review.

Professor David Williams spearheads the Department's efforts in the preparation of students for the Prescribing Safety Assessment (PSA) exam and heads up the Department teaching in SC1. He has been mainly responsible for the streamlining of evaluations within SC1 and this has been of major importance in developing plans for the implementation of THEP2 in year 4 for 2025/26. In addition to leading out prescribing teaching throughout the Medical school, Prof Williams continues his active research programme in stroke, medication safety and patient safety, also playing a leading role in the provision of care to patients at the ESO accredited Comprehensive stroke Centre at Beaumont Hospital.

Professor Mark Sherlock is a Professor of Medicine in the RCSI and Consultant Endocrinologist in Beaumont Hospital. His main research and clinical interests are pituitary and adrenal diseases and salt and water balance. He has a number of MD and PhD students who are funded by the HRB/Wellcome Trust ICAT, RCSI STAR MD and Charitable Infirmary Trust. He is the national lead for the European Endocrine Rare Disease Network (ENDO-ERN). He is a member of the Education Committee of the European Society for Endocrinology and a member of the Executive Board of the International Society for Endocrinology.

Professor Richard Costello's airways research group, INCA, has continued its high productivity, including a recent paper in Lancet Respiratory Medicine. Professor Costello founded a spin-out company Phyxium, in 2023, and licensed technologies to Dublin-based digital company S3 Connected Health and the large international company Vitalograph. He founded the European Respiratory Chanel, viewed by over 40,000 specialist it is the first society digital innovation in education. As chair of education at the European Respiratory Society he was responsible for the 2023 Congress, an annual meeting attended by 20,000 respiratory specialists. He runs a national Muscular Dystrophy clinic and leads the National Severe asthma program. Professor Costello is an Associate Editor of the IEEE Journal.

The 2023 Sheppard Prize was won by Dr William Duggan and the 2023 Shane O'Neill medal by Izabela Cymer (these prizes were sponsored by AstraZeneca). 2023 Paul O'Connell award for best non-RCSI affiliated clinical teacher in Medicine was won by Dr Stephanie Denieffe.

Staff List

Professor & Head of Department

Noel G McElvaney MB, BCh, BAO, DSc, FRCPI, FRCPC, MRIA

Professors

Mark Sherlock MB, BCh, BAO, LRCP&SI

Richard Costello MB, MD, FRCPI

David Williams MB, BCh U Dubl, MRCPI

Peter Conlon MB, BCh, BAO, DMed, MRCPI, FRCPI

Senior Lecturers

Tomás Carroll

Muirne Spooner

Honorary Senior Lecturers

Margaret Boland

Nicholas Young

Lecturers

Suzanne Roche

Mark Murphy

Clinical Lecturers and Tutors

Abhishek Pallippattu

Agnes Jonsson

Ahmed Abed

Alexander Robin

Candice Fraser

Cathal Delaney

Ciaran Reinhardt

Conor O'Brien

Daire Lee

Daniel Fraughen

Elizabeth Dolan

Emma Farrell

Hayley Briody

Izabella Orban

James Lalor O'Neill

Jorin Bejleri

Katie De Jong
Liah Mc Elligott
Malcolm Herron
Mandira Rajan
Maria Batool
Mohamed Elhassan
Niall O' Connell
Nicole Cosgrave
Nora Al- Shawee
Renessa Williams
Robert Trueick
Sean Maher
Shodan Osman
Stephanie Ryan
Vanessa Farnan

Honorary Lecturer

Himanshu Rai
Lisa Loughney
Madeleine O'Rourke

Post-Doctoral Researchers

Emma Leacy
Rebecca Fitzgerald

Administrators

Siobhan Murray – Professor Gerry McElvaney
Maureen Ryan – Professor Richard Costello
Claire Stanton – Tutors and Lecturers

Honorary Clinical Professors

Clare Fallon, Consultant Geriatrician, Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar
Dubhfeasa Slattery, Consultant Respiratory Paediatric Physician, Children's University Hospital
Garry Courtney, Consultant Physician , St Luke's General Hospital Kilkenny
James Hayes, Consultant Physician/Clinical Director, Cavan Monaghan Hospital
Jim O'Neill, Consultant Cardiologist, Connolly Hospital
John Hurley, Group CEO and Master, Mater Misericordiae Hospital
John McDermott, Consultant Endocrinologist, Connolly Hospital
Mahen Varma, Consultant Cardiologist, South West Acute Hospital
Norman Delanty, Consultant Neurologist, Beaumont Hospital
Richard Farrell, Clinical Lead and Consultant Gastroenterologist, Connolly Hospital
Riona Mulcahy, Consultant Geriatrician , University Hospital Waterford
Shane O'Neill, Consultant Respiratory Physician , Beaumont Hospital

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Barry Moynihan, Consultant Geriatrician, Beaumont Hospital
Blanaid Hayes, Consultant Occupational Physician, Beaumont Hospital
Brendan McAdam, Consultant Cardiologist, Beaumont Hospital
Brian O'Neill, Consultant Radiation Oncologist, St Luke's Radiation Oncology Network
Cedric Gunaratnam, Consultant Respiratory Physician, Beaumont Hospital
Ciaran Donegan, Consultant Physician in General & Geriatric Medicine, Beaumont Hospital
Claire Smyth, Consultant Gastroenterologist and General Physician, Connolly Hospital
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Dan Healy, Consultant Neurologist, Beaumont Hospital
Declan De Freitas, Consultant Nephrologist and Transplant Physician, Beaumont Hospital
Diarmuid Smith, Consultant Endocrinologist, Beaumont Hospital
Dominic O'Brannigan, Consultant in Palliative Care Medicine, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda
Donough Howard, Consultant Rheumatologist, Beaumont Hospital
Dorothy Ryan, Consultant Respiratory Physician
Eavan McGovern, Consultant Neurologist, Beaumont Hospital
Emmet O'Brien, Consultant Respiratory Physician, Beaumont Hospital
Eoin Judge, Consultant Respiratory and General Physician, Connolly and Beaumont Hospital
Ezzat Elhassadi, Consultant Haematologist, University Hospital Waterford
Frances Dockery, Consultant Physician, Beaumont Hospital
Frank Murray, Consultant Gastroenterologist, Beaumont Hospital
Frank Walker, Consultant Nephrologist, University Hospital Waterford
Gabor Szeplaki, Head of Cardiac Electrophysiology / Cardiology Consultant, Mater Private
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Imran Sulaiman, Consultant Respiratory Physician, Beaumont Hospital
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Liam Cormican, Consultant Respiratory and General Internal Medicine Physician, Connolly Hospital
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Linda Brewer, Consultant Geriatrician, Beaumont Hospital
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Arveen Jeyaseelan, Registrar, University Hospital Waterford
Brendan Phelan, SHO, University Hospital Waterford
Brian Murphy, SHO, University Hospital Waterford
Brian Rigney, SHO, University Hospital Waterford
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Clare Crowley, SHO, University Hospital Waterford
Daniel Creegan, Cardiology SpR, Connolly Hospital
Darragh O'Sullivan, SHO, University Hospital Waterford
David Jackson, Registrar, University Hospital Waterford
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Edmond Morrissey, SHO, University Hospital Waterford
Eimear Connolly, Specialist Registrar, University Hospital Waterford
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Emily Buckley, Specialist Registrar, University Hospital Waterford
Evelyn Lynn, Specialist Registrar, University Hospital Waterford
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Jasim Usmar Khan, SHO, University Hospital Waterford
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Kasun Samarasinghe, SHO, University Hospital Waterford
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Maria Walsh, Specialist Registrar, University Hospital Waterford
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Mekki Hassan, Registrar, University Hospital Waterford
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Mohammed Khairul Nazri, Registrar, University Hospital Waterford
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Publications

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MOLECULAR MEDICINE

Overview

Professor Bryan Hennessy, Dr Sinead Toomey and their research teams are particularly interested in translation oncology research. Their research includes studies on ovarian, breast, pancreatic, colorectal and lung cancer.

Over the past year, 3 undergraduate research placements and 1 summer studentship have been supported in the Department of Molecular Medicine in addition to researchers from the departments of Pathology, Anaesthesia & Critical Care, Surgery, Medicine, PBS and Physiology & Medical Physics who work full-time in these research labs.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Professor Bryan Hennessy is a reviewer of the National Oncology Treatment Guidelines for the Irish National Cancer Control Programme supporting safe, evidence-based and cost-effective cancer treatment for all Irish cancer patients.

Dr Sinead Toomey participated on the scientific evaluation committee for the French National Cancer Institute (INCa) funding call for "Biology and Basic Sciences for Cancer Research 2024"

Staff List

Interim Head of Department

Fergal O'Brien PhD, FAS, FEAMBES, CEng, FIEI, MRIA

Professor

Bryan T Hennessy MD, MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI

Emeritus Professor

Brian J Harvey PhD, HDR, MAE, MRIA, DSc (honoris causa), Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Merite, Chevalier des Palmes Académiques

Lecturer

Sinead Toomey BSc, PhD

Research Assistant

Lucy Kirwan BSc

Laboratory Manager

Olive McCabe BSc, Grad Dip (Tox), PhD

Department Operations Administrator
Lorraine Nolan Daly Grad Dip (ICM), MSc

Researchers

1 Post-doctoral researcher, 4 MD researchers

Higher Degrees

Prior Lisa, Combination of the PI3K inhibitor Copanlisib with HER2 directed agents Trastuzumab and Trastuzumab-Emtansine (T-DM1) in patients with advanced HER2 positive breast cancer. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Publications

Cosgrove N, Eustace AJ, O'Donovan P, Madden SF, Moran B, Crown J, Moulton B, Morris PG, Grogan L, Breathnach O, Power C. Predictive modelling of response to neoadjuvant therapy in HER2+ breast cancer. *NPJ Breast Cancer*. 2023 Sep 27;9(1):72.

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Tinsley E, Bredin P, Toomey S, Hennessy BT, Furney SJ. KMT2C and KMT2D aberrations in breast cancer. *Trends in Cancer*. 2024 Mar 6.

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Bryan Hennessy/Sinead Toomey: An investigation of the utility of exhaled breath condensate to detect sub-clonal mutations in early stage lung adenocarcinoma. HRCI-HRB-2020-023, Health Research Board/Breakthrough Cancer Research, November 2020, €227,622

Bryan Hennessy/Sinead Toomey: Molecular evolution of metastatic HER2-positive breast cancer. ILP-POR-2019-006 Health Research Board, August 2019, €369,001.75

Bryan Hennessy: North Eastern Cancer Research & Education Trust 2022. NECRET/RCSI/2/2022 Private Donor, May 2022, €64,706

Bryan Hennessy: Single arm phase 2 trial of neoadjuvant trastuzumab deruxtecan (T-DXd) with response-directed definitive therapy in early stage HER2-positive breast cancer: a cytotoxic chemotherapy-sparing approach to curative-intent treatment (Shamrock Study). RCSI-MD-20226, RCSI StAR MD Programme, Feb 2022, €20,000

Bryan Hennessy: Single cell analysis in tumour evolution in response to therapy. BH-NECRET-2024-2028. Private Donor, Dec 2023, €22,000

Bryan Hennessy: NECRET, Private Donor, June 2018, €385,810

Bryan Hennessy: Lung Cancer Research: NECRET-RCSI-2023, Private Donor, September 2023, €70,848

Bryan Hennessy: Investigating the Role of Histone-Lysine N-Methyltransferase 2C (KMT2C) and Histone-Lysine N-Methyltransferase 2D (KMT2D) Mutations in Breast Cancer Pathogenesis, Germlines, and Therapeutics. RCSI-MD-202210, RCSI StAR MD Programme, Jul 2022, €20,000

Bryan Hennessy: NECRET Medical Oncology Researcher Costs, BH-NECRET_2023, Private Donor, May 2023, €59,877

Bryan Hennessy: In vitro and in vivo studies of copanlisib with chemoradiotherapy in rectal cancer and identification of biomarkers of response to NACRT using translational samples from the CTRL-IE 12-38 TRI-LARC study, SLICR 03-2016, St Lukes Institute of Cancer Research, Mar 2020, €330,000

Bryan Hennessy: Determination of Molecular Mechanisms of resistance to cancer therapies, DIFA-2018-012, Private Donor, Nov 2021, €20,669

Bryan Hennessy: North Eastern Cancer Research & Education Trust, NECRET/RCSI/2/2021, Private Donor, Nov 2021, €112,274

Bryan Hennessy: Detection of the EGFR T790M mutation in Exhaled Breath Condensate, DIFA-2018-012, Health Research Board / HRB, 13 Dec 2018, €998,319

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

Overview

The RCSI School of Nursing and Midwifery is the largest provider of postgraduate nursing education in Ireland. Our programmes are tailored to meet the educational needs of nurses and midwives working in the current health service. All of our programmes are delivered with a blend of classroom attendance and technology enhanced learning. We aim to maximise our students' engagement and make learning as accessible as possible. Wounds research is the flagship area of expertise in the School of Nursing & Midwifery, evidenced by the Skin, Wounds and Trauma (SWaT) Research Centre, led by Head of School, Professor Zena Moore. The School houses methodological expertise in the areas of qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods research. The School also has a long-standing track record in the successful completion of clinically focused systematic reviews. In relation to research funding, the School has attracted funding from national and international funding agencies and industry, all of which is geared towards clinical research with a clear patient outcome focus. Dissemination is a central component of the School's overall research strategy; staff and students are regular contributors to national and international nursing and healthcare conferences and publish in high-impact factor peer-reviewed journals.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Key Staff Appointments

Tom O'Connor – appointment to full professor
Declan Patton – appointment to full professor
Lone Skoubo Bertelsen – appointment as Research Programme Manager SWaT Research Centre
Helen Strapp – appointment as Nurse Tutor
Sorcha Byrne – appointment as Nurse Tutor
Liane Teixeira – appointment as Lecturer
Hannah Wilson – appointment as StAR Lecturer
Didi Moore – appointment as SWaT Research Administrator

Staff List

Professor, Head of School & Director of SWaT Research Centre

Zena Moore PhD, MSc (Leadership in Health Professionals Education), MSc (Wound Healing & Tissue Repair), FFNMRCIS, PG Dip, Dip First Line Management, RGN

Professor, Director of Academic Affairs & Deputy Head of School

Tom O'Connor RGN RNT Dip Nur, BSc, MSc Ad Nursing, PG Dip Ed, EdD

Professor & Director of Nursing & Midwifery Research & Deputy Director of SWaT Research Centre

Declan Patton PhD, MSc, PGCRM, PGDipEd, BNS(Hons), RNT, RPN

Deputy Director of Academic Affairs & Senior Lecturer

Chanel Watson RGN, MSc, FFNMRCIS, PG Dip Health Professions Education, EdD

Programme Director & Senior Lecturer

Linda Nugent PhD, MSc Advancing Nursing Practice, FFNMRCIS, PG Dip Ed, RGN, BSc

Programme Director & Lecturers

Aglecia Budri PhD, PG Diploma Health Professions Education, BSc, RGN

Bridget Murray EdD, MSc (Nursing), PG Dip (Resp), PG Dip (CHSE), HDip (ICU), BSc (Nursing), RGN, RNT, FFNMRCIS

Jarlath Varley RGN, RNP, RANP, PG Dip, MSc, PhD: FFNMRCIS

Liane Teixeira PhD, MSc, BSc

Sherly George PhD, MSc, PGDip Health Professions Education, BSc (Hons) Nursing, FFNMRCIS, RGN

Pinar Avsar PhD, MSc, RGN, BSc, HPEC PG Dip in Health Professions Education

Rosemarie Derwin RGN, RNT, BSc, PG Dip Haematology Nursing, MSc, PhD

Vishnu Renjith RN, MSN, PhD, FRSPH, FFNMRCIS, CLTHE

StAR Lecturer

Hannah Wilson PhD, MSc, BSc, RGN, PG Diploma

Nurse Tutors & Lecturers

Sorcha Byrne BSc, PG Dip Orthopaedics, MSc, PhD
Comfort Chima PG Dip Public Health, BSc Nursing, MSc Nursing, PG Dip Clinical Health Science Education, Dip Nursing, Dip Midwifery
Helen Strapp RSCN, RGN, RNP, RANP
Niamh Rohan MHSc (Specialist Nursing), FFNMRC SI, PG Dip (Nursing Education), PG Dip (Oncology Nursing), BNS, RGN, RNT

Professional Staff

Lone Bertelsen, Research Programme Manager, SWaT Research Centre, MSc, PhD
Deirdre Moore, Research Administrator, SWaT Research Centre
Mary Comiskey, Education Projects Officer, BA Management (Hons), MBA
Rosie Brady, Operations Manager, BA, PG Cert Counselling
Vivienne Rooney, Programme Coordinator, BA Marketing
Cassandra Kelly, Programme Coordinator, BSc Psychology, Dip Counselling, MSc Psychology
Kayleigh Hoare, Programme Coordinator, BA Geography & Sociology
Anne-Marie Kirby, Programme Coordinator
Frank Bourke, Education Technologist

Staff Awards

Dr Chanel Watson appointed Vice President for Omega Epsilon At-Large Irish Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, 2023

Dr Aglecia Budri, EPUAP 2023 Project selected for the Excellence in Education Awards (travel grant €500)

Dr Pinar Avsar, Bronze Award "Pressure Ulcer Care," Journal of Wound Care Awards, 2023

ERASMUS

Outward Staff teaching mobility:

Laurea University Finland, Dr Denise Blanchfield, ANP and Prescribing programme

Inward Staff teaching mobility:

Istanbul University, Dr Yasemin Uslu, Reflection module

Laurea University Finland, Dr Jonna Suominen and Dr Tiina Mäkelä

External Examinerships

Dr Rosemarie Derwin, External Examiner for the Integrated Master of Science (MSc) in Nursing programme, School of Health and Social Care at the University of Essex.

Dr Rosemarie Derwin, External Examiner, Post Graduate level 9 Programme -Safeguarding in Health and Applied Leadership and Management, School of Medicine and Dentistry University of Birmingham.

Distinguished Visitors

Ms Bruna Cristina Velozo (Visiting Scientist)
from October 16, 2023, to November 15, 2023

Professor Marla Andréia Garcia de Avila (Visiting Professor)
from December 01, 2023, to January 25, 2024

Professor Rúbia Aguiar Alencar (Visiting Professor)
from January 07, 2024, to January 17, 2024

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland review

The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI) has a statutory responsibility to approve education bodies and associated health care providers in respect of educational programmes leading to registration as a nurse or midwife. As part of their oversight mechanisms, NMBI visited RCSI to review the School of Nursing & Midwifery to assess whether the School's programmes met the standards and requirements set for postgraduate nursing programmes, and programmes leading to registration as a nurse/midwife prescriber or advanced nurse practitioner.

The NMBI Site Visit to the School of Nursing & Midwifery was highly informative and insightful. The Inspection Team commended the School for its commitment to excellence in nursing education, its excellent leadership by the Head of School, Professor Zena Moore and the level of support provided to postgraduate students. The Inspection Team looks forward to the School's growth and success in the future. A report on the site visit will be issued in due course and will be published on the NMBI's website <https://www.nmbi.ie>.

Publications

Avsar, P., Patton, D., Cuddigan, J., & Moore, Z. (2024). A systematic review on the impact of sub-epidermal moisture assessments on pressure ulcer/injury care delivery pathways. doi:10.1111/iwj.14928

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Cunningham, C., Patton, D., Moore, Z., O'Connor, T., Bux, D., & Nugent, L. (2023). Corrigendum to "An exploratory quantitative study to ascertain neonatal nurse confidence in kangaroo care provision in an Irish neonatal hospital setting" [*J. Neonatal Nurs.* 29/5 (2023) 776–780, (S135518412300039X), (10.1016/j.jnn.2023.02.013)]. *Journal of Neonatal Nursing*, 29(6), 927. doi:10.1016/j.jnn.2023.08.006

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Elliott N, Daly L, Bryant-Lukosius D, Fleming S, Varley J, Cotter P, Lehane E, Rogerson S, O'Reilly D, Drennan J, Brady AM. Exploring Factors Affecting the Rollout of a Policy on Registered Advanced Nurse Practitioners in Ireland. *Journal of Nursing Management*. 2024;2024(1):6681576. doi:10.1155/2024/6681576.

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Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Zena Moore: The relationship between Sub Epidermal Moisture and Inflammatory markers in the early identification of Pressure Ulcer damage, developing a new evidence based health promotion care package for at risk patients and carers. Grant Code: 18087/19110, Irish Research Council (IRC), 02/11/2018, €76,083.

Zena Moore: Bruin Biometrics & RCSI Skin, Wounds and Trauma Research Centre Dissemination Grant. Grant Code: 21181, Private/Industry (Bruin Biometrics), 26/03/2021, €100,000

Zena Moore: Nursing and Midwifery research support grant. Grant Code: 21490, RCSI, 29/09/2020, €60,000

Zena Moore: School of Nursing Research Seed Funding. Grant Code: 22111, RCSI, 10/02/2022, €196,628

Zena Moore: SWaT Industry Overheads. Grant Code: 23033, Industry Contributions, 19/01/2023 , €25,033

Declan Patton: To explore the correlation between subepidermal moisture measurement, epidermal hydration, pain and ultrasound, in the early detection of pressure ulcers, within an acute patient population. Grant Code: 19657, RCSI, 06/12/2019, €100,000

Declan Patton (Co-Applicant: Fergal O'Brian: Verification and Validation of the Provizio® SEM Scanner's operational claims in a clinical skin tissue model. Grant Code: 21645, Private/Industry (Bruin Biometric), 29/11/2021, €138,247

Declan Patton: The Development, Implementation and Evaluation of an eHealth support tool to enhance quality of life and survivorship in head and neck cancer patients. Grant Code: 22360, Irish Research Council (IRC), 16/05/2022, €119,833

Declan Patton: Nursing leadership literature review. Grant Code: 22550, University of Warwick, 01/11/2022, €21,250

Declan Patton (Co-Applicants: Zena Moore; John McDermot; Seamus Sreenan): Wound Assessment Using Spectral Imaging (WAUSI). Grant Code: 23056, Industry (Spectral MD, Inc), 27/01/2023 €355,249

Declan Patton: StAR Research Lecturer funding. Grant Code: 23245, Private/Industry (Bruin Biometrics), 27/04/2023, €250,000

Tom O'Connor: PhD scholarship in Nursing Education – Wounds education. Grant Code: 19658, RCSI, 06/12/2019, €130,000

Tom O'Connor: PhD scholarship in Patient Education – Post Graduate education. Grant Code: 19659, RCSI, 06/12/2019 €130,000

Tom O'Connor: Provision of Education Consulting Services for Fakeeh College for Medical Sciences. Grant Code: 23418, Fakeeh College for Medical Sciences, 31/08/2023, €88,000

OBSTETRICS & GYNAECOLOGY

Overview

Patient Services

The RCSI Fetal Medicine Centre continues to provide advanced fetal medicine services for patients of the Rotunda Hospital, as well as those referred from throughout Ireland. During the current academic year, a large number of fetal ultrasound examinations were performed at the Centre, together with screening tests for fetal aneuploidy, including the latest non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT).

Teaching

Three hundred and eighty-two students participated in the RCSI Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Neonatology clinical rotations. The academic year has increased from five to six rotations. The RCSI Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology has a leadership role in providing teaching and assessment for undergraduates at the Rotunda Hospital, National Maternity Hospital, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda, Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar, Coombe Women and Infants University hospital, St. Luke's Hospital Kilkenny, Waterford Regional Hospital and Cavan General Hospital.

These students participated as sub-interns on the hospital wards and in clinics, contributing significantly to the mission and function of the hospital, while providing increasingly positive feedback on their learning experiences.

Staff List

Professor and Chairman

Fergal D Malone MD FACOG FRCOG FRCPI

Associate Professor

Fionnuala Breathnach MD MRCOG FRCPI DCH DipGU Med

Karen Flood MD MRCPI MRCOG

Declan Keane MB DCH FRCPI FRCOG

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor

Etop Akpan MD MRCOG

Michael Gannon MD FRCPI MRCOG

Michael Geary MD FRCOG FRCPI DCH

Edward O' Donnell MD FRCPI MRCOG

Sam Thomas MBBS DNB (O&B) FRCPI FRCOG FRCSEd

Honorary Clinical Professors

Shane Higgins MD MRCOG FRANZCOG MPH (Melb) Dip LQH (RCPI)

Michael O'Connell MD MSc FRCPI FRCOG FICOG (Hon) DCH Hon

Senior Lecturers

Naomi Burke MD MRCPI MRCOG

Bridgette Byrne MD FRCPI MRCOG

Niamh Daly MRCPI MRCOG PhD

Fiona Reidy MD MRCOG MRCPI

Carmen Regan MD FRCPI MRCOG

Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturers

Gerard Agnew MD MRCPI MRCOG

Sahar Ahmed MBBS MRCOG

Fionnvola Armstrong MD

Kushal Chummun MD MSc MRCPI MRCOG

Sharon Cooley MD MRCOG

Sam Coulter Smith MB FRCOG

Conrado Cusnaider MD

Jennifer Donnelly MD MRCOG MRCPI

Murtaza Essajee MD

Maeve Eogan MD MRCOG FRCPI

Rosemary Harkin MB FRCPI MRCOG
Conor Harrity MD
Trevor Hayes MD
Mark Hehir MD MBA BSc MRCPI MRCOG
Etaoin Kent MD
Edgar Mocanu MD DM FRCOG
Sieglinde Mullers MD MRCPI MRCOG
Donal O'Brien MB MRCOG MRCPI
Vicky O'Dwyer MD MRCPI MRCOG
Neil O'Gorman MD
Nor Abdul Wahab MD
Hassan Rajab MB MRCOG MRCPI
Meenakshi Ramphul MD
Rishi Roopnainesingh MD MRCOG FRCPI
Raouf Sallam MD
Sasikala Selvamani MD
Azhar Syed MB BS MRCOG
Claire Thompson MD

Maternal Fetal Medicine Subspecialty Fellow

Catherine Finnegan MB BCh BAO MRCPI MRCOG
Brendan McDonnell MB PhD MRCPI

Lecturers

Hossam Abdelhafez MBBCh MSc MRCPI
Alfred Adjei BMBS
Rabia Batool MBBS MRCPI MRCOG FCPS MSc
Ronan Daly MB MRCPI BCL MSC
Hala Farhan MB MRCOG MRCPI
Eibhlin Healy BA MA MD MSc MRCPI MRCOG
Daniel Kane MD MRCPI
Anam Munir BMBS
Aoife McEvoy MB BCh BAO MRCPI
Catherine O'Regan BMBS
Amita Sakr MRCPI
Humaira Tabassum BMBS DOWH (Dublin) MRCPI MRCOG
Elizabeth Tunney MRCPI
Eimear Wall BMBS

Midwife Sonographers

Ann Fleming
Claire O'Rourke

Research Sonographers

Fiona Cody MSc

Epidemiologist/Statistician

Patrick Dicker

Research Phlebotomist

Sophie Conheady
Niamh Thompson

Research Staff

Zara Molphy PhD (Head of Research Programmes)
Denisa Asandei (Clinical Operations Manager)
Sirisha Bellamkonda (Clinical Research Coordinator)
Elisa Belmonte (Communications Project Manager)
Hollie Byrne (Research Assistant)
Sarah Marcu (Research Assistant)

Administration
Grace Brady
Michelle Creaven
Erica Gongora
Isobel Keeley
Suzanne Kehoe
Suzanne King
Ruth O'Reilly

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Research Infrastructure

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology research programme, which is jointly managed operationally with the Rotunda Hospital, continued to grow and develop in 2023 and into 2024. This integrated approach alongside the Rotunda with shared staffing and resources has allowed a substantial increase in RCSI's funding streams and portfolio of research studies and clinical trials.

Portfolio of Clinical Trials and Clinical Research Studies

IRELANd – Investigating the role of early low-dose aspirin in diabetes: A phase III multicentre double-blinded placebo-controlled randomised trial of low-dose aspirin initiated in the first trimester of diabetes pregnancy.

A multicenter RCT investigating the role of Aspirin in pregnancy outcome of women with pre-gestational diabetes. The project was first launched in December 2019 in the Rotunda Hospital, the Coombe Women and Infants' University Hospital, and the National Maternity Hospital. Since then, the trial expanded to include Galway University Hospital and Cork University Maternity Hospital. The IRELANd trial closed in June 2023. In total, 139 patients were recruited and statistical analysis is now completed. Results have been published in the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/38461094/>

HOME-IND – A randomised open-label trial to assess outpatient induction of labour, and compare efficacy of Propess vs Dilapan-S® for induction of labour at 39 weeks' gestation in normal risk nulliparous women.

A single site RCT to assess outpatient induction of labour and compare efficacy of Propess versus Dilapan for induction of labour at 39 weeks' gestation in normal-risk nulliparous women. Recruitment commenced in November 2020 and closed in May 2023 with 327 women recruited. Statistical analysis is now completed. The research output was presented as an oral platform presentation at the world's largest obstetric research scientific meeting, the Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine, in Washington, DC, in February 2024, with high impact journal publication expected later in 2024.

ACEDUCT – Co-administration of Acetaminophen with Ibuprofen to Improve Duct Related Outcomes in Extremely Premature Infants.

To evaluate the clinical impact, efficacy and safety of combination regime [Ibuprofen + Acetaminophen] for first treatment course for significant PDA in extremely low gestational age neonates (ELGANs) vs. Ibuprofen alone. The trial has received HPRA and NREC approval and recruitment has received the 'greenlight' at The Rotunda Hospital.

PIPELLE – Is pipelle biopsy of benefit in patients with postmenopausal bleeding and atrophic-appearing cavity?

A single site RCT which aims to investigate whether the Pipelle endometrial sampling device is of benefit in patients with postmenopausal bleeding and an atrophic-appearing uterine cavity. The main outcomes will be differences in pain scores, cost savings and differences in clinical follow-up. Patient recruitment is complete.

PARTUM – Postpartum Aspirin to Reduce Thromboembolism Undue Morbidity

The aim of the pilot RCT was to determine the feasibility of conducting a full trial to ascertain if low-dose aspirin can prevent clotting among post-partum women who have additional risk factors for thrombosis. The pilot study closed at The Rotunda Hospital in Q3 2023 with final data cleaning, analysis and manuscript writing in January-February 2024.

AI_PREMie – Artificial intelligence to prevent preterm birth due to preeclampsia while protecting mothers' lives)

AI_PREMie is an SFI Future innovator AI for Societal Good award-winning project launched in late 2020. The Rotunda has partnered with UCD, NMH and The Coombe in this project. AI_PREMie is a combination of patent bio-marker testing and risk assessment powered by machine learning that not only diagnoses preeclampsia but also predicts patients' outcome.

DIONYSUS – International Registry for the Management and Clinical Outcomes in Hemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn)

An international multicentre observational cohort study to assess differences in prenatal and postnatal management strategies and clinical outcomes of haemolytic disease of the fetus and newborn (HDFN) in cases with moderate to severe HDFN due to Rhesus, Kell or other types of red blood cell antigen alloimmunization, managed at expert fetal therapy centres worldwide.

PERIMETER – Perinatal Outcomes Of Early-Onset Fetal Growth Restriction: A Retrospective Observational Study

Aim of the PERIMETER study is to evaluate perinatal mortality and morbidity associated with early-onset fetal growth restriction in Ireland. There is a pressing need to describe further the perinatal outcomes of early-onset FGR, particularly at peri-viable gestations, to inform clinical decision-making. Tertiary perinatal centres across Dublin have a standardised approach to diagnosis and management of early onset FGR, providing an opportunity to report outcomes of this high-risk population in a local context. Patient recruitment is ongoing with a total of 1,114 included cases.

Research Communication & Dissemination Projects

Debunking the Myths - The Science behind Women's Health – Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in collaboration with The Rotunda Hospital Dublin has secured €287,000 to run a second edition of "Debunking the Myths: The Science Behind Our Sexual Health". The nationwide education programme returns in 2024 with more exciting workshops, online campaigns and new resources for teachers. In today's climate of misinformation, "Debunking the Myths: The Science Behind Our Sexual Health" will continue its mission to empower Ireland's teenagers with evidence-based sexual health education thanks to the renewal of funding by Science Foundation Ireland through the Discover Programme.

Mini-Med - Since 2015, the RCSI Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Rotunda Hospital has proudly hosted the Mini-Med programme. Led by Prof. Fionnuala Breathnach, this initiative offers 12 Transition Year (TY) students from DEIS schools an immersive week-long clinical experience. Designed for students aspiring to careers in Medicine, Anaesthesia, Midwifery, or Allied Healthcare Professions, the programme combines interactive lectures, seminars, simulated labour experiences, and theatre observations.

World Thrombosis Day 2023 - We organised an event in the Rotunda Hospital to celebrate World Thrombosis Day with the launch of our new educational materials on the prevention of blood clots in pregnancy and after birth. The material was co-created with patients' inputs gathered by Thrombosis Ireland.

Education and Outreach Activities

Research Communication - A Novel Approach – an HRB-funded online webinar where we explored how researchers and the public can actively collaborate to improve the quality and relevance of research. Hosted by Dr Claire O'Connell, speakers included Professor Fionnuala Breathnach, Dr. Michelle Flood, Ms Elisa Belmonte, and Dr. Kate Gajewska. We dived into clinical trials and projects that have stemmed from the collaboration between the public and researchers, and discussed what meaningful patient and public involvement (PPI) is, what it involves, providing suggestions about how to involve contributors in all parts of the research cycle and knowledge translation.

Research Awards

Maternal Fetal Medicine Study Day 2024. Funded by the Health Research Board Conference and Event Sponsorship Scheme. PI: Professor Fergal Malone and Dr Zara Molphy

Your Ultrasound Journey and What to Expect. Funded by the Health Research Board Conference and Event Sponsorship Scheme. PI: Dr Karen Flood, Dr Zara Molphy, Elisa Belmonte

Debunking The Myths: The Science Behind Our Sexual Health. Funded by Science Foundation Ireland under the Discover Programme. PI: Professor Fergal Malone, Dr Zara Molphy, Elisa Belmonte

World Thrombosis Day 2023. Funded under the PPI Ignite Network Festival Funding. Elisa Belmonte

PERIMETER Study. Funded by RCSI Seed Funding. PI: Professor Fergal Malone, Dr Zara Molphy, Dr Rocco Cuzilla

DIP-CARE: Diabetes in Pregnancy and Cardiovascular Assessment in the Irish Infant Population. Funded by HRCI/HRB Joint Funding Scheme 2024. PI: Professor Afif EL-Khuffash, Professor Fionnuala Breathnach, Dr Zara Molphy

Achievements

BIAS: Gender Inequality in Healthcare and Research won the Equality Initiative of the Year category at the Irish Healthcare Awards 2023

Debunking The Myths: The Science Behind Our Sexual Health Highly Commended in Patient Education Project of the Year — Non-Pharmaceutical category at The Education Awards 2023

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Whelan N, Faraah N, Lindow S, O'Connell MP. Women's views on the impact of the Slaintecare consultant contract on private obstetric care. *Ir Med J.* 2023 Dec 14;116(10):876. PMID: 38258736.

White M, Byrne H, Molphy Z, Flood K. How well do we truly understand clitoral anatomy? An Irish maternity hospital's perspective. *Aust N Z J Obstet Gynaecol.* 2024 Apr;64(2):128-132.

Invited Lectures

Education & Public Outreach Initiatives. Belmonte, E. Research Communications – A Novel Approach. March 2024

Diabetes in pregnancy Research at the Rotunda Hospital. Breathnach, F. Research Communications – A Novel Approach. March 2024

Study findings of the IRELANd Study - Investigating the Role of Early Low-dose Aspirin in Diabetes: a multicenter placebo-controlled blinded randomized trial. Finnegan, C. RCPI Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, March 2024.

Maternal Medicine in Ireland. Regan, C. Ireland East/RCPI Educational Meeting, May 2024

Oral Presentations

IRELANd—Investigating the Role of Early Low-dose Aspirin in Diabetes: a multicenter placebo-controlled blinded randomized trial. Finnegan, C. SMFM 44th Annual Pregnancy Meeting, Washington, February 2024

Outpatient Induction of Labor – Primary Outcome Results from the HOME INDUCTION Randomized Controlled Trial. Nicholson, S. SMFM 44th Annual Pregnancy Meeting, Washington, February 2024

The HOME-INDUCTION Randomized Controlled Trial – Women's Opinions on Outpatient Induction of Labor. Nicholson, S. SMFM 44th Annual Pregnancy Meeting, Washington, February 2024

Outpatient elective induction of labour at 39 weeks' gestation (HOME INDUCTION): An open-label, randomized, controlled, phase 3, noninferiority trial. Nicholson, S. RCSI Research Day, March 2024

OPHTHALMOLOGY

Overview

Our research focus is on sustainability in ophthalmic surgical care and ocular immunology and cornea disease through the Ocular Immunology Research Group. Collaborations with the Department of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences and the School of Population Health at RCSI and REMEDI at NUIG remain strong across a range of research projects. Our principal research interests are in Sjögren's Syndrome, graft versus host disease, uveitis, corneal transplantation, sustainability in healthcare and education in ophthalmology.

The emphasis on experiential learning in clinical ophthalmology remains the basis for the undergraduate teaching programme in ophthalmology. At post-graduate level, the department delivers the membership and fellowship examinations of RCSI to specialist trainees. Recent changes in the examinations have been crucial to the implementation of the run through training programmes in ophthalmic surgery and medical ophthalmology.

Professor Murphy is the Irish representative of the European University Professors of Ophthalmology Council. He is a member of the Council of the Irish College of Ophthalmologists (ICO) and the academic representative on the ICO Training Committee. Professor Murphy is a member of the advisory committee of the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) and is assistant editor of *BMJ Open Ophthalmology*.

Staff List

Professor & Chair of Department

Conor C Murphy MB BCH BAO, FRCSI, FRCOphth, MMedSc, PhD

Clinical Lecturers

David Gallagher MB BCH BAO, MCh

Denise Curtin MB BCH BAO, FRCSI, FEBO

Senior Clinical Lecturer (University Hospital Waterford)

Emer Henry MB BCH BAO, FRCOphth, MD

Honorary Senior Lecturer (University Hospital Waterford)

John Stokes MB BCH BAO, FRCOphth, MD

Clinical Tutors

Nazri Mohamed MB BCH BAO (*University Hospital Waterford*)

Emily Mahon MB BCH BAO, (MD candidate, RCSI)

Module Coordinator

Cathy Fox

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Conferences and courses organised

Professor Murphy organised and chaired a symposium entitled “*Novel insights into ocular graft versus host disease*” at the European Vision and Eye Research (EVER) Annual Congress, Valencia, October 2023.

Professor Murphy chaired the Pan-Ireland Uveitis Forum in Dublin in March 2024.

Invited Lectures

Murphy CC. Local anaesthesia for cataract surgery: case presentations and discussion. Annual Periocular Anaesthesia Study Day, October 2023.

Murphy CC. Ocular surface expression of inflammatory cytokines in GvHD and their association with disease development and clinical manifestations. European Vision and Eye Research (EVER) Annual Congress, October 2023.

Murphy CC. Diagnosis and management of uveitis. Medical ophthalmologists meeting, Athlone, March 2024

Murphy CC. Ophthalmology in general practice for GP trainees. RCSI Postgraduate GP training scheme, June 2024.

Publications

Bourke, C. M., Cummings, B. K., Hurley, D. J., Murphy, C., & Chamney, S. (2023). Isolated ocular Stevens–Johnson Syndrome caused by lymecycline in a patient with underlying ulcerative colitis. doi:[10.3390/jcm12165259](https://doi.org/10.3390/jcm12165259)

Greenan, E., Tynan, G., Collins, D., Murphy, C., Flood, M., & Gabhann-Dromgoole, J. N. (2023). Beyond dry eye: the greater extent of Sjögren's systemic disease symptoms, the impact of COVID-19 and perceptions towards telemedicine identified through a patient co-designed study. doi:[10.1111/hex.13823](https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.13823)

Iselin KC, Hjortdal J, Armitage WJ, Tole D, Pleyer U, Vabres B, Griffin MD, Murphy CC. Outcomes after reversed corneal graft rejection: a report from the European VISICORT project. *BMJ Open Ophthalmology*. 2024 May 1;9(1):e001554. doi:[10.1136/bmjophth-2023-001554](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjophth-2023-001554)

Khan, R. I., Golahmadi, A. K., Killeen, R. P., O' Brien, D. F., & Murphy, C. (2024). Image-guided navigation in posterior orbital tumour surgery: a comparative cohort study. *Orbit (London)*. doi:[10.1080/01676830.2024.2343299](https://doi.org/10.1080/01676830.2024.2343299)

Khan, R. I., McElhinney, K., Dickson, A., Kileen, R. P., Murphy, C., & O'Brien, D. F. (2024). Image-guided orbital surgery: a preclinical validation study using a high-resolution physical model. *BMJ Open Ophthalmology*, 9(1). doi:[10.1136/bmjophth-2023-001568](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjophth-2023-001568)

Thijs E, Hurley D, Cummings B, Elewaut D, Verougstraete N, Claerhout I, Murphy CC, Power W, Roels D. Levamisole-Adulterated Cocaine-Induced Mucous Membrane Pemphigoid: Case Reports and Literature Review. *Cornea*. 2022 May 13:10-97. doi:[10.1097/ICO.0000000000003481](https://doi.org/10.1097/ICO.0000000000003481)

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Greenan E, Cryan SA, Ní Gabhann–Dromgoole J, Murphy CC. Multiomic characterisation of ocular graft versus host disease from patient tears. Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital Research Foundation Grant September 2021-2024, €15,000.

Greenan E, Cryan SA, Ní Gabhann–Dromgoole J, Murphy CC. Targeting ocular inflammation in dry eye disease with novel microRNA-based therapeutics. Irish College of Ophthalmologists/Novartis Annual Research Award, 2018-2024, €35,000.

Murphy CC. Development and implementation of a National Uveitis Registry, AbbVie, 2018-2024, €84,000.

Murphy CC, Ni Gabhann J. Effect of Ikervis on cytokine and microRNA profile at the ocular surface in severe keratitis due to dry eye disease, Santen, 2018-2024, €45,000.

Goodchild C, Ni Gabhann J, Murphy CC. Profiling microRNA in acute anterior uveitis. Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital Research Foundation Grant 2018-24, €15,000.

ORTHOPAEDICS

Overview

Teaching

From September to December 2023, THEP Year 1 lectures in Musculoskeletal topics were delivered at RCSI and the delivery was organised by Dr Richard Downey. Simultaneously, he and his colleagues organised SC1 and GEM final medicine revision lectures of the Musculoskeletal course and delivered same at Connolly Hospital and in RCSI St. Stephen's Green.

From September 2023 - to November 2023, the department provided Undergraduate Education for Year 3 students in Musculoskeletal Medicine at RCSI, including small group interactive clinical sessions with floor models. The full lecture programme was available to students via Moodle, and in-person attendance at lectures was mandatory.

From January to May 2024 – Medicine Year 3 students attended for their clinical attachments at the National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh. The clinical attachments were of two-weeks duration for each student set.

Graduate Entry Medical Students attended from Mid-May to Mid-June 2024. Each set of students attended over the course of one week.

Anaesthesia

The number of SC1 Students attending for clinical attachment in Anaesthetics, again increased. The Department of Anaesthesiology at National Orthopaedic Hospital hosted and supervised these students, led by Dr Abdul Hameed Khan and Dr Omar Tujjar, Consultants in Anaesthesiology.

Research

Collaborative research continues, particularly with RCSI and Professor Fergal O'Brien, Dr Oran Kennedy and Dr Tom Hodgkinson, using the most modern tissue engineering techniques to examine cartilage regeneration. This has been collaborative with the National Orthopaedic Hospital Cappagh, as the site providing clinical material and the sophisticated laboratory processes have taken place in RCSI. This has been published and presented extensively.

The Department continues to encourage research in all areas and Mr James Cashman has developed and led a very robust and comprehensive programme ensuring continuity of research projects throughout the year.

Academic Activities

Research success has led us to a formal association with George Washington University, DC, USA, with a medical student assigned for Summer 2024 already insitu at NOHC.

Presentations

The Environmental Impact of Hip and Knee Operations: Analysis of carbon emissions and disposal costs. Arthur P. Drouaud, Peggy E. Miller, John M. O'Byrne *Presented at Orthopaedic Research Society (ORS) meeting, Long Beach, California 2-6 February 2024.*

Staff List

Professor and Head of Department

Professor John O'Byrne

PA/Academic Administrator

Ursula Gormally

Lecturers

Dr Richard Downey

Dr Nicolas Christodoulou

Dr Emily Crilly

Dr Fred Kenny

Dr Abdulaziz Mirdad

Publications

Khandelia R, Hodgkinson T, Crean D, Brougham DF, Scholz D, Ibrahim H, Quinn SJ, Rodriguez BJ, Kennedy OD, O'Byrne JM, Brayden DJ. Reproducible Synthesis of Biocompatible Albumin Nanoparticles Designed for Intra-articular Administration of Celecoxib to Treat Osteoarthritis. *ACS Appl Mater Interfaces*. 2024 Mar 27;16(12):14633-14644. doi: 10.1021/acsami.4c02243. Epub 2024 Mar 14. PMID: 38483312

Sheridan GA, Neufeld ME, Sidhu A, Kurmis AP, Kelly M, O'Byrne JM, Howard LC, Masri BA, Garbuz DS. The Diagnostic Utility of Serum Metal Ion Markers for High-Grade Aseptic Lymphocyte-Dominated Vasculitis-Associated Lesions (ALVALs) in Revision Hip and Knee Arthroplasty: An International Multicenter Study. *J Arthroplasty*. 2024 Jan;39(1):206-210. doi: 10.1016/j.arth.2023.06.024. Epub 2023 Jun 16. PMID: 37331438

OTOLARYNGOLOGY/HEAD & NECK SURGERY

Overview

The Department of Otolaryngology in Beaumont Hospital is the largest single provider of Otolaryngology surgical primary procedures in the country. We also have a separate National Cochlear Implant Department, which is one of the largest in the British Isles. Through clinical experience, research, and didactic lectures we strive to increase knowledge of otolaryngology disorders and their treatments for students and postgraduate surgeons at all levels of training

The Department of Otolaryngology is a mix of subspecialty ENT interests including lateral and anterior skull base surgery, rhinology, paediatrics, facial plastic and head and neck cancer surgery. We are the national leaders in post graduate ENT education, organising weekly national teaching lectures for our trainees, grand round video conferencing, and ENT surgical skills courses running all year round. There are 350+ undergraduate students taught every year by dedicated surgical and medical lecturers.

We offer essential surgical care for many of our allied specialties, both in malignant tumour extirpation and benign disease of the head, neck and skull base. Our departmental colleagues have leadership roles nationally and internationally in their respective fields namely lateral skull base surgery, Anterior endoscopic skull base surgery and head and neck cancer surgery.

In 2023 the NCCP designated Beaumont Hospital as the National Centre for Skull Base Cancer Surgery.

Staff List

Professor James Paul O'Neill FRCSI, MMSc, MD, MBA, ORL-HNS
Special Interest Head and Neck Surgical Oncology

Professor Rory Mc Conn Walsh FRCSI, MD, ORL-HNS
Head of Department. Special Interest Lateral Skull Base Surgery

Mr Peter Lacy FRCSI, MD, ORL-HNS
Special Interest Paediatrics, Rhinology & Anterior Skull Base Surgery

Mr Neville Shine FRCS, ORL-HNS
Special Interest Head and Neck Surgery / Facial Plastic Surgery

Mr Robbie Woods FRCIS, MD, ORL-HNS
Special Interest Head and Neck Surgery / Anterior Skull Base Surgery

Mr Sherif Mamdouh FRCSI, ORL-HNS
General Otolaryngology / Special Interest Head and Neck Cancer

Ms Anel Naude FRCSI, ORL-HNS
General Otolaryngology / Special Interest Otology

Department of Cochlear Implantation
Professor Peter Walsh FRCSI, MD, ORL-HNS
Special Interest Cochlear Implantation

Mr Fergal Glynn FRCSI, MD, ORL-HNS
Special Interest Cochlear Implantation

Mr Adrien Gendre, FRCSI
Special Interest Cochlear Implantation

Professor Laura Viani FRCSI, ORL-HNS
President, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Special Interest Cochlear Implantation

Nursing Team

Head and Neck Cancer Nurse Specialist

Ms Emma Devoy Flood BSc Nursing, MSc Cancer Nursing, MSc Advanced Nursing Practice.

Neuro-Otology & Skull Base Clinical Nurse Specialist

Ms Sarah Hogan

Undergraduate & Postgraduate Lecturers

Dr Maria Lyons

Dr Florence Ibrahim

Departmental Academic Activities

Postgraduate Otolaryngology Surgical Teaching Courses in RCSI

Lateral Skull Dissection Course: Professor McConn Walsh

Head and Neck Dissection Course: Professor O'Neill

Facial Plastics Course: – Mr Shine

Otolaryngology National Teaching & Grand Rounds, Friday mornings 7am-8am: Professor O'Neill

Publications

Alameer E, Eagan A, Scholfield DW, Woods RSR, Tuttle RM, Wong RJ, Patel SG, Ganly I. Partial Thyroidectomy with Incidental Metastatic Lymph Nodes. *JAMA Otolaryngol Head Neck Surg.* 2023 PMID: 37971746

AlKhalifa M, McLoughlin L, Zilani G, Lacy PD, Woods RSR. Multiple Meningoencephaloceles in a Morbidly Obese Patient. *Ir Med J.* 2023 PMID: 37791825

Cleere EF, Crotty TJ, Hintze JM, Fitzgerald CWR, Kinsella J, Lennon P, Timon CVI, Woods RSR, Shine NP, O'Neill JP. The role of surgery for anaplastic thyroid carcinoma in the era of targeted therapeutics: A scoping review. *Laryngoscope Investig Otolaryngol.* 2023 Oct 17;8(6):1673-1684. PMID: 38130255

Cleere EF, Read C, Prunty S, Duggan E, O'Rourke J, Moore M, Vasquez P, Young O, Subramaniam T, Skinner L, Moran T, O'Duffy F, Hennessy A, Dias A, Sheahan P, Fitzgerald CWR, Kinsella J, Lennon P, Timon CVI, Woods RSR, Shine N, Curley GF, O'Neill JP. Airway decision making in major head and neck surgery: Irish multicenter, multidisciplinary recommendations. *Head Neck.* 2024. PMID: 38984517

Cleere EF, Prunty S, O'Neill JP. Anaplastic thyroid cancer: Improved understanding of what remains a deadly disease. *Surgeon.* 2024 Feb;22(1):e48-e53. doi: 10.1016/j.surge.2023.10.002

Cleere EF, Read C, Prunty S, Duggan E, O'Rourke J, Moore M, Vasquez P, Young O, Subramaniam T, Skinner L, Moran T, O'Duffy F, Hennessy A, Dias A, Sheahan P, Fitzgerald CWR, Kinsella J, Lennon P, Timon CVI, Woods RSR, Shine N, Curley GF, O'Neill JP. Airway decision making in major head and neck surgery: Irish multicenter, multidisciplinary recommendations. *Head Neck.* 2024 Sep;46(9):2363-2374. doi: 10.1002/hed.27868

Conlon E, Fitzgerald C, Hintze J, Elhassan EAE, Sexton DJ, O'Leary E, O'Kelly P, O'Neill JO, Egan J, Houlihan DD, Murray D, McCormick PA, Morris PG, Raghallaigh SN, Little D, Conlon PJ, Moloney FJ, O'Neill JP. High frequency and mortality of head and neck malignancy in organ transplant recipients in Ireland - A national cohort study. *Am J Otolaryngol.* 2023 Jul-Aug;44(4):103827

Fitzgerald CW, Hararah M, Mclean T, Woods R, Dogan S, Tabar V, Ganly I, Matros E, Cohen MA. Virtual Surgical Planning and Three-Dimensional Models for Precision Sinonasal and Skull Base Surgery. *Cancers (Basel).* 2023 Oct 14;15(20):4989. PMID: 37894356

Hermesen M, Bossi P, Capper D, Fleming J, Haybaeck J, Martinez-Balibrea E, Nuyts S, Skalova A, Thomson D, Trama A, Turri-Zanoni M, Verillaud B, Woods R, von Buchwald C, Lechner M. The European Network for Sinonasal Cancer Research (EUSICA) - A pan-European initiative targeting a group of orphan tumours. *Eur J Cancer.* 2024 May;202:113939. PMID: 38447380

Hurley CM, McConn Walsh R, Shine NP, O'Neill JP, Martin F, O'Sullivan JB. Current trends in craniofacial reconstruction. *Surgeon*. 2023 Jun;21(3):e118-e125. doi: 10.1016/j.surge. 2022.04.004. Epub 2022 May 5. PMID: 3552581

Lee A, Woods R, Mahfouz A, Kitpanit S, Cartano O, Mohamed N, Youssef I, Marqueen K, Sine K, Mah D, Neal B, Zakeri K, Kang JJ, Riaz N, Yu Y, McBride SM, Chen LD, Tsai CJ, Gelblum DY, Press RH, Michel LS, Sherman EJ, Pfister D, Dunn LA, Ho AL, Fettes J, Wong RJ, Boyle JO, Singh B, Cracchiolo JR, Ganly I, Cohen MA, Lee NY. Evaluation of Proton Therapy Reirradiation for Patients With Recurrent Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma. *JAMA Netw Open*. 2023. PMID: 36689229

Lopez J, Subramanian T, Stambuk H, Schreyer M, Woods R, Scholfield D, Wong R, Cohen MA, Shah J, Ganly I. CAD/CAM-assisted ablative surgery and intraoperative brachytherapy for pediatric skull-base sarcomas. *Head Neck*. 2023 Dec;45(12):E61-E66 PMID: 37814997

McCauley P, Mohammed A, Casey M, Ramadan E, Galvin S, O'Neill JP, Curley G, Sulaiman I, O'Brien ME, O'Rourke J. Tracheostomy insertion in COVID-19: insertion practice and factors leading to unplanned tube exchange. *J Thorac Dis*. 2023 Feb 28;15(2):410-422. doi: 10.21037/jtd-22-896

McCauley P, Mohammed A, Casey M, Ramadan E, Galvin S, O'Neill JP, Curley G, Sulaiman I, O'Brien ME, O'Rourke J. Tracheostomy insertion in COVID-19: insertion practice and factors leading to unplanned tube exchange. *J Thorac Dis*. 2023 Feb 28;15(2):410-422

O'Neill RJ, Hintze J, Sharifah A, Garry S, Woods G, Noone A, Barrett HL, Young O, Mamdouh S, Shine N, Timon C, Kinsella J, Sheahan P, Lennon P, O'Neill JP. Non-conventional laryngeal malignancies: a multicentre review of management and outcomes. *Eur Arch Otorhinolaryngol*. 2023 Jul;280(7):3383-3392

Sexton GP, Walsh P, Moriarty F, Lennon P, O'Neill JP. Survival in an era of organ preservation: an update on laryngeal cancer in Ireland. *Eur Arch Otorhinolaryngol*. 2023 Oct;280(10):4587-4595

Sexton GP, Walsh P, Moriarty F, O'Neill JP. Age Alone Is Not a Barrier to Concurrent Chemoradiotherapy for Advanced Head and Neck Cancer. *Ann Otol Rhinol Laryngol*. 2023 Mar;132(3):275-283. doi: 10.1177/00034894221086087

Sexton GP, Hintze JM, Walsh P, Moriarty F, Lennon P, Fitzgerald CWR, O'Neill JP. Epidemiology and management of oral cavity squamous cell carcinoma in Ireland. *Am J Otolaryngol*. 2024 May-Jun;45(3):104235. doi: 10.1016/j.amjoto.2024.104235

Woods RSR, Fitzgerald CWR, Valero C, Lopez J, Morris LGT, Cohen MA, Wong RJ, Patel SG, Ghossein RA, Tuttle RM, Shaha AR, Shah JP, Ganly I. Surgical management of T1/T2 node-negative papillary thyroid cancer with tall cell histology: Is lobectomy enough? *Surgery*. 2023. PMID: 36257862

Woods R, Scholfield D, Axiotakis L, Fitzgerald C, Adilbay D, Cracchiolo J, Patel S, Shah J, Dunn L, Pfister D, Lee N, Dogan S, Ganly I, Cohen M. Outcomes of SMARCB1-deficient sinonasal carcinoma: Largest single-center cross-sectional study. *Head Neck*. 2024. PMID: 39044555

Yu VJ, Sasson DC, Scholfield D, Woods R, Wong R, Shaha A, Shah J, Ganly I, Lopez J. Hospital volume as a predictor of outcomes following pediatric thyroidectomy. *J Surg Oncol*. 2023, 128(1):16-22. PMID: 36959738

PAEDIATRICS

Overview

The Department of Paediatrics & Child Health at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland continues to lead in Paediatric education, research and the provision of high-quality research-led clinical care to the children of Ireland. Led by Professor Jonathan Hourihane, the department supports undergraduate learning across five of the major teaching sites in Dublin, at CHI@Temple St, CHI@Crumlin and CHI@Connolly, as well as in the Rotunda and Coombe tertiary maternity hospitals. Student clinical exposure is further augmented by the rich educational experiences encountered in our allied regional hospital centres in Cavan, Drogheda, Kilkenny, Mullingar, Waterford and Wexford.

In preparation for roll out of THEP assessments in SC1, Paediatrics and Child Health has launched In Module Clinical Examinations (IMCE). These are short clinical examinations, which take place during the Paediatric module. Summative assessment marks for OSCE and written examinations have been reduced accordingly. Prof Hourihane and Prof El Khuffash have initiated a seminar series, delivered in RCSI ST Stephens Green for Paediatric tutors across all three Dublin universities to build the unified identity and teamwork that will be needed to share teaching space in the National Paediatric Hospital. Prof El Khuffash leads discussion on research methodology and the fundamentals of statistics, and the tutors in turn share updates on their MD projects.

We welcomed two Clinical Senior Lecturers to the Department Dr Nurul Aminudin, Consultant Neonatologist in Neonatal Transport and Dr Fiona Ringholz, Consultant Paediatrician Respiratory Medicine.

2023/2024 was an extremely successful academic year for the Department of Paediatrics. In addition to the paediatric education provided to over 380 RCSI undergraduate students, the department supervised three completed postgraduate degrees (MD) and is currently supervising a further 11 (6 MD, 5 PhD) candidates. The Department of Paediatrics delivered invited speaker presentations at international meetings and contributed to national and international research and quality improvement initiatives. The Department also organised placements in CHI Temple St and CHI Crumlin for the Physician Associate programme.

Staff List

Consultant Academic Staff

Professor Jonathan Hourihane, Professor of Paediatrics
Professor Paul McNally, Associate Professor of Paediatrics
Dr Miranda Crealey, Senior Lecturer in Paediatrics, Honorary Consultant Paediatrician
Dr Michael Riordan, Senior Lecturer, Paediatrics
Dr Susan Byrne, Senior Lecturer and Paediatric Neurologist – FutureNeuro
Professor Naomi McCallion, Associate Professor Neonatology, Rotunda Hospital
Professor Martin White, Associate Professor Neonatology, Coombe Hospital
Professor Afif ElKhuffash, Honorary Clinical Professor Neonatology, Rotunda Hospital
Professor Séamus Hussey, Honorary Clinical Associate Professor, Children's Health Ireland, Crumlin
Professor Louise Kyne, Honorary Clinical Associate Professor Children's Health Ireland, Temple Street
Professor Breda Hayes, Honorary Clinical Associate Professor, Neonatology Rotunda Hospital
Professor John Fitzsimons, Honorary Clinical Associate Professor, Paediatrics, Children's Health, Temple Street

Department Coordination Staff

Louise Burke, Senior Department Coordinator
Grace Kelly, Department Coordinator

Clinical Lecturers

Dr Darragh O'Shea, Lead Clinical Lecturer, Children's Health Ireland, Temple Street
Dr John Joyce, Lead Clinical Lecturer, Children's Health Ireland, Crumlin
Dr Niamh Ryan, Clinical Lecturer, Paediatrics, Children's Health Ireland
Dr Sheena Coyne, Clinical Lecturer, Paediatrics, Children's Health Ireland
Dr Davina Henderson, Clinical Lecturer, Paediatrics, Children's Health Ireland
Dr Claire O'Hagan, Clinical Lecturer, Neonatology, Children's Health Ireland

Dr Sean Tamgusmus , Clinical Lecturer, Neonatology, Rotunda Hospital
Dr Lauren Murphy, Clinical Lecturer, Neonatology, Rotunda Hospital
Dr Robert Mc Grath, Clinical Lecturer, Neonatology. Coombe Hospital

With Special thanks to Regional Site Leads

Dr David Waldron, Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer, Paediatrics, Kilkenny
Dr Emma Gordon, Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer, Paediatrics, Drogheda
Professor Muhammed Azam, Honorary Clinical Professor, Paediatrics, Wexford
Professor Irete Farombi, Honorary Clinical Professor, Neonatology, Drogheda
Professor Nick Van Der Spek, Honorary Clinical Professor, Paediatrics, Cavan
Professor Farhana Sharif, Honorary Clinical Professor, Paediatrics, Mullingar
Dr Norma Goggin, Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer, Paediatrics, Waterford
Dr Dean Huggard UH Waterford, Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer. UH Waterford

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Professor Jonathan Hourihane

Invited lectures

- World Congress of Dermatology, Singapore, July 2023
- British Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Harrogate, UK. October 2023
- European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology Paediatrics Allergy and Asthma, Porto, Portugal, November 2023.
- British Society of Immunology, Belfast, N Ireland, December 2023
- PhD colloquium University of Utrecht, Belgium, January 2024
- Primary Care Dermatology Society, Galway, April 2024
- European Academy of Allergy and & Immunology Annual Congress, Valencia, Spain, June 2024
- Clemens von Pirquet Foundation Workshop, Leuven, Belgium, June 2024

Podcast Interviews

- Babytribe: Exploring Food Allergy and early introduction of Solid foods (K Muga and A El Khuffash), October 2023
- Irish Medical Lives (Irish Medical Times/ Dr C Luke), November 2023
- Allergist: Don't delay, embracing early introduction of allergens. (Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology / Dr M Hanna), April 2024

External Examiner

- 2024 January, PhD University of Utrecht,

Supervision of Higher Degrees

- 4 MDs, 2 completed and 2 in progress

Professor Naoimi McCallion

Invited Speaker

- Ventilation beyond the first few days. Scottish Neonatal Discussion Forum. Fife, 7-8 March 2024.

Supervision of Higher Degrees

- Ongoing postgraduate students: 4

Professor Paul McNally

Conferences Organised

- Organised Children's Health Ireland Research and Audit day 2024
- European CF Conference organising committee, Glasgow June 2024

Invited Speaker

- European CF Conference 2024, Glasgow June 2024
- Amsterdam MCCD Research Group, Amsterdam April 2024
- National Research Ethics Committee seminar 2024

Committees

- Director of Research and Innovation for Children's Health Ireland
- Appointed to European Children's Hospital Organisation Research Leadership Group
- Appointed to National Clinical Trials Oversight Group – Department of Health 2024

Supervision of Higher Degrees

- Ongoing postgraduate students: 2 PhDs and 1 MD

Professor Martin J White

Committees

- Irish National Delegate to European Board of Paediatrics UEMS and European Academy of Paediatrics, 2012 – present
- Member European Board of Paediatrics Examination Group, 2019 - present
- National Speciality Director HST programme in Neonatology, 2017 - 2023
- Member of SDR Committee Faculty of Paediatrics RCPI, 2017 - present
- Member of Neonatology Project Steering Group, CHI, 2024 – present

Supervision of Higher Degrees

- 1 MD completed, 1 MD pending

Professor Afif El-Khuffash

Invited Speaker

- Mother's Own Milk Versus Donor Human Milk in the NICU: Practical Recommendations for Individualized Care, Gold Learning, June 2023
- PDA Screening for the Neonatologist - International Neonatology Association Conference, Dublin, September 2023
- Early Medical Closure of the PDA, Paediatric and Congenital International Cardiovascular Society, Istanbul, March 2023
- Mother's Own Milk Versus Donor Human Milk in the NICU: Practical Recommendations for Individualized Care, Association of Breastfeeding Mothers, London, June 2024

Teaching Innovation

- Under the leadership of Professor Hourihane, organise and lead monthly meetings where PhD students and lecturers present research projects for peer feedback. Additionally, I conduct a biostatistics course focusing on relevant statistical techniques, enhancing participants' ability to analyze and interpret research data.
- Facilitate and lead weekly rounds focused on neonatal echocardiography, where clinical cases are reviewed, imaging techniques are discussed, and diagnostic strategies are refined. These sessions enhance the team's proficiency in interpreting neonatal cardiac imaging and improve patient care outcomes.
- Lead a weekly journal club with a focus on critical appraisal and research methodology. The sessions involve in-depth discussions on recent publications, emphasizing the evaluation of study design, statistical analysis, and the applicability of findings to clinical practice.

Public Engagement

- Host of "The Baby Tribe" a leading parenting podcast in Ireland with nearly 200,000 downloads. The podcast offers expert advice and discussions on parenting and neonatal care. It was nominated for the "Newcomer Award" at the Irish Podcast Awards last year.
- Actively involved in outreach activities including interviews and articles being published in the mainstream Irish media.

Exhibitions

- Gifted Fair/Art Source: December 2023
- Breastfeeding through the ages, Centre for Arts and Health, Waterford, October 2023

Supervision of Higher Degrees

Ongoing student: 1

Dr Susan Byrne

Supervision of Higher Degrees

- 3 PhD students ongoing, 1 MD student ongoing

Committee Membership

- Chair FutureNeuro Diagnostics governance committee
- Neurosciences Ireland Council member, 2023 - present
- Stroke Clinical Advisory Group member, 2023-present
- BPNA and EPNS

Conferences

- Organised session ILAE meeting, September 2023
- Neurosciences Ireland meeting, Aug 2023
- Invited speaker, European society of Human Genetics posters (Coleman et al, Ghani et al)

Reviewer

- Archives disease in childhood, ALS journal

International Collaborations

- SolveRD, Epi25k, ERN ITHACA and ERDERA

Public and Patient Involvement

- FutueNeuro engagement day (13.4.24), Dravet Day (25.5.24), Silicon republic article (May 2024 www.siliconrepublic.com/innovation/futureneuro-brain-research-sfi-ms-technology-health), clinical advisor Dravet Syndrome board (2024-present)

Professor Séamus Hussey

Invited Speaker

- ‘Surgery in IBD – voulez-vous take a chance on me or finally face my Waterloo?’, ECCO Paediatric Course, Stockholm, February 2024

Committees and Board appointments

- Appointed to the Editorial Board of the European Crohn’s and Colitis e-Learning Forum, February 2024
- Appointed to the Paediatric Crohn’s Disease Clinical Guideline Review Committee of the European Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, June 2024

Supervision of Higher Degrees

- 1 MD student ongoing

Dr Miranda Crealey

Membership groups

- EAACI, BSACI, IAAI, ASME, Committee member MiME

Reviewer

- Paediatric Research Journal

Higher Degrees

Séamus Hussey, Epidemiology and outcomes in paediatric inflammatory bowel disease. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Publications

Alsaleemi, A., Crealey, M., Kelleher, M., O’Marcaigh, A., & Byrne, A. (2024). Overcoming Methotrexate Hypersensitivity through slow infusion. doi:[10.22541/au.170669908.85888755/v1](https://doi.org/10.22541/au.170669908.85888755/v1)

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Armstrong S, Smith A, Levy P, Franklin O, El-Khuffash A. Biventricular Deformation Assessment in Neonates: A Comparison between Bedside Automated Function Imaging and Offline Clinical Workstation Software. *J Am Soc Echocardiogr.* 2023 Jun 9:S0894-7317(23)00302-4.

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Byrne S, O’Flaherty E, Sledge H, Lenehan S, Jordan N, Boland F, Franklin R, Hurley S, McHugh J, Hourihane J; CORAL Study group; CORAL study group. Infants born during the COVID-19 pandemic have less interest in masked faces than unmasked faces. *Arch Dis Child.* 2023 Oct;108(10):i. doi: 10.1136/archdischild-2022-325272. Epub 2023 Aug 4. PMID: 37541680.

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Crealey M, Byrne A. Factors influencing accidental food allergic reactions in schools and preschools. *Ir J Med Sci*. 2024 Feb;193(1):313-319. doi: 10.1007/s11845-023-03414-6. doi:[10.1007/s11845-023-03414-6](https://doi.org/10.1007/s11845-023-03414-6)

Crealey, M., de Holanda Coelho, G.L., Byrne, A. and Dunn Galvin, A. (2023), Educational tool for mothers of young children with food allergy: Randomised controlled trial. *Clin Exp Allergy*, 53: <https://doi.org/10.1111/cea.14383>

Crealey, M. and A. Byrne (2023). "Socializing practices of Irish children and adolescents with food allergy: A prospective study." *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology: Global* 2(4): doi:[10.1016/j.jacig.2023.100164](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jacig.2023.100164)

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Du Toit G, Brown KR, Vereda A et al for POSEIDON Study Group. Oral Immunotherapy for Peanut Allergy in Children 1 to Less Than 4 Years of Age. *NEJM Evid* 2023;2(11) DOI: 10.1056/EVIDoa2300145

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Book Chapter

Patel, N., Kelleher, M., & Hourihane, J. (2024). Proactive management of food allergy: Allergen introduction. In *Encyclopedia of Food Allergy* (pp. 168-191). Elsevier. doi:[10.1016/b978-0-323-96018-2.00180-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/b978-0-323-96018-2.00180-2)

Guidelines

Santos AF, Riggioni C, Agache I, Akdis CA, Akdis M, Alvarez-Perea A, Alvaro-Lozano M, Ballmer-Weber B, Barni S, Beyer K, Bindslev-Jensen C et al . EAACI guidelines on the diagnosis of IgE-mediated food allergy. *Allergy*. 2023;78(12):3057-76.

Grants

Byrne, Susan: Science Foundation Ireland – FutureNeuro (Funded Investigator). €316,000

Byrne, Susan: DS Time study (Collaborator, Clinical PI). \$250,000

EI-Khuffash, Afif (PI) Science Foundation Ireland, Strategic Partnership Programme, ELEVATE Programme for Prediction, Early Detection & Intervention in Cerebral Palsy, January 2024, €529,424

EI-Khuffash, Afif (PI) Irish Research Council, The Ductus Analysis, June 2023, €56,000

Hourihan, Jonathan. January 2024, Vitesse study: A Phase 3, Double-blind, Placebo-controlled, Randomized Study to Assess the Efficacy and Safety of Epicutaneous Immunotherapy with DBV712 250 µg in 4-7-year-old Children with Peanut Allergy (VITESSE) DVB Technologies (National Chief Investigator. Award estimated €580,000 on completion)

Hourihan, Jonathan, June 2024, Science Foundation Ireland Frontiers for the Future Programme: FLORAL study: Examining relationship of health outcomes and gut microbiome in children born during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. (Principal Investigator. Award €999,776).

Hussey, Séamus (Co-applicant) Aherne S., Establishing patient-derived organoids as predictors of treatment response in paediatric inflammatory bowel disease. UCD School of Medicine Translational Medicine Seed Fund Competition. 2023-2024, €50,000

Hussey, Séamus (Co-applicant) Bourke B, Gordon B,). Rectal outcomes in Paediatric Ulcerative Colitis (RECOUP-UC). Children's Health Foundation Accelerator Grant 2024-2025, €35,000

Hussey, Séamus (Primary applicant). Science underlying coeliac evolution: explanations, discoveries and solutions (SUCCEEDS). Children's Health Foundation Accelerator Grant 2022-2024, €41,818

Hussey, Séamus (Co-applicant) Walsh PT, . Translational Investigation into mechanisms associated with chronic inflammatory disease. Janssen Pharmaceuticals 2022-2025, €1,200,000

Hussey, Séamus (Co-applicant) Walsh PT, Ruane D, : Identifying the mechanism of action of a novel therapeutic target during the earliest phases of IBD onset in childhood. SFI Frontiers for the Future Grant. 2023-2027 €428,752

McNally, Paul. PI - Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, ENHANCE - Establishing Natural History in an Advanced New CF Care Era, 2023-2028 \$5,880,879

McNally, Paul. PI - Cystic Fibrosis Trust, ENHANCE - Establishing Natural History in an Advanced New CF Care Era, 2023-2024 £96,424

McNally, Paul. PI - Cystic Fibrosis Ireland, Sinus and Nasal Disease - RECOVER extension study, 2022-2024 €14,800

McNally, Paul. PI - Health Research Board / HRB, Clinical Research Facility - Children's Health Ireland, 2022-2026 €3,154,837

McNally, Paul. PI - Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, RECOVER - Real World Clinical Outcomes of Novel CTFR Modulators, 2020-2025 €3,188,649

McNally, Paul. PI - Cystic Fibrosis Ireland, RECOVER - Real World Clinical Outcomes of Novel CTFR Modulators, 2020-2023 €100,000

PARAMEDIC PROGRAMME

Overview

A long established and successful partnership between RCSI & Dublin Fire Brigade (DFB) for the provision of emergency medical education and training for DFB firefighters has been in situ since 2002. Currently, DFB personnel are dual qualified as firefighter/paramedics and provide an emergency ambulance service as a Fire-based EMS Service in Dublin, this is unique in Ireland & the UK.

RCSI/NUI accredit this 2-year programme as a Level 7 Diploma in Emergency Medical Technology. The programme provision is mainly in the DFB training centre and by DFB educators. Students attend the RCSI simulation and anatomy departments as well as lectures being provided by a range of invited subject experts. Programme support and educational oversight is provided by RCSI.

Highlights

We welcomed Dr Mark Ruddy to the team as our medical advisor to the programme. Marks comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience in pre-hospital medicine through his roles in HEMS in the UK and the flying Doctors in Australia.

Conferring:

Following their completion of the programme and their postgraduate internship, classes 16 & 17 were conferred on 13th December 2023. The retirement of DFB District Officer Paul Lambert, who was a key liaison between RCSI & DFB, was also celebrated at the conferring ceremony.

Class 18

This class of paramedics have now completed their second academic year and are now undertaking their postgraduate internship. The clinical placements and field internships they undertook has enabled them to complete the programme successfully. They have already been presented to the May exam boards this year and will undertake their VIVA interviews later in the year and graduate in 2025.

Class 19

This class of paramedics have almost completed their second academic year and will be presented to the October exam board. The clinical placements and field internships they undertook has enabled them to complete the programme successfully. They will undertake their VIVA interviews later in the year and graduate in 2025.

Class 20

This class started their paramedic programme in October 2023, they are currently undertaking their field & clinical internships.

Class 21

This class started in March this year and are starting their field internship following their supernumerary placements on the ambulances.

Staff List

Programme Director

Kilian McGrogan MB, BAO, BCh, MA, FRCGP, DCH, DGM, DFPP, DRCOG, Dip Occ Med Cert Trav Med

Medical Advisor to DFB - RCSI Paramedic Programme

Mark Ruddy MB, BCh U Dubl

Programme Manager

Patricia FitzPatrick MSc Ed & Training Management, MSc HPE, HDip Adult & Community Education

Course Co-ordinator

Kate Whelan

PATHOLOGY

Overview

The Pathology Department's research objective is to drive and support clinical and translational research by providing technical expertise, specialised histopathological and haematopathology knowledge, next generation sequencing and clinical interpretation.

Professor Siobhan Glavey is Head of Department and Pathology Chair at RCSI. She leads the department, which is involved in a wide variety of work including cancer and molecular diagnostics and research, multiple myeloma translational research, teaching of undergraduates and postgraduates in Haematology and Pathology, supervision of scientists in research and clinical roles including PhD and Postdoctoral Fellows. The department is involved in a number of national studies, utilising NGS (next generation sequencing) technology and liquid biopsy. In recent years, the Department of Pathology has evolved to incorporate digital pathology and artificial intelligence research into the department with the addition of specific infrastructure and expertise led by Dr Katherine Sheehan.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

In the past academic year, the Molecular Pathology Laboratory has undergone significant change and development. Within Beaumont Hospital, this department has now become an independent laboratory in its own right with its own funding model and is operating as a core facility. This facility is providing sequencing and data science support to clinical and research applications across RCSI and externally. This laboratory is an NCCP accredited laboratory and became INAB accredited in June 2023. This is a significant milestone for the department and will lead to an increase in translational genomic research, the availability of large panel testing for solid tumours and blood cancers, as well as enhanced capabilities to participate in clinical trials.

In 2022/2023, the department was pleased to support the application and successful review of the OECl accreditation process within the Beaumont/RCSI Cancer Centre. The role of genomics and data analysis is central to this accreditation process and the RCSI Molecular Pathology Laboratory was proud to be involved in successfully achieving this milestone. Work to support the OECl cancer centre continues in 2024.

In 2023, a number of key staff joined the Pathology Department, including PhD student Bronwyn Cummings ICAT Fellow Catherine Duane.

The Pathology Department was awarded an Aspire Fellowship in Molecular Haematology. This was the first Aspire Fellowship in Molecular Haematology to be awarded in Ireland through the RCPI (Royal College of Physicians of Ireland). The Fellow, Jill Coll, commenced her post in June 2023 and will complete her fellowship in July 2024. During her fellowship Dr Coll developed a NGS panel test for a large variety of blood cancers in collaboration with Queens University Belfast.

Professor Glavey resumed her role as an ICAT Associate Director. The Pathology Department was successful in supporting the ICAT training programme, with the result that a number of ICAT applicants from RCSI were successful in their applications.

Professor Glavey's research group at RCSI focuses on disease mechanisms in multiple myeloma and personalised medicine approaches. Her laboratory collaborates with national and international academic and industry partners on novel pre-clinical and clinical research in multiple myeloma. In 2023/2024, several successful research applications occurred within the group with the addition of Postdoctoral, PhD and Master's students through various funding streams including Breakthrough Cancer Research and others.

The Molecular Pathology Laboratory provides clinical NGS services in an accredited setting to 18 clinical and commercial groups in Ireland. It also provides technical expertise in genomics to researchers in RCSI and nationally, facilitating collaborative projects and innovation. Active collaborations are ongoing with Trinity College Dublin, Queen's University Belfast <https://www.qub.ac.uk/> as well as industry partners OncoMark <https://www.oncomark.com/> and Nuritas.

Summary of Key Achievements / Significant Academic Activities

Professor Siobhan Glavey

Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, (FRCPI), July 2022

Appointed as ICAT Associate Director.

Fellow of Royal College of Pathologists, United Kingdom

Member of European Medicine Agency (EMA).

Member of European Haematology Association (EHA).

Board member of MMI.

Member of Advisory Group NCCP – plasma cell advisory group for NCCP.

Member of Molecular Cancer Diagnostic Group – NCCP.

Member of and abstract reviewer for ASH.

Member of International Kidney Myeloma Working Group.

Member of International Myeloma Working Group.

Member of European Myeloma Network.

Board member of Haematology Association of Ireland.

Member of Blood Cancer Network Ireland.

Member of Cancer Trials Ireland.

Member of Irish Haematology Society.

Member of Irish Hospital Consultants Association.

Member of European Associate for Cancer Research (EACR).

Member of Irish Association for Cancer Research (IACR).

Reviewer of Haematologica.

Reviewer for Blood Cancer UK.

Co-supervisor of Breakthrough Cancer PhD and Masters Student grant with Dr Ann Hopkins “Developing a non-rodent xenograft model of multiple myeloma and its use in testing novel antagonists of JAM-A signalling”

Supervisor of Aspire Fellowship in Molecular Haematology, 2023/2024

Supervisor of new PhD candidate in Pharmacy, June 2023

Co-supervisor of a nursing PhD student at the National University of Ireland, Galway who was successful in obtaining SPHeRE (Structured Population and Health Services Research Education) Programme.

8th Haematology Summit 2023 (Janssen), Dublin, September 2023, “*Gene Expression and Profiling in MRD*”

Faculty of Pathology Annual Symposium, February 2024, “*Multidisciplinary Molecular Lab*”

Western Blood Club - Annual Meeting, March 2024, “*Multiple Myeloma in Ireland, 2024 and beyond*”

Established (Irish Multiple Myeloma Society and held the first meeting March 2024.

HaemPath Study Day, Dublin. May 2024

Multiple Myeloma Support Group, March 2024, Public Interaction Panel

Irish Cancer Society Multiple Myeloma Awareness Webinar, March 2024.

Professor Brendan Doyle

Chair, Genomics in Pathology Session, Faculty of Pathology, RCPI, Annual Symposium, February 2024.

Member, NCCP Molecular Diagnostics Advisory Group

Member, NCCP Hereditary Cancer Working Group

Member, Cancer Executive Beaumont/RCSI Cancer Centre

Dr Clive Kilgallen

Represented the IMO on the Board of UEMS at the Brussels meeting in April 2024.

Appointed to the Editorial Board for the Ukrainian Scientific Journal “*Oral and General Health*”.

Dr Katherine Sheehan

Presentations:

European Congress of Pathology, September 2023, “*Do multidisciplinary team meetings make a difference in the reporting of Dermatopathology?*” Craughwell M, Dorman A, Kay E, **Sheehan KM.**; *Virchows Archiv* (2023) 483 (Suppl 1):S28.

S. O'Meara, **KM. Sheehan**, J. Fay, T. O'Grady, S.M. Croghan, D. Hogan, F.J. O'Brien, N. Davis, Histopathological evaluation of Holmium:YAG Laser Injury to human ureter during urolithiasis surgery, European Association of Urology, 2024. *European Urology*, Volume 85, Supplement 1, 2024, Page S787, ISSN 0302-2838, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0302-2838\(24\)00664-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0302-2838(24)00664-X).

Dr Roisin McAvera

Awards:

Best early career researcher oral presentation, RCSI Research Day, March 2024

Best clinical poster presentation, Haematology Association of Ireland, Galway, October 2023

Presentations:

Oral presentation at RCSI Research Day, Dublin, Ireland, March 2024 – ‘*SKY92 Molecular Profiling in Combination with MRD Risk Profiling to Identify High-Risk Multiple Myeloma Patients in Ireland (SKIP-MM)*’.

Oral presentation at the All-Ireland Haematology Forum, Belfast, N.Ireland, July 2023 – ‘*Profiling Genetic Risk in Irish Multiple Myeloma Patients*’.

Ms Izabela Drozd

RCSI Research Day (March 2023) – Poster presentation – Awarded “Best Year 1 Postgraduate research presentation” “*Establishment of a novel in vivo patient-derived xenograft model of Multiple Myeloma on the chick embryo chorioallantoic membrane*”

Beaumont Translational Awards (October 2023) – Scientific Speaker – Shane O’Neill Medal Awardee. “*Development of a novel xenograft model of Multiple Myeloma on the chick embryo chorioallantoic membrane*”.

Recipient of the IACR EACR-AACR-IACR Basic and Translational Research Conference 2024

Registration Bursary

Presentations/Talks

BCNI symposium – 8th September 2023 – Talk. “*Development of a novel xenograft model of Multiple Myeloma on the chick embryo chorioallantoic membrane*”

Beaumont Awards – 10th October 2023 – Presentation. “*Development of a novel xenograft model of Multiple Myeloma on the chick embryo chorioallantoic membrane*”.

Launch of MM in Ireland PPI Booklet (December 2023).

International CAM conference 6th Feb 2024 Talk. “*Unlocking Multiple Myeloma Insights: Establishment of a chick embryo chorioallantoic Membrane Model for Tumour Growth and Drug Testing*”

Sahin Sarihan

Development of data analysis pipeline for large panel NGS testing of solid tumours Molecular Pathology lab, 2024.

Niamh McAuley

Launch of the “*Multiple Myeloma in Ireland*” information booklet – October 2023

HAI Conference – October 2023. Shortlisted Poster entitled “*JAM-A: a novel target in Multiple Myeloma?*”

Completed RCSI Student Leadership Development Programme – March 2024

Patrick Johnston Award Finalist 2024 at IACR conference – March 2024

Multiple Myeloma Patient Advocacy Group Presentation about my research – March 2024

Bronwyn Cummings

RCSI Post Graduate Programme in Cancer Care (School of Nursing) Lectures

1. Cancer Chemotherapy (6th February 2024)

2. Targeted treatments and Immunotherapy (5th March 2024)

Chief II Pharmacist Cancer Clinical Pharmacy Services, Bronwyn Cummings MPharm, MSc, PgDip (Clin Pharm), MPSI

Robert Cummins

External assessor of quality assessment on a number of molecular based schemes for GenQA and also currently acts as a member of their specialist advisory group (SAG).

Staff List

Professor and Head of Department

Siobhan Glavey BSc, MB, BCh, BAO, PhD, FRCPI, FRCPath.

Associate Professor

Brendan Doyle BA, MB, BAO, BCh, PhD, FRCPath, FFPPath (RCPI)

Michael Farrell FRCPI, FRCPC, FRCPath

Senior Lecturer

Clive Kilgallen MB, BCh, BAO (NUI), FRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPath (RCPI)

Consultant/ Lecturers

Katherine Sheehan, MB, BCh, BAO, LRCPSI, MD, FRCPath, FFPPath

Helen Barrett MB, BCh (NUI), BMedSc, MSc, FRCPath

Heidi Okkers MB, BCh, Dip Forensic Pathology, FC For Path

Jane Cryan MB, BCh, MRCPI, FRCPath

Jeremy Sargent MB, BCh, BAO, FRCPI, FRCPath

Linda Mulligan MB, BCh NUI, DMJ(Path), DipFMS, FRCPath

Yvonne McCartney MB BCh BAO, LRCP & SI, FRCPath, MSc, BSc, DipFMS

Odharnaith O'Brien MB, BCh, BAO, BMedSci, FRCPath

Danielle Costigan MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI

Honorary Senior Lecturers

Karl Ewins MB, BAO, BCh, MRCPI, FRCPath

Marie Staunton MB, MRCPI, FRCPath, FFPPath (RCPI)

Roisin McAvera BSc, PhD

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor

John Quinn MB, BCh, BAO, PhD, FRCPI, FRCPath

Muna Sabah MD, M Med Sc, MRCPPath, FFPPath, FRCPath, DFMS

Lecturers/Trainee Histopathologists

Three lecturers who rotate on a six-monthly basis and who are participants in the SHO and SpR training schemes accredited by the RCPI.

Chief Medical Scientist

Tony O'Grady PhD, MSc, BSc, FACSLM

Senior Medical Scientist

Robert Cummins BSc

Senior Technician - Biobank

Joanna Fay PhD, BSc

Data Scientist

Sahin Sarihan BSc.

Research Assistant

Claudia Leiva Acevedo BSc, HDip.

Masters Student

Izabela Cymer BSc

PhD Students

Bronwyn Cummings MPharm, MSc, PgDip (Clin Pharm), MPSI

Niamh McAuley BSc

Kluivert Boakye Duah, BSc, MSc

Teaching Co-ordinators

Jenny Young

Helene Duffy MA.

Secretaries

Lisa O'Reilly

Belinda Griffin BA, MA.

Visiting Resident

Michela Vincis

Publications

Barry R, Murray G, McGrath S, **Kilgallen C**, Eustace K. Immunotherapy associated Sweet syndrome in a patient with metastatic melanoma: A case report: 06 May 2024 <https://doi.org/10.1002/jvc2.445>

Carton RJ, Doyle MG, Kearney H, Steward CA, Lench NJ, Rogers A, Heinzen EL, McDonald S, **Fay J**, Lacey A, Beausang A, Cryan J, Brett F, El-Naggar H, Widdess-Walsh P, Costello D, Kilbride R, Doherty CP, Sweeney KJ, O'Brien DF, Henshall DC, Delanty N, Cavalleri GL, Benson KA. Somatic variants as a cause of drug-resistant epilepsy including mesial temporal lobe epilepsy with hippocampal sclerosis. *Epilepsia*. 2024 May;65(5):1451-1461. doi: 10.1111/epi.17943. Epub 2024 Mar 16. PMID: 38491957.

Cosgrove N, Eustace AJ, O'Donovan P, Madden SF, Moran B, Crown J, Moulton B, Morris PG, Grogan L, Breathnach O, Power C, Allen M, Walshe JM, Hill AD, Blümel A, O'Connor D, Das S, Milewska M, **Fay J**, Kay E, Toomey S, Hennessy BT, Furney SJ. Predictive modelling of response to neoadjuvant therapy in HER2+ breast cancer. *NPJ Breast Cancer*. 2023 Sep 27;9(1):72. doi: 10.1038/s41523-023-00572-9. PMID: 37758711; PMCID: PMC10533568.

Flanagan L, Coughlan A, Cosgrove N, Roe A, Wang Y, Gilmore S, **Drozd I**, Comerford C, Ryan J, Minihane E, Parvin S, O'Dwyer M, Quinn J, Murphy P, Furney S, **Glavey S**, Chonghaile TN; Steroid-free combination of 5-azacytidine and venetoclax for the treatment of multiple myeloma. Leukemia Research Foundation; Science Foundation Ireland; Breakthrough Cancer Research. *Haematologica*. 2024 Mar 21. doi: 10.3324/haematol.2023.283771. Online ahead of print. PMID: 38511268

Elhassan E A, **Sarihan S**, McAnallen S M, Dunne O M, Benson K.A, Cavalleri G, & Conlon P J. (2023). The Clinicopathologic and Genetic Characteristics of Autosomal Recessive Polycystic Kidney Disease Presenting in Adulthood. *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, 34(11S):p 935, November 2023. doi: 10.1681/ASN.20233411S1935b

Elhassan EA, Sarihan S, Osman SM, Mcanallen S, Teltsh O, Sweeney C, Mccann E, Benson K, Cavalleri GL, Conlon PJ. # 2412 Monoallelic NEK8-related polycystic kidney disease in an Irish ADPKD cohort. *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation*. 2024 May;39(Supplement_1):gfae069-0121.. doi:10.1093/ndt/gfae069.121

Elhassan E A, **Sarihan S**, McAnallen S M, Connaughton D M, Kidd K O, Bleyer, Anthony J, Cavalleri G, Benson K A, Conlon P J. (2023). An Updated Analysis of the Irish Kidney Gene Project Registry. *Journal of the American Society of Nephrology*, 34(11S):p 936, November 2023. | DOI: 10.1681/ASN.20233411S1936a

Hehir C, Calpin G, Dowling G, Spillane C, **Kilgallen C**, Hill ADK. Inflammatory fibroid polyp of the small intestine presenting as small bowel obstruction with intussusception: a case report. *J Surg Case Rep*. 2024 Jan 4;2024(1):rjad695. doi: 10.1093/jscr/rjad695. eCollection 2024 Jan. PMID: 38186753

Lyons D, Duff E, **Kilgallen C**, O'Brien O, Collins S, Eustace K. Crusted scabies. *IDCases*. 2023 Aug 14;33:e01876. doi: 10.1016/j.idcr.2023.e01876. eCollection 2023. PMID: 37645534

Krzyzanowska A, Barron S, Higgins DF, Loughman T, O'Neill A, **Sheehan KM**, Wang CA, Fender B, McGuire L, **Fay J**, **O'Grady A**, O'Leary D, Watson RW, Bjartell A, Gallagher WM. Development, Validation, and Clinical Utility of a Six-gene Signature to Predict Aggressive **Prostate Cancer**. *Eur Urol Focus*. 2023 Nov;9(6):983-991. doi: 10.1016/j.euf.2023.04.004. Epub 2023 Apr 25. PMID: 37105783.

McAvera R, Quinn J, Murphy P, **Glavey S**. Genetic Abnormalities in Extramedullary Multiple Myeloma. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2023 Jul 9;24(14):11259. doi: 10.3390/ijms241411259. PMID: 37511018

Schweikert A, **Sarihan S**, de Santi C, Oglesby I K, Kotton D N, Ozaki M, & Hurley K. (2024). Investigating the Impact of Sex Hormones on the Onset of Pulmonary Fibrosis Using Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell-derived Alveolar Epithelial Type 2 Cells. In A72. EPITHELIAL CELLS: KEY CULPRITS IN PULMONARY FIBROSIS. American Thoracic Society. doi:10.1164/ajrccm-conference.2024.209.1_meetingabstracts.a2568

Schweikert A, **Sarihan S**, De Santi, C, Oglesby I, Kotton D, Ozaki M, & Hurley K. (2024). Investigating the role of sex hormones in pulmonary fibrosis using alveolar epithelial type 2 cells generated from pluripotent stem cells. In 01.01 - Lung Science Conference 2024. European Respiratory Society. doi:10.1183/23120541.lsc-2024.77

William P. Duggan, Batuhan Kisakol, Ina Woods, Mohammedreza Azimib, Heiko Dussmannb, **Joanna Fay, Tony O'Grady**, Barry Maguire, Ian S. Reynolds, Manuela Salvucci, Daniel J. Slade, Deborah A. McNamara, John P. Burke, and Jochen H.M. Prehn. Spatial transcriptomic analysis reveals local effects of intratumoral fusobacterial infection on DNA damage and immune signaling in rectal cancer. PMID: 38709233, 2024 Jan-Dec;16(1):2350149. doi: 10.1080/19490976.2024.2350149. Epub 2024 May 6.

Worrall AP, Connolly MJ, Kelly C, O'Connor-Byrne N, Keeling A, **Glavey S**, Rajab H, Naughton P. Benign gynaecological pathology causing vascular-compressed. Ir Med J. 2024 Jan 18;117(1):891. PMID: 38259222

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Professor Siobhan Glavey. A national cross-sectional audit of Multiple Myeloma patient treatment strategies in Ireland: Pfizer (Independent Medical Educational Grant), 20th Nov 2023, €46,387

Professor Siobhan Glavey. Blood Cancer Research: Private Donor, 15th Aug 2023, €12,000

Professor Siobhan Glavey, Professor John Quinn: Molecular pathogenesis of extramedullary disease in multiple myeloma: Beaumont Hospital Foundation, 29th May 2023, €22,357

Professor Siobhan Glavey, Professor Ann Hopkins: Developing a non-rodent xenograft model of multiple myeloma and its use in testing novel antagonists of JAM-A signaling, HRB, 30th Nov 2022, €284,582

Professor Siobhan Glavey. Snapshot audit of multiple myeloma treatment regimens in Ireland: Amgen, 16th Dec 2022, €30,619

Professor Siobhan Glavey: The impact of Genetic Expression Profile on Depth of Response and Survival in Multiple Myeloma, Janssen, 17th Dec 2019, €92,150

Professor Siobhan Glavey: The impact of genetic expression profile on depth of response and survival in Myeloma, Celgene, 6th Nov 2019, €135,000

Professor Siobhan Glavey: Validation of prognostic gene expression signatures and Minimal Residual Disease (MRD) testing in relapsed refractory multiple myeloma patients in the bone marrow and at extramedullary sites in multiple myeloma in Ireland, RCSI /Amgen Seed Funding, 30th Nov 2019, €100,000

Dr Roisin McAvera: Investigating Cell Cycle & Mitotic Therapeutic Vulnerabilities for the Treatment of SKY92 High-Risk Multiple Myeloma, Haematology Association of Ireland, 1st Nov 2022, €10,000

Dr Roisin McAvera: Educational Grant for conference attendance, Janssen, 10th Mar 2023, €2,500

PHARMACY & BIOMOLECULAR SCIENCES

Overview

The School has continued to expand with the roll out of the revised MPharm programme, the new BSc in Advanced Therapeutic Technologies (BScATT), the MSc in Technologies and Analytics in Precision Medicine (MSc TAPM) and Micro-credentials.

An additional 15 CAO students were enrolled in the MPharm through DFHERIS funding support and a further €1.2M investment created a high-tech science laboratory with capacity for 142 students. Sept 2023.

Agreements were finalised to open a Joint College with Soochow University in Suzhou, China. April 2024. This new International College of Pharmaceutical Innovation [ICPI] will educate up to 1000 students across 3 programmes BSc Pharm, BScATT, and MSc by research.

PBS is also developing a Postgraduate Certificate in Pharmacy Prescribing to support the expansion of the role of the pharmacist in Ireland.

As a highly research-intensive School, with new grants totalling €10.4 million, 157 publications, 3 patents granted and three spin-out companies: Inthelia Therapeutics, OncoLize and PrOBMet.

Currently we are placed in the 201–250 category in the QS World University Rankings by subject. The year culminated in our farewell to Professor Tracy Robson, Head of School for 5 years. We wish her every success in her new role as Deputy Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

MPharm The revised MPharm, underpinned by innovative approaches, continues to be implemented with the launch of the second year of the programme and two new optional modules in Lifestyle Medicine and Sustainability. We are committed to embedding sustainability, and along with the optional module have incorporated aspects of climate change and environmental threats of healthcare in our Global Public Health Module.

BSc in Advanced Therapeutic Technologies (BSc ATT) aims to train the next generation of work place ready scientists equipped with industry relevant scientific knowledge, technical competencies and power skills. This year we rolled out the second year of the BSc programme and launched the Takeda Ireland ATT Undergraduate Scholarship.

The MSc in Technologies and Analytics in Precision Medicine (MSc TAPM) aims to provide skills in technologies and analytics in precision medicine. This was the third successful year of the programme, with students registered on both a full-time and part-time basis. The recruitment cycle for 2024 predicts further growth in class size.

Micro-credentials The MSc TAPM programme launched seven, 4-week, 5-ECTS micro-credentials. In Q1 2024, the School was awarded additional HCI funding to reduce the micro-credential cost to learners. A fully online micro-credential in Connected Healthcare will launch in Q3 2024.

New programme development The School is developing a Postgraduate Certificate in Pharmacy Prescribing to support ongoing developments in the expansion of the role of the pharmacist.

The International College of Pharmaceutical Innovation This year, following Pricing Bureau approval from the Jiangsu Province in China, agreements were finalised to open a Joint College with Soochow University in the city of Suzhou, China. This is RCSI's first international 'university to university' partnership. This new International College will educate up to 1000 students across 3 programmes BSc Pharmacy, BSc Advanced Therapeutic Technologies, and MSc by research, commencing in September 2024. To facilitate this development new academic and professional staff have been hired, with more planned. PBS will deliver 50% of the programmes in the JEI and all development costs have been leveraged through HEA-HCI funding. The BSc Pharm and BSc ATT have been approved by A&QC for delivery in China, with modification in timing of modules to enhance student experience.

Promotions 2023 - effective from October 2023

Grainne Cousins promoted to Associate Professor

July 2023 - 2024 new appointments

Edmund Gilbert, Lecturer SUDA, ICPI, China, July 2023
Sourav Maiti, Software Programmer in Data Analytics, August 2023
Daniel Alencar Rodrigues, Lecturer in Pharmaceutics, August 2023
Kulwinder Kaur, Lecturer in Pharmaceutics, September 2023
Graeme Sullivan, Lecturer in Pharmaceutics, September 2023
Ronan McGrath, Uniphar Teacher Practitioner, September 2023
Carrie Curley, Pharmacy Technician, August 2023
Flavia Genua, Honorary Lecturer, November 2023
Patsy Connolly, Operations Co-ordinator, January 2024
David Hardwicke, Commercial Lead (Enterprise Ireland), April 2024
Nikki Dunne, Programme Manager (HRB, APRO), May 2024
Alanna Drury, Visual/Interaction Designer (HRB, APRO), May 2024
Sheenagh McCarthy, Pharmacy Technician Educator, June 2024
Shauna Galgey, Teacher Practitioner, June 2024
Gemma Merlehan, Teacher Practitioner, June 2024
Alana Nic Chormaic, Technician, Maternity cover, June 2024
Gráinne Tynan, Patient Representative Researcher (HRB APRO), June 2024

Additional Roles

Professor Judith Strawbridge

Appointed to the Expert Taskforce to Support the Expansion of the Role of Pharmacy. July 2023

Appointed as Chair of an HSE committee to support the development of Advanced Specialist Pharmacists. July 2023

Professor Gráinne Cousins

Invited by the European Drugs Agency (formally European Monitoring Centre on Drugs and Drug Addiction) to join an international expert group on drugs in prisons. Prof. Cousins is currently drafting a recommendation/guidelines paper on conducting research in prison settings. October 2023.

Dr John Hayden

Appointed Deputy Chair for National Research Ethics Committee. December 2023

PBS Roles

Professor Brian Kirby, Deputy Dean of the International College of Pharmaceutical Innovation

Professor Judith Strawbridge, Programme Director MPharm

Dr Shane Cullinan, Deputy Programme Director MPharm (Yrs 1-3)

Dr Michelle Flood, Deputy Programme Director MPharm (Years 4-5)

Dr John Hayden, MPharm Clinical Liaison lead.

Professor Judy Harmey, Programme Director BSc ATT

Dr Joan Ní Gabhann-Dromgoole, Deputy Programme Director BScATT

Dr Sudipto Das, Programme Director, MSc in Technologies and Analytics in Precision Medicine (MSc TAPM)

Education

HPEC 2023 – 2024:

James Horan, Claire O'Neill, Louise Enright, Margaret Donnelly, Molly Mattsson, Michelle Korrane Scott, Daniel Alencar

Tara Hayden, Masters in Health Sciences Clinical Education at NUIG. Sept 2023 to June 2024

Louise Enright, Masters of Science Health Psychology, Ulster University. July 2023.

Novel Academic Teaching/ Assessment

The revised **MPharm**, underpinned by innovative approaches, continues to be implemented with the launch of the second year of the programme. New optional modules were developed. Lifestyle medicine combines online learning with exciting experiential learning and patient and public involvement. Led by Dr Fabian Sweeney, this module draws on expertise from colleagues in population health and the RCSI Gym. Dr Aisling O'Leary designed and developed an optional module on Sustainability, the first dedicated

module in pharmacy education in Ireland. Dr O'Leary is also committed to embedding sustainability throughout the MPharm programme. PPI is also embedded throughout the programme, and continues to grow through novel initiatives such as the activity developed by Prof Grainne Cousins to reduce stigma with drug use in the Global Population Health module.

The **BScATT** continues to be implemented, with Year 2 of the programme delivered. Further developments include an In-Place platform developed to support and facilitate the Year 3 placement process. June 2024. PPI is also a feature of the BScATT programme, and a new activity with MS Ireland was developed by Dr Jennifer Dowling. October 2023.

A curriculum review of the **MSc TAPM** was undertaken in 2024, with the revised curriculum ready for implementation in 2025. PPI is also included in this programme with a PPI in Research presentation delivered to TAPM MSc students by Dr Michelle Flood. November 2023

Artificial Intelligence: Dr Matthew Lynch has led the University's consideration of the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) in teaching and assessment, engaging with SMT and Academic Council. He prepared a statement on the authorised use of generative AI along with a student declaration which has been adopted for use in PBS, and adapted for use in the School of Physiotherapy. November 2023

New Programmes

PBS has two Pharmacy programmes in development:

PgCert in Pharmacy Prescribing – A&QC Programme Submission in Q3 2024 – intended Launch – October 2025.

PgCert in Advanced Pharmacy Practice – Business Case Evaluation Q4 2024

Professor Judith Strawbridge, Dr Ben Ryan, Dr John Hayden, Ms Christine McAuliffe, Dr Muirne Spooner, Ms Susan Butler

Professional Doctorate (Pharmacy) 4-year programme

Four pharmacists enrolled on programme with supervisors Drs. John Hayden, Frank Moriarty, Shane Cullinan, and Michelle Flood. 2023

Professor Gráinne Cousins promoted the programme to colleagues in the HSE National Drug Treatment Centre and secured funding for 3 professional doctorate candidates. May 2024

RCSI/PBS staff are involved in creating educational PPI content as part of the PPI Ignite National Network for a 5 credit, Postgraduate introduction to PPI Module. The completed module will be delivered through the different lead sites. PBS staff include Professor Judith Strawbridge, Drs Michelle Flood, Joan Ni Gabhann and Pdraig Carroll (PBS). 2023–2024. Two PBS PhD students, Zoe McCormack and Louise Fitzsimons completed the newly launched pilot doctoral module on PPI in research. April 2024
Dr Frank Moriarty with Caroline McCarthy (RCSI Department of GP) developed and delivered a series of workshops on Polypharmacy and Medication Review; Irish Institute of Pharmacy (IIOP) September 2023-April 2024

Significant Awards

Research Day Awards March 2024

Professor Helena Kelly: Commercialization Innovation Award - OncoLyse, RCSI (PBS) spin-out company.

Professor Robert Byrne: Highest RCSI Senior Authored Altmetric Score 2023

Professor James O'Donnell: Clinician Engagement Award

Dr Emily Greenan: (PI: Professor Conor Murphy/Dr Joan Ni Gabhann): Invention Disclosures (Non-PI)

Xinxin Shao: (PI: Dr Sudipto Das) Invention Disclosures (Non-PI)

Zac Kinsella: (PI: Professor Darran O'Connor): Invention Disclosures (Non-PI)

Xuehua Lin: (PI: Professor Helena Kelly) Invention Disclosures (Non-PI)

Dr Joan Ni Gabhann (Academic Staff) and Pdraig Carroll (Postgraduate): Public and Patient Involvement

Professor Steve Kerrigan. RCSI spin-out Inthelia Therapeutics spin-out company, Co-Founder and CSO Winner of the 2024

University of Pennsylvania Medical Centre Innovation Award, Future Health Summit, May 2024

Awarded the SFI Commercialisation Award for 2023, SFI-IRC Research Summit, Cork. November 2023

Dr Damir Vareslija. The Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland (RAMI) Research Award Best Paper in Biomedical Sciences. September 2023

Dr Ingmar Schoen. RCSI Excellence in Teaching Awards: Foundation Year. (2023 – 2024) June 2024

Ms Michelle Kirrane Scott. INHED Conference 2024 – Best Educational Presentation ‘The LIBRA project’; January 2024

Dr Frank Moriarty. British Journal of General Practice (BJGP) Top read paper 2023, January 2024
Pharmacy Dynamic 100, The Dynamic 100 is a network of the most influential professionals in the Irish pharmacy industry, Irish Pharmacy News, December 2023.
Professional Top 100, Hospital Professional News, December 2023.

Dr Fiona O’Brien. UK Royal College of Paediatric and Child Health (RCPCH) Award for Patient Involvement in Education and Research (PIER) together with research collaborators in the PADDINGToN Group. February 2024

Other Awards

Failte Ireland Conference Ambassador Recognition Awards:

Professor Dermot Cox, bringing the ISTH Conference to Dublin, 2018. November 2023

Dr Stephen Keely, bringing ‘International Bile Acid Meeting, Dublin, 2018. November 2023

Professor Annie Curtis was nominated for the Villa Maria Women of Vision 2024 award. May 2024
Postdoctoral Award

Dr Graeme O’Sullivan, Best Post-doctoral Talk Award, IACR February 2024

Postgraduate Award

Hamidah Ghani, Phd student PI: Gianpiero Cavalleri, Early Career Research Award 2023 (FutureNeuro), December 2023

Ye Yang, StAR PhD Scholar, PI: Niamh Moran, Best Poster Award, IAP 2023, UCC, November 2023

Undergraduate Award

Luke Sheridan, 5th year MPharm student, NUI Dr HH Stewart Medical Prize, 2023. November 2023

Precious Olantunji, 4th year MPharm student, Irish Cancer Society Survivorship Summer Studentship 2024 Programme. June 2024

Aoife Hanrahan, 4th year MPharm student, Award: Servier Undergraduate Scientific Research Award. November 2023

Luke Sheridan, 4th year MPharm student, Award: Servier Undergraduate Scientific Research Award.

Caoimhe McGuinness and Delphi Morris, MPharm Year 5 students, Joint winners LEO Prize

Ciara Campbell, Ciara Lynch, and Nancy De Mhordha, MPharm Year 5 students, Joint winners Servier – MSc Researcher Prize

Jessica Bennett, MPharm Year 5 student, JPA Brenson Lawlor

Woei Shan Ong, MPharm Year 5 student, Boots Prize

Jessica Bennett and Woei Shan Ong, MPharm Year 5 students, Joint valedictorian – Professor John Kelly

Staff Membership of External Committees 2023 – 2024

Professor Robert Byrne

- Member Governance Committee for Irish Heart Attack Audit, run by NOCA. 2021-2025
- Committee Member, (HPRA) Advisory Committee on Medical Devices. 2021-2025
- Elected Secretary and Executive Committee Member, European Association for
- Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (EAPCI) 2022-2024
- Member ESC Regulatory Affairs Committee 2014-2024
- Member, Organising Committee of TCT Connect in New York (TransCatheter Therapeutics) TCT Connect – features live case-based transmissions intrnational, late-breaking clinical trials and science, virtual training. 2022-2024
- Member of CORE-MD Consortium and Lead for Work Package One to review evaluation of High-Risk Medical Devices. 2023 – 2024

Dr Gráinne Cousins

- Membership of National Drug Strategy Research Committee within the Department of Health. October 2022 – ongoing

Dr Shane Cullinan

- International Pharmaceutical Federation Policy Committee. September 2022 – ongoing.

Professor Gianpiero Cavalleri

- Appointed to the Advisory Committee of IReL – the Consortium of Irish Research Libraries. May 2024
- Member Governance Board, Irish Platform for Patient Organisations, Science and Industry (IPPOSI) 2023 – ongoing
- Member of the Big Data Commission of the International League Against Epilepsy (ILAE) 2022 – ongoing
- Member of the Commission on Genetics (Task Force on Sequencing Data Sharing) of the International League Against Epilepsy. 2022 – ongoing
- Appointed (by Dept of Health) as Irish representation on the “Genome of Europe” subgroup of the European 1+Million Genomes initiative. June 2023 – ongoing
- Appointed (by Dept of Health) as a member of the Irish National Mirror Group for the European 1+ Million Genomes Initiative. June 2023 – ongoing

Dr Judith Coppinger

- Topic Editor - Frontiers in Pharmacology. July 2022- July 2023

Professor Sally Ann Cryan

- Chair of the executive of the Trinity Centre for Bioengineering (TCBE) 2020 – ongoing
- Member of the Executive Management Team (AMBER Centre) 2019 – ongoing
- Member of the Executive Management Team (CURAM Centre) 2020 - ongoing

Professor Annie Curtis

Member of Advisory Board for the Cell journal Trends in Molecular Medicine (TMM). July 2023

Dr Jennifer Dowling

- Appointed to All Ireland Multiple Sclerosis Research Network (AIMSRN) Committee. September 2023.
Member of Neuroscience Ireland Council (NSI) 2019 – ongoing.

Dr Michelle Flood

- Member /RCSI Representative (alternative) on NIAC (National Immunisation Advisory Committee) November 2022 – present
- RCSI representative to a National Working Group (implementation of the new Core Competency Framework for Pharmacists). Sept 2023

Dr Edmund Gilbert

- Appointment to the Irish Society of Human Genetics committee. May 2024

Dr John Hayden

- Transition of Care to Adult Services (Children and Young People) – National Clinical Advisory Group May 2022 – ongoing

Ms Tara Hayden

- Appointed as an Irish representative to the European Association of Pharmacy Technicians (EAPT). May 2023 – ongoing

Dr Ali Hasnain

- Member Editorial Board Journal of Biomedical Sciences Year 2023- 2024

Dr Kulwinder Kaur

- Academic Editor on the PLOS ONE Editorial Board. June 2024

Professor Brian Kirby

- International editor for Neuroscience Research Notes – Ongoing

Professor Helena Kelly

- Appointment to UK & Ireland Controlled Release Society Committee. July 2022 – ongoing

Ms Michelle Kirrane Scott

- Accredited coach with European Mentoring and Coaching Council (EMCC) Feb. 2023

Professor Steve Kerrigan

- Member Royal Irish Academy (RIA) Life and Medical Sciences Multidisciplinary Committee. 2022–2026
- Member European Sepsis Alliance research working group. 2019-present
- Chair of All Ireland Schools of Pharmacy Annual Research Conference Organizing Committee. September 2023
- Chair of the Irish Association of Pharmacologists Organizing Committee. January 2024

Dr Stephen Keely

- Editorial Board – American Journal of Physiology: Cell Physiology. 1999 – present
- Editorial Board – American Journal of Physiology: Gastrointestinal and Liver Physiology. 2003-present
- American Physiological Society, Epithelial Transport Group Steering Committee; re-appointed for 2nd term, April 2023
- The Physiological Society, Epithelia and Membrane Transport Section, Theme Lead. 2022 – present
- American Gastroenterological Association, Digestive Disease Week Abstract Review Committee. December 2023

Dr Frank Moriarty

- Chair, Geriatrics Special Interest Group, International Society for Pharmacoepidemiology, August 2023 -July 2024
- Chair, Irish College of General Practitioners Research Ethics Committee, July 2022 - April 2024 (member January 2018-April 2024)
- Clinical External Expert Panel member, Health Products Regulatory Authority, November 2022-present
- Member of Polypharmacy Guidance Development Group, Scottish Government, July 2022- present
- Secretary, Network of European Researchers in Deprescribing (NERD) Steering Group, October 2021-present (Steering group member. December 2019 - present)
- Editorial board member of the Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy journal. January 2021 – present
- Board member HRB-CSO Research Data Governance Board, February 2021 – present
- Vice-Chair, HRB-CSO Research Data Governance Board, June 2021-present
- Editorial Board member of Journal of Multimorbidity and Comorbidity, December 2020 - present

Dr Joan Ní Gabhann-Dromgoole

- Elected President WVERIN of the Women in Vision and Eye Research Ireland Network. June 2023 – ongoing

Dr Fiona O'Brien

- Invited to be an Expert Panel member of EU Connect for Children network. This network is a collaborative network for European clinical trials for children. May 2024
- Committee member of the European Paediatric Initiative. September 2023

Professor James O'Donnell

- Member of Royal Irish Academy (MRIA) ongoing

Dr Jamie O'Sullivan

- Co-chair of the International Society for Thrombosis and Haemostasis Scientific and Standardization Committee (SSC), Von Willebrand Factor group. 2022-2025
- Appointment as Chair of the International Society for Thrombosis and Haemostasis SSC-VWF committee May 2024
- Appointment to the European Haematology Association Scientific Advisory Board. May 2024
- Editorial board member Thrombosis Updates Journal. 2022 - ongoing
- Editorial board member Seminars for Thrombosis and Hemostasis. 2019 – ongoing
- Editorial board member Journal of Thrombosis and Haemostasis. 2021 – ongoing
- Editorial board member Blood Vessels, Thrombosis & Hemostasis 2023 – ongoing
- Grant reviewer for French Foundation for Rare Diseases. September, 2023

Dr Cristina Rudell Reschke

- Invited member ILAE Special Scientific Task Force on Chronobiology (part of ILAE Neurobiology Commission. Ongoing to May 2025
- Academic member of the Irish Epilepsy League. Ongoing to October 2025
- Invitation to join Focus Group on Epilepsy & Employment from the International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE). March 2024

Professor Judith Strawbridge

- Member of IPPOSI's Education and Advisory Group. Ongoing
- Member of INHED Executive Committee. Ongoing
- Member of PPI Ignite Working Group on PPI in Undergraduate and Postgraduate Education. Ongoing

Dr Fabian Sweeney

- Member of the ALONE Loneliness Taskforce Research Network. April 2024

Professor Tracy Robson

- Member, All-Island Cancer Consortium Implementation Group. Ongoing
- Irish Representative on National EU Cancer Society's Committee. Ongoing
- Secretary of the Scientific Committee, Irish Radiation Research Society. Ongoing
- Member, Organising & Scientific Programme Committee EACR-AACR-IACR. January 2023 – Jan 2024
- Member, Organising Committee IACR 60th Anniversary Special Session. January 2023 – Jan 2024
- President Irish Association Cancer Research [IACR] 2019 - 2024

Dr Orna Tighe

- ESP Forum (Ending Sexual violence, Supporting survivors & Promoting consent) - ongoing

Dr Damir Vareslija

- Breast Cancer Now Tissue Bank, Tissue Access Committee Member. February 2021 – 2024
- Breast Cancer Now Grants Committee. May 2023 – May 2024

Professor John Waddington

- Member of Board of Directors, St. John of God Research Foundation; ongoing
- Member of the Editorial Board of Schizophrenia Research; ongoing.

External Examinerships

- Dr Marian Brennan, External Examiner for Biological Sciences, Queens University Belfast, UK. October 2020 - Oct 2024
- Dr Gráinne Cousins, HRB interview panel for their National Health Information Systems. 17th and 18th June 2024
- Dr Shane Cullinan, External Examiner (PhD), Trinity College Dublin. September 2023
- Dr Frank Moriarty, External Examiner (PhD) University of Oslo, Norway. October 2023, External Examiner (PhD) University College London, UK. December 2023, External Examiner (PhD) Curtin Medical College, Australia. June 2024
- Dr Jamie O'Sullivan, External Examiner (PhD) Manchester University. November 2023

- Dr Cristina Ruedell Reschke External Examiner (PhD), University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio, Finland. June 2024
- Professor Judith Strawbridge, External Examiner, MPharm Programme and MSc in Advanced Pharmacy Practice, Ulster University, UK. 2022 – 2025, External Examiner for Postgraduate Mental Health Programmes (PG Cert, PG Diploma, MSc) at Aston University, 2024 -2027, External Examiner (PhD) University of Sydney, Australia, January 2024

Seminars, National/International Conferences organised by staff:

Dr Jennifer Dowling

- Convened National Neuroscience Ireland Conference in RCSI. Aug. 2023

Dr Michelle Flood

- Conference Organising Committee Irish Network of Healthcare Educators (INHED) Conference. January 2024

Dr Ali Hasnain

- Programme Committee member at VOILA 2023, Visualization and Interaction for Ontologies, Linked Data and Knowledge Graphs - 8th International Workshop co-located with ISWC November, 2023.
- Programme Committee member, International Semantic Web Conference (ISWC) 2023, November, 2023
- Irish Ambassador at 18th Annual Congress on Controversies in Neurology (CONy 2024). March, 2024.
- Chair and Organiser – 7th International Workshop on Semantic Web solutions for Large scale Biomedical Data Analysis. May 2024

Dr Matthew Lynch

- Member of the Organising Committee for the All Ireland Pharmacy Conference (AIPC). November 2023.

Dr Stephen Keely

- Co-organiser: Membrane Transport 2023 Conference, St. Andrew's University, UK. August 2023. Co-organiser: Bile Acids in the Small Intestine and Colon Online (Bimonthly International Online Seminar series) 2023 – 2024

Ms Michelle Kirrane Scott

- Organised collaborative Pfizer x RCSI Resisting Resistance: Innovation in Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) event November 2023

Dr Frank Moriarty

- Organising Committee for Medication Without Harm Conference, RCSI, April 2024

Dr Fiona O'Brien

- Organising Committee for European Paediatric Formulation Initiative. Annual Conference, Rotterdam September 2023

Dr Cristina Ruedell Reschke

- Scientific Organiser Committee for the 35th International Epilepsy Congress. September 2023

Professor Tracy Robson

- Member, Organising & Scientific Programme Committee EACR-AACR-IACR. January 2024
- Member, Organising Committee IACR 60th Anniversary Special Session. January 2024

Professor Judith Strawbridge

- Conference Organising Committee INHED Conference. January 2024

Staff List

Professor and Head of School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences (PBS)

Tracy Robson, MIBiol, FRSB, PhD

Leadership team:

Associate Professor & Deputy Head (Education)

Judith Strawbridge BSc (Pharm), MSc (Hospital Pharmacy), PhD, MPSI

Professor in Pharmacology & Deputy Head (Research)

Steve Kerrigan BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, CBiol, FRSB

Associate Professor & Deputy Dean, SUDA-RCSI International College of Pharmaceutical Innovation, Soochow University, China

Brian Kirby PhD, MSc (LMD), PgDip (HPE), MPSI, PG Dip HPE

Senior Lecturer & Deputy Head of Innovations (from April 2023)

Programme Director BSc in Advanced Therapeutic Technologies, (to April 2023)

Ben Ryan BA (Mod), BSc (Pharm), Dip (Quality Imp.), Dip (Stat), MPharm, PhD, MPSI, PG Dip HPE

Lecturer, Programme Director MSc in Technologies and Analytics in Precision Medicine (TAPM) & HoS staff nominee on Leadership Team (2023 – 2025)

Sudipto Das B.Tech, M.Res, PhD, PG Dip HPE

Senior Lecturer & HoS staff nominee on Leadership Team (2023– 2025)

Joan Ní Gabhann-Dromgoole BSc, PhD, PG Dip HPE

Senior Lecturer and Head of Academic Operations

Orna Tighe MSc (Dubl) PhD

Head of Laboratory Operations

John O'Brien MSc

Academic Quality and Operations Manager

Aurea Conroy BA

Academic Staff:

Professor of Vascular Biology and Director, Irish Centre for Vascular Biology

James O'Donnell, PhD, FRCPI, FRCPath

Professor, Director of Cardiology, Mater Private Hospital, RCSI Chair of Cardiovascular Research

Robert Byrne MB BCH PhD MRCPI FESC

Professor and Director, Epilepsy Programme, Beaumont Hospital

Norman Delanty MB, BCH, BAO, BSc, FRCPI

Professor of Cardiovascular Therapeutics

Alice Stanton MB, BCH, BAO, FRCPI, PhD

Professor in Human Genetics

Deputy Director of FutureNeuro and Deputy Head Office of Research and Innovation (ORI)

Gianpiero Cavalleri BSc, PhD

Professor of Drug Delivery

Sally-Ann Cryan BSc (Pharm), HDip (Statistics), Cert (Third Level Teaching), PhD, MPSI

Professor of Molecular Oncology & Head of School of Postgraduate Studies

Darran O'Connor BA, MSc, PhD

Professor of Pharmacology
Niamh Moran BSc, PhD

Professor Emeritus

Joint Professor of Pharmacology, College of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Soochow University, China;
Visiting Professor, Department of Pathophysiology and Therapeutics, Hoshi University, Japan.
John L. Waddington PhD, DSc, FBPhS, MRIA

Professor Emeritus

David Croke MA, PhD, FRCPATH
Ray Stallings BA, MSc, PhD

Visiting Professor

Shane Desselle BSc(Pharm), PhD (Pharm & Health Care)
Paul Gallagher BSc (Pharm), MBA, PhD
Thomas Renné MD, PhD
Derek Stewart PgCert (Tertiary Learning), BSc (Pharm), MSc (Clin Pharm), PhD, FRPharm, FFRPS

Adjunct Professor of Pharmaceutics

John Climax PhD, DSc

Associate Professor in Biochemistry, Deputy Director of Graduate Entry Medicine Programme
Marian Brennan MSc, PhD, PG Dip HPE

Associate Professor of Biochemistry, Deputy Programme Director of BSc Advanced Therapeutic Technologies (to April 2023) Programme Director BSc Advanced Therapeutic Technologies
Judy Harmey BSc, PhD, PG Dip HPE

Associate Professor in Molecular Medicine, Director of Year 1 Medicine Programme and Academic Director of the Recreation, Education and Community Health Programme
Maria Morgan BSc, PhD, PG Dip HPE

Associate Professor in Health Psychology

Gráinne Cousins BA (Hons), MSc (Health Psychology), Dip (Statistics), PhD, PG Dip HPE

Associate Professor in Pharmacology

Dermot Cox BSc, PhD, PG Dip HPE

Associate Professor of Immunology

Annie Curtis PhD, PG Dip HPE

Associate Professor in Pharmacy

Helena Kelly BSc (Pharm), Dip (Quality Improvement), PhD, MPSI

Senior Lecturers

Judith Coppinger PhD, PG Dip HPE
Shane Cullinan BPharm, PhD, MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Michelle Flood BSc (Pharm), MSc (Healthcare Manag), Cert (UX design), PhD, MPSI, PG Dip HPE
John Hayden BPharm, MPharm, Dip (Hosp Clin Pharm), PhD, MPSI, Prod Cert (Gov), PG Dip HPE
Sam Maher BSc (Hons), PhD
Frank Moriarty BSc (Pharm), MPharm, PhD, MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Fiona O'Brien BSc (Hons), MSc (Medical Genetics), PhD, Cert (Leadership), PG Dip HPE
Aisling O'Leary BSc (Pharm), PhD, MPSI
Sarah O'Neill BSc, DipAppPhys, PhD, PG Dip HPE
Roger Preston BSc, PhD, PG Dip HPE
Stephen Keely PhD, PG Dip HPE

Lecturer, Governance role, QEO Office 50/50

Matthew Lynch BSc (Pharm), MSc (Commun Pharm Practice), DGov, Dip (Legal Stud), MPSI, PG Dip HPE

Lecturers

Daniel Alencar Rodrigues PhD, PG Dip HPE
Stephanie Annett MPharm, PhD, MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Rob Argent BSc (Hons) Physio, PhD, PG Dip HPE
Katherine Benson BSc (Hons) Genetics, PhD, PG Dip HPE
Chiara De Santi BSc, MSc, PhD, PG Dip HPE
Jennifer Dowling PhD, PG Dip HPE
Sarinj Fattah PhD, PG Dip HPE (maternity cover)
Edmund Gilbert, PhD, PG Dip HPE
Alice Holton BSc (Pharm), MPharm, MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Ciaran Kelly, BSc (Hons) Human Genetics, PhD
Kulwinder Kaur, PhD
Valeria Limapassos BSc, MPhil, PhD
Gemma O'Connor MPharm, PhD, MPSI
Cian O'Leary BPharm, MPharm, PhD, MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Jamie O'Sullivan PhD, PG Dip HPE
Ingmar Schoen PhD, PG Dip HPE
Graeme Sullivan PhD,
Fabian Sweeney, PhD, MPSI, PG Dip HPE,
Damir Vareslija PhD, PG Dip HPE

Lecturer & Academic Director for International Citizenship Award

Cristina Ruedell Reschke BSc Pharm, MSc, PhD, Cert (Leadership), PG Dip HPE

Honorary Lecturer

Flavia Genua, PhD

Practice Educators

James Horan BSc (Pharm) MPharm, MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Anne Teresa Morgan BSc (Pharm), C.Dip (Comm Pharm), MPSI

Teacher Practitioners

Margaret Donnelly BSc (Pharm), MPharm, MSc (Clinical Pharm), MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Shaunagh Galgey MPharm, MPSI
Louise Fitzsimons BSc (Pharm), MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Michelle Kirrane Scott MPharm, MSc Clinical Pharmacy, MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Gemma Merlehan MPharm, MPSI
Christine McAuliffe MPharm, PgDip (Adv. Pharm Practice) MSc (Clin Pharm), PG Dip HPE, MPSI
Sinead McGonagle BSc (Pharm), MPharm, PG Dip HPE, MPSI

Boots Teacher Practitioner

Clare O'Neill BSc, MPSI, PG Dip HPE

Uniphar Teacher Practitioner

Ronan McGrath MPharm, MPSI

Project Manager for the HEA/HCI Programme

Susan Butler BA (Mod), MSc. Project Management

Programme Manager, SUDA-RCSI Int. College of Pharmaceutical Innovation, Jan 2023

Ceara Cooper BSc Mgmt, PG Dip Stats, MPhil, IPMA-D

Programme Manager (HRB APRO),

Nikki Dunne BSocSc MSc PhD

Marketing and Recruitment Lead for the HEA/HCI Programme

Laura Colon-McKenna BComm, MScMDP

Commercial Lead (Enterprise Ireland)
David Hardwicke BSc, MSc

Visual/Interaction Designer (HRB APRO)
Alanna Drury BA [Hons] in Visual Communication Design

Patient Representative Researcher (HRB APRO)
Gráinne Tynan BSc

Learning Technologist
Kevin Redmond B.Eng, B.Sc. PGCE

Software Programmer in Data Analytics
Sourav Maiti, B.E., MEng

Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing Specialists
John Alexander BSc (Biol), MSc (Bacteriology)
Oliver Fay BE (Hons), Chem Eng., MSc Prod. Design

Pharmacy Technician Educators
Louise Enright B.A. (Psych), MPsychSc., PG Dip HPE
Tara Hayden B.Ed. (Hons), Dip Pharm Tech, PG Dip HPE

Senior Technicians
Sophie Cassidy BSc
Seamus McDonald MSc
Colin McElduff BA (Hons), Dip (Science Lab Tech)
Jim Slattery Cert, Dip (Science Lab Tech)

Laboratory Technicians
Carrie Currie
Emma Halpin BSc (Hons)
Sarah Lynch PhD
Alana Nic Chormaic BSc

Clinical Research Fellows
Einas Elsheikh (iPATH)
Lauran McGovern BComm, MScMDP

Clinical Geneticist
Marie T. Greally MB, MSc, FACMGG

Honorary Senior Research Fellow
Mary B. Fitzsimons PhD

Honorary Research Fellow
Anthony Kinsella MSc, FIS

Phlebotomist
Karen Canning

Personal Assistant to Head of School
Anne Grady DipBusiness

Coordinator: Teaching and Laboratory Services
Olwen Foley

Senior Operations Coordinator
Thomas Callanan BSc (Hons)

Operations Coordinator

Patsy Connolly BA
Magdalena Paduch MSc (Economics)
Kevin Smith BBS (Hons), MA (Management in Ed.)

Honorary Clinical Professor

Brian Cleary BSc (Pharm), MSc (Clin Pharm Pract), PhD, MPSI

Honorary Associate Professors

Conor Buckley BA, BAI (Mechanical Eng.), PhD`
Karen O'Connor BSc (Pharm), PhD (Pharmaceutics), MPSI
Stan O'Neill BSc (Pharm), MPSI

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor

Michael Fitzpatrick Dip (Adv Comp Program), Dip (Inf Sys) BSc (Pharm), MSc (Clin Pharm), MSc (Health Informatics), MPSI
Patricia Ging BPharm, MSc, MPSI
Dolores Keating BSc (Pharm), Dip (PsychPharm), MSc, MPSI,
Moninne Howlett BSc (Pharm), MPSI
Gabor Szeplaki, MD, PhD, FESC, FEHRA

Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturers

Usama Boles, MB, BCH, MSc, FRCPI, FHRM, FESC, FEHRA, PhD
Jennifer Brown BSc (Pharm), MSc, MPSI
Nuala Doyle BSc, BSc (Pharm), MSc (Hosp Pharm), MPSI
Daniele Giacoppo MD
Keira Hall MPharmS, PgDip Clinical Pharmacy (Second Care), PgCert (Prescrib & Patient Assess), MPSI
Debbie Murray MPharm, Pg Cert (Prescrib Sci), MPSI
Fergal O'Shaughnessy BSc (Pharm), MPharm, MSc, MPSI
Audrey Purcell BSc (Pharm), PgCert (Psych Pharm), MPSI
Diarmaid Semple BSc (Pharm), MPharm, MPSI
Kara Tedford BSc (Pharm), MSc, BSc (Chem), MPSI

Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer; Honorary Research Fellow

Roisin Colleran MB BCh, MRCPI, FESC

Honorary Clinical Lecturers

Aisling Beakey MSc (Pharm), Dip (Pharm Practice), BPharm, MPSI
Lelia Cocoman BSc (Pharm), MPSI
Helen Danaher BS(Pharm), BPharm, MS (Clin Pharm), MPSI
Joan Devin BSc (Midwifery), PhD, MPSI
Seamus Dunne BSc (Pharm), MPharm
Garreth Dooley MA, MPharm, MSc, MPSI
Elena Fernandez BSc (Pharm), Dip Adv. Studies (DEA), Dip (Patient & Safety), MSc (Reg Affairs), MPSI
Louise Fitzsimons BSc (Pharm), MPSI, PG Dip HPE
Georgina Gilson BS (Pharm), MPharm, MS (Clin Pharm), MPSI
Dzana Hadzic BSc. (Pharm) MSc (Hospital Pharmacy), MPSI
Eavan Higgins Pg Dip (Stats) Pg Dip (Clin Pharm Pract), MSc (Patient Safety), BSc (Pharm), MPSI
Caroline Hynes BSc (Pharm), MSc (Psychiatric Pharm Pract), MCMHP, MPSI
Grainne Johnston BSc (Bochem & Cell-Biology), BSc (Pharm), MPSI
Sinead Keane BSc (Pharm), MPSI
Brian Kearney BPharm, MPSI
Brian Kehoe BSc (Pharm), MSc (Health Inform), MPSI
Brona Kehoe BSc (Pharm), MPharm, MSc, MPSI
Maríosa Kieran BSc (Pharm), MSc (Hosp Pharm), MPSI
Deirdre Lenahan BSc (Pharm), MSc (Hosp Pharm), MPSI
Jennifer Lydon BSc(Pharm), MPharm, MPSI
Dearbhla Murphy BSc (Pharm), MSc (Clin Pharm Practice), MPSI
Mairead O'Connor BSc, MPharm, MSc (Clin Pharm), MPSI
Darragh O Donoghue BS (Pharm), MSc (Pharm), MS (Clin Pharm), MPSI

Marie O'Halloran BPharm, MSc (Pharm), MPSI
Nuala Scanlon BSc (Pharm), Dip (Clin Pharm), MPSI
Sharon Sutton BSc (Hons), MSc (Pharm) MPSI
Caroline Walsh MSc (Pharm), PhD (Pop. Health), Cert (Leadership) MPSI
Hilary Ward BSc (Pharm), PgDip (Clin Pharmacy, Pharma &Therap)

Honorary Senior Lecturers

Mirza Catibusic BSc (Pharm), EMA, PAT, EPC
Barry Heelan PhD (Pharm)
Ronan MacLoughlin BSc, Dip (Q&RA), PhD (Medicine), MBS
Richard Maguire BSc (Anal Sci), PhD, Dip (QI), Dip (Mgmt Studies)

Honorary Lecturers

Deirdre Corrigan BSc (Pharm), Dip (Stats & QI), PhD, Adv. Dip (Leadership & Coaching)
Fiona Gaffney MPharm, MPSI
Noel Gaule BSc (Anal Sci), MSc (Indus. Pharm), Exec. Dip (Strategic Growth Biopharma)
Seona Rossi, BSc (Pharm), MParm, PhD (Trans Pharm), Dip (Health Econ), MBA, MPSI
Himanshu Rai BSc, MSc, PhD

Honorary Lecturer and Postdoctoral Researchers

Researchers and students

2 Clinical researchers
35 Post Docs
12 Research Assistants
12 MD students
81 PhD students (incl. 6 Clement Archer Scholars)
6 Co-supervised PhD students
4 MSc students

Research Project supervision (Jun 2023 – June 2024)

2 APPEL students, 4th year, Sept - Dec 2023
45 MPharm programme students in 4th year, SRS module, 2024 (Lab based)
41 MPharm programme students in 5th year, CRS module, 2024 (Desk based)
48 Pharmacy SRS Students SRS Module Feb – April 2024
19 SSP Student Select Project (SSP) students, Feb – May 2024:
[6 Desk based and 13 Lab based]
13 RSS Research Summer School students, June – Aug 2024
22 Visiting Scientist (4 Phd researchers, 3 TY, 6 Phd students, 9 other summer students)

Higher Degrees

PhD

Isabelle Boothman, Identifying genetic risk factors and develop predictive models for specific adverse drug reactions induced by particular anti-seizure medication. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Dearbhla Doherty, Low von Willebrand Factor (VWF) levels: novel pathological insights and therapeutic strategies. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Lauren Fagan, A Novel Role for Nutrient Receptors in Cartilage and Joint Disease; dissecting circadian and metabolic responses to IL-1 β versus TNF in chondrocytes, and relevance for osteoarthritis. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Ellen Finnegan, Epigenetics as a diagnostic and therapeutic target in colorectal cancer. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Katie McCormick, Development of non-viral gene-based therapeutics for application in bone tissue engineering. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024

Rachel Moore, Exploring the role and therapeutic potential of Ubiquitin Specific Peptidase 11 (USP11) in estrogen receptor positive breast cancer. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024

MD

Enda Hannan, Robotic colorectal surgery: The utilisation of robotic technology in challenging pathologies and vulnerable patients. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023

Mairi Lucas, The immune microenvironment of early stage oestrogen receptor positive, HER 2 negative breast cancer - impact on prognosis and prognostic signature performance. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023

MSc

Bláithín Arnold, A framework for assigning in-use shelf life for aseptically manipulated small molecule preparations in unlicensed hospital compounding units –A Delphi Study. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2023

Michelle Beirne, Incorporation of pharmacy technicians into the medication administration process in a national paediatric cancer inpatient service; an implementation study. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2023

Sujithra Srinivas, Micro-RNA Based Rhythmicity during epileptogenesis in mice. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2024

Active and New Grants Awarded

Stephanie Annett, Uncovering the role of FKBPL in psoriasis, National Psoriasis Foundation Grant and Fellowships Program, 7/6/2021, [US\$ 49,967.18] €43,248.84

Stephanie Annett, The Dramatic Effects of FKBPL on Adiposity via Gene Therapy (DEFLATE), Higher Education Authority, North-South Research Programme 20/05/2022, €166,818.00

Stephanie Annett, Dramatic Effects of the immunophilin protein FKBPL on Adiposity and Type 2 Diabetes (ImuPhile), Enterprise Ireland Commercialisation Fund, 04/08/2023, €301,667.00

Rob Argent, EPIVIEWS - - Exploring Patient Impact & Value In Epilepsy Wearables for Seizure Monitoring, Irish Research Council (IRC), Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postgraduate Scholarship, 9/1/2022, €83,000.00

Rob Argent, CERBERUS: Certainty of Evidence Reports for the BiomEtRic data captured by wearable devices that are User-focused and Succinct, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) National Challenge Fund, 11/09/2023, €11,391.00

Rob Argent, Evaluation of novel digital biomarkers in a diverse Multiple Sclerosis cohort, Industry, 28/09/2023, €45,334.00

Rob Argent, Evaluation of novel digital biomarkers in a diverse Multiple Sclerosis cohort, Enterprise Ireland, Innovation Partnership Feasibility Fund, 28/09/2023, €181,338.00

Katherine Benson, Modifying Mendel's Paradigm: Genetic modifiers of monogenic renal disease, Enterprise Ireland H2020 Support, ERC support programme, 8/4/2021, €15,999.00

Katherine Benson, Multi-omic modelling of the pathogenesis and progression of polycystic kidney disease pathogenic variants using iPSC derived kidney organoids. Irish Research Council IRC, Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postgraduate Scholarship, 28/06/2023, €123,000

Robert Byrne, Coordination of Research and Evidence for Medical Devices (CORE-MD), EU Horizon 2020, Societal Challenge 1 Health, demographic change and wellbeing, 1/12/2021, €09,900.00

Robert Byrne, e-Yukon Registry, Industry, Strategic Partnership, 22/09/2022, €70,000.00

Ciara Byrne, Defining the role of von Willebrand factor in inflammatory disease, Haematology Association of Ireland, Novartis Fellowship Award, 1/11/2022, €7,500.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, CSSO Report, Industry, 24/06/2019, €836.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, SFI Centre for Research Training in Genomics Data Science, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres, 14/11/2019, €117,155.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Centre for Research Training in Genomics Data Science - Cohort 2, Beaumont Hospital Foundation, Research Project, 7/2/2020, €20,000.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Centre for Research Training in Genomics Data Science - Cohort 2, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres, 7/2/2020, €664,419.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Blockchain and AI-Enabled Stratified Trial System, Enterprise Ireland, Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund (DTIF), 9/11/2020, €927,653.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, NEURO-GENSEQ Informatics interrogation for Epileptic Encephalopathy trios Using Published Data, Industry – Cash 1, 19/11/2020, €9,555.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, NEURO-GENSEQ Informatics interrogation for Epileptic Encephalopathy trios Using Published Data, Industry - In Kind, 19/11/2020, €65,000.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, National PPI Network Award, Health Research Board / HRB, PPI Ignite awards, 2/8/2021, €376,360.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Research Collaboration with Sequence Bioinformatics Inc., Industry Strategic Partnership, 24/05/2021, €11,350.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, The value of a diagnosis of monogenic epilepsy in response to AEDs in patients with refractory focal epilepsy, Industry – Cash, 16/09/2021 €99,924.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, The value of a diagnosis of monogenic epilepsy in response to AEDs in patients with refractory focal epilepsy, Industry - In Kind, 16/09/2021, €100,000.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Exome sequencing to identify modifiers of polycystic kidney disease, Beaumont Hospital Foundation, Research Project, 29/09/2021 €20,000.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Exome sequencing to identify modifiers of polycystic kidney disease, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres -- targeted projects, 29/09/2021, €63,816.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Centre for Research Training in Genomics Data Science - Cohort 3, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres, 11/10/2021, €220,501.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, National Covid-19 Biobank, Health Research Board / HRB, COVID19 Funding Call, 07/09/2022, €157,948.74

-Gianpiero Cavalleri, GDI: Federated Genomics Infrastructure, European Union, Digital Europe Programme, 05/10/2022, €128,661.08

Gianpiero Cavalleri, GDI: Federated Genomics Infrastructure, Health Research Board, Clinical Trial Feasibility Award, 10/5/2022, 05/10/2022, €202,655.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, REVAMP: REdefining phenotype VAriability and genetic Modifiers in PKD, Industry Strategic Partnership, 27/10/2022, €137,800.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Centre for Research Training in Genomics Data Science - Cohort 4, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres, 28/11/2022, €484,353.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Characterisation of diverse ancestries and stratification of common and rare variation within the UK Biobank Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres -- targeted projects, 02/12/2022, €127,611.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, CRT Data Generation Fund 2023, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres -- targeted projects, 22/03/2023, €25,453.31

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Research Funds from Ono Pharma UK Consultancy, Service Contract 19/07/2023, €800.00

Gianpiero Cavalleri, Genome of Europe, EU Digital Europe programme, 31/05/2024, €439,431.00

Judith Coppinger, Investigating the role of bronchial EVs in activating neutrophils in early Cystic Fibrosis. Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Research Awards, 10/13/2021, [US\$ 157,316.00], €144,512.84

Judith Coppinger, Characterising a role for BAG3 in NSCLC, Trinity College Dublin, Research Project, 14/03/2023, €2,000.00.

Judith Coppinger, Investigating extracellular vesicles as novel tools to monitor and treat cystic Fibrosis, SFI Frontiers for future, 31/05/2024, €678,721.00

Grainne Cousins, Prescription drugs with potential for misuse: A multi-indicator analysis of supply, patterns of use and the associated health burden in Ireland over the past ten years. Health Research Board, Secondary Data Analysis Projects (SDAP), 17/11/2021, €249,856.80

Grainne Cousins, HRB Secondary Data Analysis Project grant from HRB (SDAP) [€229,163.00] focusing on the Impact of guidance issued during COVID-19 to expand take-home doses of opioid agonist treatment (OAT) in Ireland. Health Research Board, 31/05/2024, €229,163.00

Dermot Cox, Investigation of the haemostatic and thrombotic potential of stored platelets, Industry, Strategic Partnership, 29/01/2021, €41,400.00

Dermot Cox, Study of role of PlateletS In Sepsis (SEPSIS), Health Research Board / HRB Investigator-Led Projects (ILP), 120/10/2022, €368,566.25

Dermot Cox, Viral DIC - Targeting Immunothrombosis, Enterprise Ireland, Horizon Europe Support 30/01/2024, €8,216.00

Sally-Ann Cryan, CURAM Phase II P1-06: Development of an advanced tubular scaffold prototype for tracheal regeneration, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres -- targeted projects, 11/20/2020, €494,960.00

Sally-Ann Cryan, Optimisation and evaluation of a novel vibrating mesh nebuliser with combination aerosol validation studies in advanced simulated and ex vivo lung perfusion models, Industry – Cash, 4/29/2021, €5,200.00

Sally-Ann Cryan, Optimisation and evaluation of a novel vibrating mesh nebuliser with combination aerosol validation studies in advanced simulated and ex vivo lung perfusion models. Industry - In Kind, 29/04/2021, €5,000.00

Sally-Ann Cryan, Development of inhalable ATRA-loaded nanoparticles as targeted host-directed immunotherapy for tuberculosis. Aerosol Society UK Grant, 30/06/2022 €6,000.00

Shane Cullinan, HRB Postdoctoral Internship Programme 2021, Health Research Board / HRB, HRB Internship Programme, 9/5/2022, €138,526.00

Annie Curtis, MacroCLOCK - Circadian Control of Macrophage Mitochondria: A New Approach in the treatment of Chronic Inflammatory Disease. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Career Development Award (CDA), 12/12/2017, €609,751.18

Annie Curtis, Molecular Clock control of the pro-inflammatory cytokine IL-1B. A Mechanistic Link between Circadian Disruption and Cardiovascular Disease. Irish Research Council (IRC), Consolidator Laureate Award, 22/03/2018, €599,988.00

Annie Curtis, Programming macrophages to suppress inflammation and promote healing after knee injury. A novel microparticle based therapeutic strategy against Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis. Irish Research Council (IRC), Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship, 17/04/2018, €112,125.00

Annie Curtis, Timed to Perfection: Development of a novel circadian drug delivery platform and its application in osteoarthritis, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres -- targeted projects, 7/4/2018, €193,375.03

Annie Curtis, Cardiovascular Rhythms: Does the macrophage molecular clock regulate thrombogenesis to impact on the daily variation in cardiovascular disease incidence?, Irish Research Council (IRC), Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship, 5/26/2021, €116,333.33

Annie Curtis, ChronoVac - Harnessing the power of the circadian clock to enhance vaccine efficacy. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Frontiers for the Future Projects, 10/1/2021, €545,597.20

Annie Curtis, HEA Support for COVID-19 Related Research Costed Extensions. Higher Education Authority, COVID-19 Related Research Costed Extensions. 16/11/2021, €14,250.00

Annie Curtis, METABOLATE: METABOLic immuno-engineered biomATERials. EU Horizon 2020, Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions CoFund, 10/13/2022, €65,760.00

Annie Curtis, METABOLATE: METABOLic immuno-engineered biomATERials. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Research Centres, 10/13/2022, €117,792.00

Annie Curtis, METABOLic immuno-engineered biomATERials. EU Horizon Europe, MSCA – Postdoctoral Fellow, 3/9/2023, €242,476.20

Sudipto Das, DETECT - DNA Methylation Signatures for Personalising Ulcerative Colitis Treatment. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Starting Investigator Research Grant (SIRG), 11/19/2018, €552,185.70

Sudipto Das, Application and functional validation of a Machine-leArninG based approach for identification of Novel therapEutic Targets in Colorectal cancer – MAGNET. Irish Research Council (IRC), Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postgraduate Scholarship, 6/24/2021, €116,333

Sudipto Das, Examining the diagnostic and functional role of a novel DNA meThylation signaturE in predicting ColoRectAl Cancer meTastasis – INTERACT. Health Research Board / HRB, Investigator-Led Projects (ILP), 7/5/2022, €369,787.59

Sudipto Das, Development of a diagnostic assay using a novel modality to early predict disease progression in Ulcerative Colitis patients. Industry – Cash 1, 03/08/2023 €91,209.00

Sudipto Das, Development of a diagnostic assay using a novel modality to early predict disease progression in Ulcerative Colitis patients. Industry - In Kind 03/08/2023 €96,000.00

Sudipto Das, Development of a diagnostic assay using a novel modality to early predict disease progression in Ulcerative Colitis patients. Enterprise Ireland Innovation Partnerships, 03/08/2023 €267,421.41

Sudipto Das, Examlning host iNduceD eplgenetiC modificAtion in microbiome as a likely cause of microbiome dysbios. Enterprise Ireland Horizon Europe Support 13/09/2023 €15,980.00

Chiara De Santi, CFTR-specific target site blockers as a therapeutic strategy for the p.Trp1282x stop codon. Vertex Citex Fibrous Independent Research Innovation Award, 31/05/2024, €91,854.00

Chiara De Santi, Genetics in a loop: study of the role of circular RNAs in cystic fibrosis, Industry Strategic Partnership. 12/05/2021, [US\$ 125,000.00] €114,827.50

Sarinj Fattah, StarMAT: Star Polypeptides as non-viral vectors for AATD mRNA Therapeutics delivery. Enterprise Ireland, Commercialisation Fund Project Support, 05/12/2023, €401,501.00

Michelle Flood, HealthEIR Project, Health Service Executive, Project Grants, 1/1/2022, € 293,850.40

Michelle Flood, The SYNERG-IE Programme. Health Research Board / HRB, Applied Programme Grants, 24/11/2023, €2,558,926.57

Edmund Gilbert, Footprints of Irish demographic history revealed with whole-genome-sequencing. National University of Ireland / NUI, Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the Sciences, 7/30/2021, €105,892.00

Edmund Gilbert, ERC Starter Grant Enterprise Ireland. Horizon Europe Support, 01/05/2024, €3,690.00

Judith Harmey, Characterisation of a novel model of metastatic breast cancer. Breast Cancer Ireland Project Grant, 11/15/2018, €8,000.00

John Hayden, A framework for assigning shelf-lives for aseptically manipulated small molecule preparations in unlicensed hospital compounding units. Children's Health Foundation, Research Project, 3/2/2021, €4,900.00

John Hayden, Incorporation of pharmacy technicians into the medication administration process in a national paediatric cancer in-patient service. Children's Health Foundation, Research Project, 3/2/2021, €4,900.00

John Hayden, Use of Semi/Fully automated systems in the preparation of products in the Aseptic Compounding Unit at Children's Health Ireland at Crumlin: a feasibility study. Children's Health Foundation, Research Project, 03/11/2022, €4,900.00

Ellie Karampini, Terminal Sialylation as a novel regulator of VWF biosynthesis and intracellular trafficking in endothelial cells bio. CSL Behring, Professor Heimbürger Award, 15/04/2022, €25,000.00

Kulwinder Kaur, NanoDOT: Nano-Engineered Biomaterial Delivery System with Controlled Strontium Release as a Reparative Treatment Strategy for Osteoporotic Vertebral Bone. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), SFI/IRC Pathway Programme, 06/09/2023, €549,321.00

Kulwinder Kaur, Nanoengineered Bone Organoid hydrogels as Reparative Strategy for Osteoporosis Treatment via Bone on a Chip Technology. Enterprise Ireland, Horizon Europe Support, 19/04/2024 €15,998.00

Stephen Keely, Travel Grants, Physiological Society, Departmental Seminar Scheme, 20/05/2014, €3,842.20

Stephen Keely, Pharmaceutical and nutraceutical targeting of the farnesoid X receptor for treatment of chronic intestinal diseases. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Investigators programme, 9/4/2017, €1,019,556.50

Helena Kelly, OncoLize pre-clinical seed round Industry Strategic Partnership. 19/01/2023, € 301,374.00
Steven Kerrigan, Utility of multivalent carbohydrate binding module (CBM) proteins in in vitro models of cell attachment/permeabilization by Sepsis-causing bacteria. Industry, Strategic Partnership, 2/5/2018, €33,619.00

Steven Kerrigan, Defining a novel strategy of adhesion to host carbohydrates employed by Streptococcus oralis, National Institute for Health (NIH) US Project Grants, 6/9/2020, [US\$ 71,138.52], €65,340.73

Steven Kerrigan, Defining a novel strategy of adhesion to host carbohydrates employed by Streptococcus oralis. National Institute for Health (NIH) US Project Grants, 29/05/2023 [US\$ 51,840.00], €61,514.36

Steven Kerrigan, Exploring Infective Endocarditis: Unveiling Pathways to Innovative Treatment Solutions. Embassy (Saudi Arabia), PhD Studentship, 11/09/2023, €29,395.00

Steve Kerrigan, Development and Assessment of Human-Origin Bioinks for improved Wound Healing (BIOHEAL). AMBER Emerging Research Seed Funding 31/05/2024, €30,000.00

Niamh Moran, The role of vitamin D And O3FA In Platelet Function and Histology within the Cardiovascular system. Embassy (Saudi Arabia), PhD Studentship, 24/04/2018 €51,955.00

MARIA Morgan, Working scientifically; white coat not needed. Biochemical Society, Scientific Outreach Grants, 16/05/2019, [GB£ 863.00] €1,024.05

Frank Moriarty, Sláinte medicines – a roadmap to essential medicines entitlement for universal health coverage. Health Research Board / HRB, Investigator-Led Projects (ILP), 26/08/2019, €282,871.00

Frank Moriarty, Data CDRx project: Data analysis of policies and practices for safe, appropriate controlled drug prescribing. Health Research Board / HRB, Secondary Data Analysis Projects (SDAP), 3/23/2021, €269,540.05

Frank Moriarty, HEA Support for COVID-19 Related Research Costed Extensions. Higher Education Authority, COVID-19 Related Research Costed Extensions, 13/12/2022 €11,384.7

Frank Moriarty, Data for Deprescribing - new approaches to enhance our understanding. Wellcome Trust, Wellcome Career Development Awards, 27/06/2023, €2,417,711.00

Frank Moriarty, Harnessing Evidence on Adverse drug withdrawal events following Deprescribing through the Pharmacovigilance system (HEAD-P). EU Horizon Europe, MSCA – Postdoctoral Fellow 03/05/2024, €215,534.40

Joan Ni Gabhann-Dromgoole, Targeting ocular inflammation in dry eye disease with novel microRNA-based therapeutics. Royal Victoria Eye & Ear Hospital Research Foundation, Research Awards, 11/1/2018, €5,000.00

Joan Ni Gabhann-Dromgoole, Multiomic profiling of ocular inflammation in dry eye disease relating to ocular graft versus host disease. Royal Victoria Eye & Ear Hospital Research Foundation, Research Awards, 20/02/2020, €10,000.00

Joan Ni Gabhann-Dromgoole, Establishing a 2D and three-dimensional model of inflammatory dry eye disease to test novel therapeutics using primary human conjunctival epithelial cells, Irish College of Ophthalmologists – ICO, Novartis RESEARCH Award, 15/09/2020, €17,500.00

Joan Ni Gabhann-Dromgoole, Establishing a two dimensional and three-dimensional model of inflammatory dry eye disease to test novel therapeutics using primary human conjunctival epithelial cells. Royal Victoria Eye & Ear Hospital Research Foundation, Research Awards, 16/11/2020, €7,200.00

Joan Ni Gabhann-Dromgoole, Profiling emerging immune signatures associated with developing inflammatory ocular graft versus host disease and adverse outcomes from corneal transplantation (PREDICT). Enterprise Ireland, Horizon Europe Support, 15/09/2022, €7,995.00

Joan Ni Gabhann-Dromgoole, Conference Support Funds. Industry Strategic Partnership, 10/05/2023 €4,546.89

Fiona O'Brien, Developing a validated risk assessment tool for compatibility of TPNs with intravenous medications used in neonates and children. Industry Strategic Partnership, 31/05/2022, €43,875.00

Darran O'Connor, BET inhibition as a therapeutic strategy for invasive lobular breast cancer. Susan G Komen, Career Catalyst Research Grants, 31/08/2018, €407,990.16

Darran O'Connor, Examining the functional and diagnostic potential of methylation sensitive enhancers in metastatic colorectal cancer. Irish Research Council (IRC), Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship, 24/04/2019, €105,666.67

Darran O'Connor, Refining the OncoMasTR multi-gene prognostic signature using tumour microenvironment data, Industry – Cash, 12/03/2020, €88,868.00

Darran O'Connor, Combination treatment for invasive lobular breast cancer. Worldwide Cancer Research (formerly AICR), 10/2020, [GB £ 199,324.00], €236,469.46

Darran O'Connor, Spatial transcriptomics of early-stage ER+/Her2- breast cancer. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), SFI CRT Data Generation Fund, 11/30/2022, €126,877.44

Darran O'Connor, HEA Support for COVID-19 Related Research Costed Extensions Higher Education Authority, COVID-19 Related Research Costed Extensions, 20/07/2023, €13,500.00

James O'Donnell, Use of Modified Truncated Vwf Chaperones To Extend The Half-Life Of Recombinant Factor Viii Therapy In Patients With Haemophilia. A Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Pfizer Biotherapeutics Innovation Award Programme (BIAP), 01/09/2016, €306,551.70

James O'Donnell iPATH, Industry – Cash, 2/14/2017, €1,266,249.49

James O'Donnell, iPATH, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Strategic Partnerships Programme, 2/14/2017, €1,586,587.

James O'Donnell, The Low Von Willebrand factor Ireland Cohort (LoVIC) study. Health Research Board / HRB, Health Research Awards, 07/07/2017. €135,962.00

James O'Donnell, The Low Von Willebrand factor Ireland Cohort of Kids (LoVIC-K) study. (ILP-POR-2017-008), Health Research Board / HRB, Investigator-Led Projects (ILP), 27/09/2017, €369,360.00

James O'Donnell, Defining the molecular mechanisms through which von Willebrand factor modulates the pathogenesis of childhood cerebral malaria. the NCRC Malaria Research Consortium, National Children's Research Centre Crumlin / NCRC, Paediatric Research Project Grants, 03/10/2017, €284,784.00

James O'Donnell, New Advances in Vascular Biology Conference [ICVB] Industry. Strategic Partnership, 17/07/2018, €21,763.20

James O'Donnell, Irish Centre for Vascular Biology PhD Studentship Training Programme, Institute of Cardiovascular Science, TCD at St James Hospital, PhD Studentship Training Programme, 29/04/2018, €68,800.00

James O'Donnell, Irish Centre for Vascular Biology PhD Studentship Training Programme, Irish Blood Transfusion Service, PhD Studentship Training Programme (2), 9/24/2018, €68,800.00

James O'Donnell, LoVIC-Kids: Improving public awareness of abnormal bleeding symptoms. Health Research Board / HRB, Knowledge Exchange and Dissemination Scheme (KEDS), 02/10/2018, €36,860.00

James O'Donnell, The Sickle Vascular Ireland Consortium (SiVIC) project, National Children's Research Centre Crumlin / NCRC, Paediatric Research Project Grants, 29/07/2019, €297,202.36

James O'Donnell, ICAT Fellowship Helen Fogarty, Wellcome Trust, ICAT Programme, 18/10/2019, €348,312.36

James O'Donnell, Zimmerman Program on the Biology of VWD, National Institute for Health (NIH) USA, Project Grant, 01/01/ 2020, [US\$ 1,053,000.00] €9,70,613.28

James O'Donnell, Irish COVID-19 Vasculopathy Study (iCVS). Health Research Board / HRB COVID19 Funding Call, 18/05/2020 €144,067.66

James O'Donnell, ICAT Fellowship Dearbhla Doherty (Year 2-4), 20259, Wellcome Trust, 30/06/2020, €321,416.08

James O'Donnell/Jamie O'Sullivan Investigating coagulopathy and vasculopathy in covid-19 pathogenesis research, Strategic Partnership, Industry, 08/07/2020, [US\$ 313,700.00] €289,127.88

James O'Donnell, Defining the role of terminal sialylation in modulating the increased half-life of recombinant VWF (Vonvendi) compared to plasma-derived VWF, Industry Strategic Partnership, 01/10/2021, €164,826.95

James O'Donnell, Von Willebrand disease pathogenesis - defining the role of glycan structures, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Frontiers for the Future Awards, 10/01/2021, €1,257,285.00

James O'Donnell, TOLERATE - An integrated approach to restore tolerance in autoimmune disease, EU Horizon Europe, Marie Skłodowska-Curie, MSCA – Doctoral Network, 10/1/2022, €262,728.00

James O'Donnell, The role of von Willebrand factor glycans in regulating its physiological and pathological clearance. ZonMw Rubicon, 24/04/2023, €172,820.00

James O'Donnell, The Irish Personalized Approach to the Treatment of Haemophilia (iPATH2) study. Industry Strategic Partnership, 03/07/2023, €279,500.00

James O'Donnell, The role of von Willebrand factor in linking coagulation and inflammation in cardiovascular disease pathogenesis -defining novel therapeutic targets. Royal City of Dublin Hospital Trust, Project Grants, 20/11/2023, €325,000.00

Cian O'Leary, Bioengineered 3D in vitro platforms of the primary tumour microenvironment and targeted metastasis tissue as a model for stromal-mediated regulation of the pre-metastatic niche in lung cancer. Irish Research Council (IRC), Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship, 6/2/2021, €116,333.33

Cian O'Leary, Renovate Pharma: A Pharma Spin-Out for Novel Inhaled Reformulation. Enterprise Ireland, Commercialisation Fund, 16/08/2021, € 522,504.00

Jamie O'Sullivan, Defining the role of tinzaparin-VWF axis in modulating breast cancer metastasis. Industry – Cash, 8/2/2019, € 110,000.00

Jamie O'Sullivan, Medical Education Grant Industry Strategic Partnership, 26/11/2019, € 1,200.00

Jamie O'Sullivan/Claire Comerford, Elucidating the Role of Von Willebrand Factor in Multiple Myeloma Biology. 20215, Multiple Myeloma Ireland Education grant, 18/04/ 2020, €10,000.00

Jamie O'Sullivan, Coagulation-Cancer crosstalk; understanding the role of low molecular weight heparin in breast cancer metastasis. Irish Research Council (IRC), Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postdoctoral Fellowship, 6/18/2021, €96,417.00

Jamie O'Sullivan, Defining the role VWF-ADAMTS13 axis in haematological cancer associated thrombosis. Irish Research Council (IRC), Starting Laureate Award, 6/7/2022, €399,038.75

Jamie O'Sullivan, Examining the role of von Willebrand Factor as a potential therapeutic target in triple negative breast cancer. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Frontiers for the Future Projects, 11/24/2022, €614,341.96

Jamie O'Sullivan, SFI Fellowship Programme - Dr Sukhraj Pal Singh Dhami, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI),SFI Fellowship Programme, 21/07/2023 €146,747.96

Roger Preston, Novel therapeutic approach to counter vaso-occlusive crisis in sickle cell disease using engineered activated protein C, 19391. NCRC/ National Children's Research Centre Crumlin, 12/01/ 2020 €247,192.20

Roger Preston, New approaches to exploit coagulation protease-receptor signalling for therapeutic benefit. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Frontiers for the Future Awards,3/10/2022, €950,091.00

Roger Preston, Understanding Increased Thrombotic Risk in Patients with Myeloproliferative Neoplasms: Linking Inflammation, Metabolism and Hypercoagulable. State Health Research Board (HRB), Investigator-Led Projects (ILP), 9/5/2022, €369,819.72

Thomas Renne, Rudolf Marx Travel Award, Society for Thrombosis and Haemostasis Research eV GTH, Rudolf Marx Scholarship, 5/11/2022, €22,920.00

Cristina Ruedell, Reschke Circadian biomarkers in pre-clinical and clinical Dravet Syndrome Irish Research Council (IRC). Enterprise Partnership Scheme Postdoctoral Fellowship, 9/1/2022, €106,365.00

Cristina Ruedell Reschke, The impact of microglial circadian disruption in epilepsy development. Irish Research Council (IRC), Government of Ireland, Postgraduate Scholarship, 10/06/2022 9/1/2022 €89,708.33

Cristina Ruedell Reschke, Consortium of Research in Epilepsy via formation of an Advanced Training Network. Enterprise Ireland, Horizon Europe Support, 03/10/2023, €6,250.00

Cristina Ruedell Reschke, DS-TIME: a multi-assessment approach to uncover the underlying mechanisms of sleep disturbances in children with Dravet Syndrome. Dravet Syndrome Foundation (USA), Research Project, 25/03/2024, €229,633.75

Tracy Robson, Realising FKBPL's therapeutic potential in ovarian cancer. Industry - Cash, 7/10/2020, €129,124.00

Tracy Robson, Realising FKBPL's therapeutic potential in ovarian cancer. Industry - Cash, 10/07/2020, €30,000.00

Tracy Robson, Enabling Future Pharma: Beyond the Pill. Higher Education Authority, Human Capital Initiative (HCI), 10/7/2020, €7,835,028.00

Tracy Robson, Targeting obesity induced metastasis through FKBPL-based therapeutics. Irish Research Council (IRC), Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship, 18/05/2021, €116,333.33

Tracy Robson, Breaking the Obesity-Cancer Link; a Theranostic Role for FKBPL in Modulating Immunometabolism Across Disease Progression in Oesophageal Adenocarcinoma (OAC). Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Frontiers for the Future Awards, 30/09/2021, €711,043.60

Tracy Robson, Cilengitide for the treatment of COVID and sepsis. Industry – Cash, 28/11/2023, €230,481.00

Tracy Robson, Cilengitide for the treatment of COVID and sepsis. Industry - In Kind, 28/11/2023, €20,658.75

Ingmar Schoen, Mechanobiology of platelet contractility and secretion during thrombosis. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Frontiers for the Future Projects, 8/13/2020, €332,216.43

Ingmar Schoen, Improved Transfusion Therapies for Major Haemorrhage. Irish Blood Transfusion Service, Project Grant, 20/12/2022, €300,000.00

Ingmar Schoen, Investigating the interactions between platelets and FVIII and non-factor products. Industry – Cash, 3/21/2023, €116,832.00

Ingmar Schoen, Investigating the interactions between platelets and FVIII and non-factor products. Industry – Cash, 21/03/2023, €15,000.00

Ingmar Schoen, Platelet Biology at Fridge Temperatures. Platelet Society Summer Studentship, 26/05/2023, €583.66

Judith Strawbridge, Adaptation and Evaluation of the Mental Health First Aid educational intervention for tertiary healthcare students. Saint John of God Hospital Project Grant, 8/2/2022, €120,000.00

Damir Vareslija, Exploiting the Epigenome to Control Cancer-Promoting Gene-Expression Programs in Breast Cancer Brain Metastasis. Breast Cancer Now Scientific Fellowship, 8/5/2019, [GB £ 664,304.00] €788,788.98

Damir Vareslija, Epigenetic and microenvironmental regulation of brain metastases. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Frontiers for the Future Projects, 21/09/2021, €487,500.00

Caroline Walsh, Exploring the clinical, economic and patient impact of fixed versus indefinite treatment durations of pembrolizumab across cancer indications. Irish Cancer Society Summer Studentship Scheme. 20/05/2024, €2,500.00

Innovation and Commercialization Activities

Innovation / Patent / Invention Disclosures filed

S. Das: Patent submitted to EPO titled "Discovery of novel tumour-specific DNA methylation signature in metastatic colorectal cancer patients": Patent reference number - 24152904.9. Jan, 2024:

S. Das: Patent submitted to EPO titled "A novel gene expression-based signature to predict disease progression in adult Ulcerative Colitis patients": Patent reference number – 24158907.6. May, 2024:

S. Das: Invention Disclosures submitted to RCSI TTO titled "Two gene enhancers as potential therapeutic targets for colorectal cancer patients" Dec, 2023

License

S. Kerrigan: Inthelia Therapeutics have secured an option to license the core IP assets (European application no. EP3416670, US application no. 15/999,336, JP application no. 2018-543699, PCT application no. PCT/EP2022/051399) covering the use of cilengitide in sepsis and other infections from RCSI (October 2023)

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PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES

Overview

The Physician Associate (PA) programme remains the only one of its kind in the Republic of Ireland (ROI). The education of students is our highest priority since our graduates represent a new health profession that is slowly gaining acceptance across the Irish health system. To date, we have trained 76 individuals, with 91% of them currently living and working as PAs in the ROI. Clinical engagement and advocacy are additional priorities for the programme. Our strategic goals include increasing the geographical representation of PAs in the areas of greatest clinical need and gaining full recognition by the government for the PA profession. Research is focused on the PA role and its impact on critical priorities of the health system, including continuity of care, patient safety, and access to care. Our faculty and staff represent a multi-disciplinary team who help to instil a commitment to excellence for all students and graduates.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Partnership with HSE

In January 2024 the programme entered into a two-year funded partnership with the HSE (Division of Acute Care Operations) to grow the PA workforce to meet new and existing demands on the health service. This innovative project included funding the tuition and fees for all incoming and continuing students, in exchange for a service obligation to work for the HSE once graduates are fully qualified. In addition, the project helps to fund innovative enhancements to the existing curriculum, such as a Surgical Bootcamp and ACLS courses for all students. This new programme helped to increase the affordability of the MSc programme and resulted in a 114% increase in the Year 1 intake. Growth in the remote/hybrid programme also expanded by 133%.

Key Appointments

Dr Melanie Cunningham was appointed as the new Director of Education in December 2023, succeeding Dr Sean Robinson. Melanie is currently working on her MD degree in medical education and has fully integrated into the teaching mission of the programme with enthusiasm, scholarship, and integrity.

Fulbright Scholar

Continued to collaborate with Dr Kris Himmerick (USA) after her 3-month engagement with RCSI (May – August 2023). Currently finalising the paper generated by the collaborative research with plans to present it in October 2024 at the PA Education Forum in Washington, DC.

Innovative Teaching Strategies

The programme is in its 2nd year of the remote/hybrid option and continues to conduct research on the student experience and learning outcomes. We anticipate a full report in the 2025 academic year; however, the ongoing evaluation of the programme is quite positive.

Academic Activities and Awards

Lisa Alexander

- Professor Emeritus, The George Washington University, Washington DC.
- Peer Reviewer, Journal of Physician Assistant Education (USA).
- Past-President's Commission, Physician Assistant Education Association (USA)
- Member, PA Schools Council (UK)

Pauline Joyce

- External Examiner, PhD, Trinity College Dublin.

Melanie Cunningham

- Recipient of the 2024 RCSI Teaching Award.
- Served as developer and lead for RCSI new undergraduate medical student module focused on the transition to clinical placements.

Invited Lectures (national and international)

Lisa Alexander

- UK PA Educator's Annual Conference May 2024. Sheffield UK. "Sustaining Peer Connections in a Hybrid Learning Model".

- Federation of Surgical Speciality Association, April 2024. Dublin. “Update on the Status of PAs in Ireland.”

Pauline Joyce

- UK PA Educator’s Annual Conference May 2024. Sheffield UK. “Exploring Attitudes towards Interprofessional Teams”.

Exceptional Events

In October 2023, RCSI was the co-host for the inaugural conference of the Irish Society of PAs. The keynote address was provided by Ms Mary Day, who at the time was serving as the Director of Acute Care Operations at the HSE. Presentations highlighted the contributions of PAs in clinical service delivery. Over 90 participants were in attendance, including graduates, consultants, current and future PA students.

With funding through the Irish American Partnership, we designed and co-hosted, along with Ulster University’s PA Programme, the first ever “Cross-Border” Student PA Conference in June 2024. The venue for the conference was in Derry on the Magee Campus of Ulster University. Students participated in workshops and presentations focused on underserved populations, career development, and future clinical roles for PAs in the UK and ROI.

In June 2024, Lisa Alexander represented RCSI at the Annual Summit of the European University Alliance for Global Health (EUGLOH) at the University of Szeged (Hungary) with other RCSI colleagues (Abi Kelly, Roisin Moriarty). Dr. Alexander’s presentation was entitled “Innovations in Education to Influence Policy and Expand Health Care Workforce in Ireland”.

Staff List

Programme Sponsor

Arnold DK Hill MCh, FRCSI

Programme Director and Professor

Lisa Mustone Alexander EdD, MPH, PA-C

Medical Director

James Paul O’Neill FRCSI, MMSc, MD, MBA, ORL-HNS

Director of Education

Melanie Cunningham BS, MPH, MB, BCh BAO, PGDipHPE

Director of Quality and Clinical Engagement

Pauline Joyce Ed.D, MSc, FFMRCSE

Programme Coordinator

Stephanie Billault

Honorary Staff

Alexandra Troy BS, MSc, PA-IC

Publications

Holland, J., McGarvey, A., Flood, M., **Joyce, P.**, & Pawlikowska, T. (2024). A qualitative exploration of student cognition when answering text-only or image-based histology multiple-choice questions. *Medical Science Educator* <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40670-024-02104-x>

Joyce P, Kenna L, Cassidy D (2023) Evaluation of an online high stakes’ clinical examination – Physician Associate students’ and their examiners’ perspectives. <https://hdl.handle.net/10779/rcsi.23815008.v1>

Snyder, Jennifer PhD, PA-C; **Alexander, Lisa Mustone EdD, MPH, PA-C**; Statler, Michel DMSc, PA-C, et al. (2023). Time to Pivot: A Guide to Holistic Admissions. *Journal of the PA Education Association*. 35(1):p 43-51, March 2024. DOI: 10.1097/JPA.0000000000000569

PHYSIOLOGY & MEDICAL PHYSICS

Overview

The Department of Physiology and Medical Physics delivers teaching in the Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences, and Physiotherapy, and has an active education and research programme. At Postgraduate level, we are involved in training PhD, MD, and Masters students. Our postgraduates are taught to interrogate research questions at the molecular level, while focusing on the importance of translating findings to clinical settings.

The Department hosts the FutureNeuro SFI Research Centre (neurological diseases), directed by Professor David Henshall, and several members are principal and funded FutureNeuro investigators. The Centre for Systems Medicine (CSM) – directed by Professor Jochen Prehn – provides translational, multidisciplinary infrastructure and utilises computational tools to identify genes, proteins and metabolites implicated in human disease, develop new biomarkers and test novel targeted therapies for patients. The CSM hosts and collaborates in multiple European and national consortia (4DP-Omics, GlioResolve, PRECISION ALS, PRIME, NeuroInsight, InterTau, SFI NasPro, SFI-CRT-GDS, AICRI, PANIWATER, SURG-Water, COST Action PRESTO), focussing on cancer, neurological and metabolic disorders and waterborne diseases.

In addition to teaching commitments, our department is active in education and outreach nationally and internationally. Our researchers visit both primary and secondary schools, facilitating on-site visits and host the annual Mini Science TY Science.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Professor Annette Byrne

- Coordinator GLIORESOLVE (Horizon Europe Doctoral Network) and COLOSSUS Projects (H2020 Societal Challenge, Health) Director of the National Preclinical Imaging Centre (NPIC)
- Steering Committee Member for the Pan-European EuroPDX Consortium
- Member: American Association for Cancer Research
- Member: American Society of Clinical Oncology
- Member: Society for Neuro-Oncology
- Member: World Molecular Imaging Society
- Expert Grant Evaluator and Rapporteur for EC Horizon Europe funding programmes
- Mid- Term Programme Reviewer for EC Horizon Europe Awards
- Grant Reviewer: INSERM, France
- Grant Reviewer: AIRC, Italy
- Grant Reviewer: La Caixa, Spain
- RAMI Research Awards (25th September 2023) in association with the Irish Journal of Medical Science. Winning paper in the Oncology category presented to Professor Annette Byrne, for the paper "Identification, validation and biological characterisation of novel glioblastoma tumour microenvironment subtypes: implications for precision immunotherapy" Doi: 10.1016/j.annonc.2022.11.008.

Professor Brona Murphy

- Co-Director of Year 3, Medicine
- Academic Lead for ICHAMS
- Grant Reviewer, Czech Science Foundation
- Grant Reviewer, The French National Cancer Institute
- Research team (Florian Osswald) awarded the Inaugural Ronnie Fehily Medal Award sponsored by Brain Tumour Ireland

Professor Christopher Torrens

- Fellow of the Physiological Society
- Member & Ambassador of British Pharmacological Society
- Academic Editor PLOS one
- Editorial Board Member Physiology News
- Grant Reviewer for British Heart Foundation, Wellcome Trust

Professor David C Henshall

- Member, Royal Irish Academy
- Chair, Neurobiology Commission of the International League Against Epilepsy
- Co-chair, ILAE Climate Change Commission Task Force on Sustainability
- Congress Council, International League Against Epilepsy
- Steward, Epilepsy Benchmarks Committee, NIH/AES
- Grant reviewer, Medical Research Council
- Grant reviewer, CURE epilepsy Foundation
- Strategic advisory board, Neurocenter Finland
- Editorial Advisory Board, Jasper's Basic Mechanisms of the Epilepsies

Dr Emir Bozkurt

- Associate Editor, Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology

Dr Helena Bonner

- (Trustee) Midlands Science Advisory and Board Member, 2022-2024

Professor Jochen Prehn

- Reviewer, Norwegian Cancer Society

Professor Kevin McGuigan

- Co-Ordinator EU H2020 PANIWATER Project (EU grant no. 820718)
- Principle Investigator SFI Future Innovation Programme, SDG Challenge SURG-Water Project (SFI Grant no. 22/FIP/SDG/10720)
- Member of Editorial Panel for J Environ Chem Eng
- Fellow of the Institute of Physics
- Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry

Dr Marc Sturrock

- Peer Reviewer for: IET Systems Biology, PLOS Computational Biology, Frontiers in Applied Mathematics and Statistics, Computers in Biology and Medicine
- Member: European Haematology Association, European Society of Mathematical and Theoretical Biology
- Grant reviewer: Research Council of Finland
- Member of the Editorial Panel for BMC Methods
- SFI Public Service Fellow – working with Environmental Protection Agency on Development of Atmospheric Dispersion Models to assist in the response to a nuclear or radiological emergency

Dr Niamh Connolly

- Grant reviewer: College of Experts, Parkinson's UK; National Science Centre, Poland
- Editor Special issue "Mitochondrial signaling in disease: from cancer to neurodegeneration": Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology
- RCSI Research Day Awards 2023: Highly Cited RCSI Senior Authored paper with Industry Collaboration 2017-2021
- FAI Women's Football Strategic Committee, member

Dr Orlaith Brennan

- European Commission, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) grant review committee
- European Commission, External expert assisting in the evaluation of grant applications and projects (2018– Present)

Dr Shona Pfeiffer

- RCSI Student Partnership Champion Award
- RCSI Student Innovation Challenge, co-led and organised by Dr Shona Pfeiffer, listed as finalist for 'Innovation and Entrepreneurship Programme of the Year' in the ACEEU European Triple E Awards in Entrepreneurship and Engagement in Higher Education (2022).
- Irish Clinical Academic Training (ICAT) Programme Supervisor.

- Editorial Board, *Frontiers in Stroke* Review Editor for Acute Stroke and Interventional Therapies.
- Reviewer, British Pharmacological Society

Dr Simon Furney

- HRDC member
- Science Council Irish Centre for High End Computing
- Project award from Science Foundation Ireland *Frontiers for the Future*
- 2 PhD students awards SFI CRT in Genomics Data Science
- SFI CRT in Genomics Data Science Data Generation Fund Award
- Grant Reviewer Research Council of Lithuania, Israeli Ministry of Innovation
- Associate Editor *Frontiers in Genetics*, *Frontiers in Oncology*

Dr Tobias Engel

- Grant reviewer: ERC, Swiss National Science Foundation
- Editorial Board, Purinergic signalling
- Associate Editor for *Frontiers in Molecular Neuroscience*, *BMC Neurology*

Professor Triona Ní Chonghaile

- Academic Lead for the Personal Tutor Programme for THEPII
- Irish Research Council Laureate Consolidator Award
- Emerging Investigator award from Science Foundation Ireland *Frontiers for the Future*
- Ranked in Top 100 Medical Professionals in Ireland by Hospital Professional Magazines
- External Examiner for the BSc in Biomedical Science at University of Limerick
- Grant Reviewer for Austrian Science Fund and Breast Cancer Now UK
- Associate Editor: *Cancer Medicine*
- Elected to the editorial advisory board of *FEBS Journal*

External Examinerships

Professor David Henshal, PhD External Examiner, University of Lyon

Exceptional Events – Seminars, National/International Conferences organised by staff.

- Professor Annette Byrne: GLIORESOLVE Network-wide training Event: Science and Society (27 June 2023), RCSI.
- Professor Annette Byrne: GLIORESOLVE Network-wide training Event: Disruptive multi-omics and data analysis course (19 – 21st June 2024), LIH, Luxembourg. (Organised by Professor Annette Byrne and Dr Alice O'Farrell)
- Professor Annette Byrne: Brain Tumour Awareness Week PPI Research Update (1 Nov 2023) 'An evening to review and discuss ongoing advancements in brain tumour studies in Ireland', RCSI.
- Professor David Henshal: Co-Chair, WONOEP XVII "The extracellular space in epilepsy: pathomechanisms, biomarkers and treatment targets", Ireland, Aug 28 - 31, 2023
- Professor David Henshal: Scientific Organising Committee, 35th International Epilepsy Congress, Dublin, Ireland, Sep 2-6, 2023
- Professor David Henshal: International League Against Epilepsy Webinar, Climate change and vector-borne disease webinar, May 9th 2025
- Dr Helena Bonner: School Visits: 8 x Visits, (Laois, Offaly, Westmeath and Dublin).
- Dr Helena Bonner: Talks on STEM Career Awareness for Science week November 2023 and throughout the Academic Year 2023/2024
- Dr Helena Bonner & Dr Isabela Aparicio: Physiology Mini-Rounds Seminar Series (quarterly; started on June 23rd, 2022-June 2024)
- Dr Helena Bonner & Dr Brenton Cavannagh, Hosted by Dept of Physiology and Medical Physics: RCSI March 2024 Mini Science TY Programme – 65 students. 2024 Mini Science TY programme'
- Professor Kevin McGuigan: Round-Table Discussions on Research Funding for Africa. UNESCO – Equatorial Guinea Life Sciences Prize ceremony. W.H.O. H.Q. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. April 2024.
- Professor Kevin McGuigan: School visits x 2 (Louth, Meath)
- Dr Niamh Connolly - Neuroscience Ireland biannual conference organised and hosted by RCSI (co-organiser: Dr Jen Dowling)
- Professor Triona Ní Chonghaile: RCSI Research Day 2024 organised by Professor Triona Ní Chonghaile with invited speaker Professor Elaine Fuchs, Rockefeller University, New York, USA.

Staff List

Professor and Head of Department; Director, Centre for Systems Medicine; Deputy Dean for International Scholarly Engagement

Jochen H M Prehn Dr rer nat

Professor and Director, National Preclinical Imaging Centre

Annette T Byrne PhD, Cert. Med. Ed (AMEE)

Professor and Director of FutureNeuro Centre

David C Henshall BSc, PhD, MRIA

Professor of Medical Physics and Academic Director of Community and Public Engagement

Kevin G McGuigan BSc, PhD, DSc, FInstP, FRSC

Emeritus Professors

Jim Docherty PhD, DSc

Aidan Bradford MSc, PhD, DSc

Head of Medical Physics and Academic Director of Admissions and Senior Lecturer (Medical Physics)

Kenny Winser BSc, PhD

Associate Professor and Co-Director Year 3 Medicine

Brona Murphy MSc, PhD, Co-Director Year 3

Associate Professor in Physiology Education

Christopher Torrens BSc, PhD, PG Cert AP, PG Dip HPE, FTSP

Associate Professor and Academic Lead for the Personal Tutor Programme

Triona Ní Chonghaile PhD, PG Dip HPE

Senior Lecturers

Tobias Engel PhD, PG Dip. HPE

Simon Furney PhD, PhD, PG Dip HPE

Lecturers

Emir Bozkurt PhD

Marc Sturrock PhD

Niamh M Connolly BE, MSc, PhD, PG Dip HPE

Shona Pfeiffer BSc (Hons), PhD, PG Dip HPE

Lecturer, International Medicine and Pharmacy Commencement Programme

Orlaith Brennan BA, MSc, PhD, PG Dip. HPE

StAR Research Lecturers

Susan Byrne MD

Director of Molecular Imaging

Heiko Dussmann Dr rer nat

Administrative and Operations Manager

Isabela Aparicio BSc, MSc, PhD, Dip in Digital Marketing

Laboratory Manager

Ina Woods

Scientific Liaison Officer, Senior Technician & Honorary Lecturer

Helena Bonner BSc, PhD, Dip in LHPE, Dip in Digital Marketing

Senior Research Fellow / MRTF manager

Gang Chen MB, MCh, PhD, MD

Technician

Luise Halang
Anna Perkowska

Honorary Lecturers

Ian S Miller BSc, PhD
Kate Connor PhD
Omar Mamad PhD

Postdoctoral Fellows

Aisling Coughlan PhD
Albert Sanfeliu PhD
Ana Fernandez Martin PhD
Anna Matveeva BSc, MSc, PhD
Beatriz Gil-Avila PhD
Cian Darcy PhD
Daniel Alencar PhD
Éanna B. Ryan PhD
Graeme Sullivan PhD
Hesham Gibriel PhD
Jaideep Charakka Kesavan PhD
Katja Rybakova PhD
Kieron White PhD
Ludovica Di Martino PhD
Meng-Juan Sun PhD, MD
Mohammadreza Azimi PhD
Mona Heiland PhD
Mohsen Setayeshmehr PhD (based in MTU)
Ngoc Hanghn Guyen PhD
Niamh Scully PhD
Nicola Cosgrove PhD
Omar Mamad PhD
Petra Bencurova PhD
Rachel Power PhD (based in TERG)
Rachel Stewart PhD
Ryan Ragan PhD
Valentina Thomas PhD

Research Programme Managers

Alice O' Farrell PhD
Asma Tamar PhD

International Engagement Manager

Rosamund O'Halloran

Research Technicians, Research Associates and Research Assistants

Alexandre Seixas Nascimento
Antonio Tejada BSc MSc
Anna Perkowska MSc
Cliona Farrell MSc
Colum Connolly BSc
Elena Langa BSc
Elena Perez Morrisey MSc
Jordan Higgins
Liam Shiels MSc
Meghma Mitra
Nadia Sawar MSc
Nico Ka Tiu Ng BSc
Rafael Cipolat
Samuel Egan

Sandeep Chenna BSc MSc
Sean Kerrane BSc

Future Neuro Centre Operations

Bridget Doyle BA Business Development and Centre Manager
Karina Carey BSc, Funding and Reporting Officer
Susan Crawford, Education and Public Engagement (EPE) Lead

Laboratory Manager Future Neuro

Amaya Sanz Rodriguez PhD

Postgraduate Students

PhD students currently supervised – 25; MD students currently supervised – 2
PhD students currently co-supervised – 14; MD students currently co-supervised – 3

Visiting Scientists:

Dr Calvin Lee, under the supervision of Dr Shona Pfeiffer
Dr Maria Jesus Abeledo-Lameiro from CIEMAT-PSA, Spain, collaborating with Professor Kevin McGuigan on micro-encapsulation of advanced oxidative products for water disinfection.
Dr Sean Quinlan, visiting scientist, collaborating with Professor David Henshall on FutureNeuro grant award
Souhail Maazioui visiting scientist, collaborating with Professor Brona Murphy on the Enterprise Ireland commercialisation grant award.

Summer Research Students 2023 - 3

SSC Students 2024 - 13

SSP Student 2023 - 2

SRS Students 2023 - 3

Higher Degrees

Biswas, Archita. Systems Analysis of Deeply Phenotyped GBM Cohorts of Long- and Short-Term Survivors. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Cleary, Frances. Developing embedded fabric computing edge intelligence for healthcare e-textile applications. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Conboy, Karen. Chromatin landscape mapping identifies dysregulation of signalling pathways in human temporal lobe epilepsy. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Flanagan, Lyndsey. Targeting anti-apoptotic BCL-2 dependence in Multiple Myeloma. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Sawant, Bhairavi. Field, evaluation of the use of transparent polypropylene jerry cans a+C14:E16s reactors for solar water disinfection. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

White, Kieron, Identifying New Tumour Microenvironment contexts of vulnerability in glioblastoma. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024

Publications

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Cleary F, Srisa-An W, Henshall DC, Balasubramaniam S. Dynamic Field Programmable Logic-Driven Soft Exosuit. *IEEE Sensors* 23, 10935-10949 (2023)

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Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Annette Byrne, Advancing a novel therapeutic strategy for a newly identified subtype (TME-Low) of Glioblastoma, Beaumont Hospital Cancer Research Trust, July 2023 – July 2025, €69,925

Annette Byrne, GBM Research Support, Brain Tumour Ireland, May 2023 – May 2025, €40,000

Annette Byrne, Advancing Novel Treatments for Primary Brain Tumours, Private Donor, May 2023 – March 2028, €250,000.

Annette Byrne, Interrogation of novel Glioblastoma Subtypes towards an improved Precision Medicine Approach for Brain Tumour Patients, ILP-POR-2022-007, Health Research Board / HRB, December 2022 – January 2026, €369,998 (€294,286)

Annette Byrne, GLIORESOLVE: Training the next-generation of European GLIOblastoma (translational) researchers, to RESOLVE precision targeting of the brain tumour microenvironment, Grant Code 101073386, EU Horizon Europe, Sept 2022 – Sept 2026, €2,687,400 (€640,260)

Annette Byrne, RadCOL: Development and validation of a CT-based radiomics signature for early detection of colorectal cancer liver metastasis and post-treatment disease recurrence, Higher Education Authority, Sept 2022 – Aug 2024, €198,627 (€126,175)

Annette Byrne, Leveraging chromosomal instability for improved diagnosis and treatment in bevacizumab resistant metastatic colorectal cancer, 20/FFP-P/8884, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Dec 2021 – Nov 2025, €613,876 (€416,187)

Annette Byrne, Gene Therapy approaches for Brain Tumour related Epilepsy, 20/FFP-P/8613, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Nov 2021 – Oct 2025, €161,241 (€143,041)

Annette Byrne, Manipulation of cell cycle and immune response in GBM and development of novel fluorophores to aid resection of these tumours, Beaumont Hospital Foundation, Oct 2021–Sep 2023, €3,000

Annette Byrne, National Preclinical Imaging Centre, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Jan 2020 – Dec 2023, €3,431,166 (€666,141)

Brona Murphy, GLIOTREAT-Novel treatments for Glioblastoma Patients, 20/FFP-P/8866, Science Foundation Ireland, Frontiers for the Future Project Award, Sep 2021 – Nov 2025, €556,161

Brona Murphy, Digital twins of cell signalling networks for purposes of cancer drug discovery, CF-2021-1649-P, Enterprise Ireland, Commercialisation Fund, Jul 2021 – Jun 2024, €648,000

Brona Murphy, Improving and personalising chemotherapy treatment options for paediatric brain tumour patients, National Children's Research Centre Crumlin / NCRC, Jan 2018 – Jul 2023, €251,780

David Henshall, FutureNeuro – Phase 2, Science Foundation Ireland, Oct 2023 – Sep 2029, €23,215,405 (€12,644,739)

David Henshall, Determine the in vivo effects of Neumirna's antimir targeting miR-134 on behavioral comorbidities in mice with drug-resistant epilepsy, Industry, Feb 2024 – Jul 2024, €98,513

David Henshall, WP2: Assess the efficacy of early Scn1a rescue/targeting strategies on the epilepsy phenotype of DS mice, Industry (F Hoffmann La Roche), Sep 2023 – May 2024, €183,396

David Henshall, Single cell molecular landscape of a disease-modifying treatment for epilepsy, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Jan 2023 – Aug 2028, €49,625

David Henshall, A core medium throughput facility with multi-parametric readouts for the assessment of functional alterations in single cells and brain networks in health and disease states, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Dec 2022 – Jul 2024, €1,558,000

David Henshall, Determine the in vivo effects of Neumirna's antimir targeting miR-134 and miR-27b in mice, Industry, Nov 2022 – Jul 2024, €320,367

David Henshall, miR-CDD: Molecular mechanisms, therapeutic targets and biomarkers for CDKL5 Deficiency Disorder (CDD), Irish Research Council IRC, Sep 2022 – Aug 2026, €119,833

David Henshall, SeeDeepER: StereoEEG depth electrode sourced RNA and epigenetic landscape of epileptiform activity in the human brain, Higher Education Authority, Aug 2022 – Jul 2024, €174,720.00 (€92,720.00)

David Henshall, AAV9-anti-miR-134 (AVanti-134): Translating an effective anti-epilepsy microRNA inhibition approach from pre-clinical proof-of-principle to a clinic-ready, virally-delivered treatment, Wellcome Trust, Jul 2022 – Jun 2024, €389,684 (€277,322)

David Henshall, Safety and efficacy of a novel microRNA-based therapy for epilepsy in a large animal (canine) model, Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE), Jan 2022 – Dec 2024, €35,680 (€31,470.00)

David Henshall, *In vivo* testing of Neumirna ASOs targeting ADK isoform on seizures and anti-epileptogenesis, Industry, Aug 2021 – Dec 2024, €237,488

David Henshall, A Personalised Living Cell Synthetic Computing Circuit for Sensing and Treating Neurodegenerative Disorders, EU Horizon 2020, Feb 2021 – Jan 2025, €781,835

David Henshall, Centre for Research Training in Genomics Data Science- Cohort 2, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), 2021 – 2026, €117,155

David Henshall, FutureNeuro, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Apr 2018 – Sep 2023, €10,382,003 (€8,377,448)

David Henshall, EMPOWER - Citizens and Organisation to Control, Share, and Extract Value from their Data, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Aug 2021 – Jul 2025, €180,625.10

David Henshall, miRNA regulation of developmental sodium channel isoform transition and its implications for Dravet syndrome, EU Horizon Europe, Sep 2022 – Aug 2024, €215,534

David Henshall, An examination of the impact of perampanel (Fycompa) on experimental models of cortical rhythms *in vitro*, Industry, Feb 2020 – Feb 2024, €115,348.58

Jochen Prehn, Generation of glioblastoma (GBM) patient sample biobank and patient-derived cells for the testing of novel therapies, Brain Tumour Ireland, Jan 2018 – Jan 2024, €190,000.00

Jochen Prehn, Spatiotemporal transcriptome and proteome analysis of alpha-Synuclein in Parkinson's Disease, Enterprise Ireland, Jul 2023 – Jul 2025, €12,476.00

Jochen Prehn, InterTAU - Integrative structural biology of pathological tau protein, an appealing therapeutic target for Alzheimer's disease modifying drugs, EU Horizon 2020, Jan 2020 – Jun 2025, €70,200

Jochen Prehn, TRANSCAN3 PLASTIG - Tackling tumor heterogeneity and PLASTicity as resistance mechanisms in Glioblastoma, Health Research Board / HRB, Sep 2023 – Aug 2026, €369,583

Jochen Prehn, Spatiotemporal transcriptome and proteome analysis of a-Synuclein pathology in Parkinson's disease: Identification of cell type-specific vulnerability and tolerance mechanisms (4DPD-Omics), Health Research Board / HRB, May 2024 – Apr 2027, € 499,961 (€355,051 to PI)

Jochen Prehn, AICRIstart: A Foundation Stone for the All-Island Cancer Research Institute (AICRI): Building Critical Mass in Precision Cancer Medicine, Higher Education Authority, Sep 2022 – Aug 2026, €309,586

Jochen Prehn, Dimebon and AMPK signalling, Industry, Sep 2009 – Dec 2024, €357,963

Jochen Prehn, National Brain Tumour Research and Resource, Irish Institute of Clinical Neuroscience (IICN), Nov 2019 – Oct 2024, €20,000

Jochen Prehn, Targeting multidrug resistance in glioblastoma multiforme, Private Donor, Jul 2015 – Dec 2024, €2,000.00

Jochen Prehn, Spatial Single Cell Transcriptomics Analysis in Colorectal Cancer, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Nov 2021 – Aug 2024, €42,607

Jochen Prehn, Patient Data Platform enabling a Definitive Precision Medicine approach to New Drug Development in Neurodegeneration (PRECISION ALS), Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Dec 2021 – Nov 2025, €399,929

Jochen Prehn, Single cell analysis of tsRNAs as novel regulators of the cellular transcriptome and proteome in the nervous system, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Jan 2023 – Aug 2026, €127,680.00
Jochen Prehn, The Role of Lingo1 and BK Channels in tremor, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Oct 2022 – Sep 2026, €602,252

Kevin McGuigan, SURG-Water Project “Supporting climate-resilient health facilities in Malawi through sustainable access to water using solar disinfection of harvested rainwater”, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Grant no. 22/FIP/SDG/10720, Feb 2023 – Jul 2024, €223,903.00

Kevin McGuigan, PANI WATER: Photolytic and Adsorption based Novel Innovations for India, EU Horizon 2020, Feb 2019 – Jan 2024, €3,576,532.50 (€445,110.00)

Kevin McGuigan, Princess Haya SODIS Primary School Project, Private Donor, Apr 2014 – Feb 2029, €226,182.00

Marc Sturrock, Key Action 171: Mobility of Higher Education students and staff supported by external policy funds, Higher Education Authority, Aug 2023 – Jul 2025, €134,720

Marc Sturrock, Key Action 131 Learning Mobility of Individuals 2023-2025 (Higher Education) Student, Teacher/Staff Mobility Grants, Organisational Support, Higher Education Authority, Jun 2023 – Jul 2025, €101,340

Marc Sturrock, Mobility of Higher Education students and staff supported by external policy funds, Higher Education Authority, Aug 2022 – Jul 2025, €85,760

Marc Sturrock, Computational modelling of cell competition as a mechanism to eliminate minimal residual disease in acute myeloid leukemia, Irish Cancer Society, Jun 2023 – Aug 2023, €2,500.00

Marc Sturrock, EPA2 Development of Atmospheric Dispersion Models to assist in the response to a nuclear or radiological emergency, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Jun 2024 – Jun 2026, €89,791

Niamh MC Connolly, Spatiotemporal transcriptome and proteome analysis of α -Synuclein pathology in Parkinson's disease: Identification of cell type-specific vulnerability and tolerance mechanisms (4DPD-Omics). JPND-2023-2 Health Research Board 01 May 2024, €499,961 (€144,910 to PI)

Niamh Connolly, RCSI International Secondment Award, RCSI-ISA-2021, Sep 2021, €3,000

Niamh Connolly, StAR International PhD Programme 2020, Soochow 2020 RCSI, Oct 2020, €36,000
Niamh Connolly, Conference Support Funds, Industry, May 2023 – Feb 2024, €32,704

Orlaith Brennan, Vascularity affinity precursor (VAP) structure for musculoskeletal tissue healing, Enterprise Ireland, May 2019 – Sep 2023, €45,857

Orlaith Brennan, Vascularity affinity precursor (VAP) structure for musculoskeletal tissue healing, Industry, May 2019 – Sep 2023, €11,464

Simon Furney, NECRET Research Account, Private Donor, Jan 2023 – Sep 2026, €70,000.00

Simon Furney, SFI Fellowship Programme- Nicola Cosgrove, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Oct 2023 – Oct 2025, €159,301.

Simon Furney, NoCoSMiCC: Non-coding somatic mutations in Colorectal cancer, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Dec 2022 – Nov 2025, €302,246

Simon Furney, Characterisation of KMT2C and KMT2D mutations in breast cancer, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Jan 2023 – Aug 2026, €101,536

Simon Furney, Centre for Research Training in Genomics Data Science - Cohort 4, RCSI, 2023-2026, €39,658

Simon Furney, Centre for Research Training in Genomics Data Science - Cohort 4, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), 2023-2026, €263,533

Tobias Engel, BrainPurinesNet - Purinergic signalling in brain diseases: Novel avenues for diagnostics and therapeutics, Enterprise Ireland, Aug 2023 – Aug 2025, €6,211

Tobias Engel, NeuroTrain: New diagnostics and therapeutics for brain diseases, Enterprise Ireland, Oct 2023 – Oct 2025, €12,441

Tobias Engel, Targeting the purinergic system for disease-modification in epilepsy, EU Horizon 2020, Apr 2022 – Mar 2025, €228,761

Tobias Engel, Pre-clinical evaluation of P2X7 antagonism to suppress TBI-induced brain pathology and the development of epilepsy, Industry, Nov 2020 – Aug 2023, €129,578

Tobias Engel, Pharmacological evaluation of P2X7 inhibitor AFC5128, Industry, May 2021 – Mar 2025, €285,117

Tobias Engel, L-Aspartate signalling in the brain, Medical Research Council (MRC), May 2022 – Oct 2025, £78,956

Tobias Engel, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), ARC Hub for Therapeutics – Cógas: “AAV-mediated P2X7 receptor overexpression in inhibitory GABAergic interneurons as novel treatment for drug-refractory epilepsy and other CNS diseases”, Nov 2024 – Oct 2026, €280,000

Tobias Engel, MR/W028964/1: “L-Aspartate signalling in the brain”, Jun 2022 – May 2026, €1,000,000 (€90,000)

Tobias Engel, Horizon Europe - MSCA, HORIZON-MSCA-2023-PF-01: “Purine sensors as novel point-of-care devices for seizures and epilepsy”, Oct 2024 – Sept 2026, €280,000

Triona Ni Chonghaile, Targeting anti-apoptotic BCL-2 dependence in Multiple Myeloma, Breakthrough Cancer Research, Sep 2020 – Jan 2024, €133,600

Triona Ni Chonghaile, Commercialisation of a Histone deacetylase 6 PROTAC, Enterprise Ireland, Mar 2024 – Jun 2024, €15,000

Triona Ni Chonghaile, MM_BH3_CutTag, EU Horizon Europe, Sep 2022 – Apr 2024, € 215,534

Triona Ni Chonghaile, Defining the pro-survival signalling of the bone marrow microenvironment of multiple myeloma, Irish Cancer Society, Oct 2021 – Oct 2024, €235,000

Triona Ni Chonghaile, Medicinal chemistry approaches to make atypical HDAC6 inhibitors and PROTACs to treat Multiple Myeloma, Irish Research Council IRC, Sep 2022 – Aug 2023, €106,365

Triona Ni Chonghaile, Dynamics of ageing and cancer: a multi-functional study into apoptosis, metabolism and the microenvironment - Ageing-MM, Irish Research Council IRC, Sep 2022 – Aug 2026, €600,318

Triona Ni Chonghaile, HDAC6i: Understanding and targeting the function of histone deacetylase 6 in triple negative breast cancer, Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), Sep 2020 – Aug 2024, €618,921.00

Innovation and Commercialisation Activities

Professor David Henshall, Non-exclusive, royalty-free (NERF) license to Janssen Pharmaceutical Research and Development, LLC, San Diego, CA, United States for 'P2X7 receptor inhibition as a disease-modifying treatment for temporal lobe epilepsy', Sep-9 2023.

Professor David Henshall, Exclusive IP License to Neumirna for miR-134 IP portfolio (EI-Identifier 2022-RCSI-004).

Professor Triona Ní Chonghaile, Patent UK No.2405650.9 submitted to UK on a novel HDAC6-PROTAC 2024.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Overview

The school has undergone rapid growth since the appointment of the Head of School, Professor Suzanne McDonough, in 2019 with a focus on growing research activity. The school has brought in €10.4M in competitive research funding, 90% of this over the last four years. There has been significant expansion in supervision of level 10 (PhD/Prof Doc.) students and research staff. A key achievement this year has been the establishment of the Cerebral Palsy Lifespan, Health and Wellbeing Research Centre (CP Life), led by Dr Jennifer Ryan. The school has expanded student numbers, and breadth of taught postgraduate and undergraduate options. We retain our highly regarded undergraduate programme and numbers have increased by 40% since 2019.

The school has 25 staff (17.2 FTE), including 13 academic staff, an operations manager and co-ordinator, a learning technologist (0.5 FTE), a clinical practice education team (1.5 FTE) supported by 4 clinical tutors (2.65 FTE), and a wider network of HSE funded clinical tutors. The school has 5 honorary/visiting lecturers, 3 visiting Professors, and several experienced clinical physiotherapists (n=17 honorary clinical lecturers) who support research activities, clinical education, and/or contribute to the teaching and content delivery in specialist areas of the programme. Professor Suzanne McDonough is the Head of the School and Professor Frances Horgan is the Deputy Head of School. Nearly all the academic staff in the school are research active (8 PIs), working with up to 15 research staff and 18 PhD/Prof Doc students.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Teaching and Learning

There has been significant expansion in our postgraduate programmes, with additional micro-credentialled modules added to our current suite of modules in neurology and gerontology, physical activity and behaviour change in clinical populations. New programmes are being planned in paediatric disability and musculoskeletal practice. Two of our modules Stroke Rehabilitation and Translating Evidence to Practice and sponsored by the Health and Social Care Professions (HSCP) office, a first for the School.

Practice Education remains a critical component of the School activity. The most significant achievement this year has been to get agreement on a major redesign of our undergraduate placements as part of our curriculum review process. This was achieved by significant engagement with clinical sites across the country over the last 12 months.

The school continues to progress its work in Universal Design for Learning (UDL), to ensure our programmes are responsive to the needs of diverse learners. Dr Ailish Malone and Fiona Daly published a Times Higher Education Campus piece on applying the principles of UDL to healthcare practice placements and also presented this work the International Education Forum in June 2024. Dr Malone led a university-wide session entitled “Challenging narratives on disability in healthcare” with a keynote speaker, Dr Grace Spence Green, and a panel discussion.

Childhood Obesity Education for Health Professionals

Dr Grace O'Malley is leading on this project funded by the Dept of Health and the HSE. To date 2997 health professionals have registered for training with 2700 hours of training delivered. From June 1 2023 June 30 2024 there were 1004 new registrations with 1463 hours of education completed during that time. In Jan 2024, RCSI became the first medical undergraduate in Ireland to schedule 2 hours of childhood obesity training as part of mandatory curriculum (Year 2 medicine in Dublin and Bahrain) which complements the inclusion of training in the final year physiotherapy curriculum. Funding was renewed for 2024 (182K) so that training can continue, and discipline-specific and interprofessional competency frameworks can be developed. Two new aspects of the project will commence: a) a collaboration with the school of medicine in University of Limerick to develop an undergraduate OSCE toolkit for Irish medical/health professional schools and b) design of a research study to evaluate the impact of training on health professional knowledge, attitudes and behaviours.

Research

The Cerebral Palsy Lifespan Health and Well-being (CP-Life) Research Centre was established in 2023 as part of a Programme of Excellence launched by the Cerebral Palsy Foundation in Ireland, which aims to establish Ireland as an international leader in cerebral palsy care and research. The programme is being funded with the generosity of a group of private donors, including John and Patrick Collison. CP-Life Research Centre is located within the School of Physiotherapy and has a strong focus on research translation through the development and evaluation of evidence-based practices and supports for people with cerebral palsy and other disabilities.

The School is leading research to support health in the wider community. A good example of this is 'Uisce Cliste: Healthy Hydration for Dublin' in collaboration with Dublin City Council, the Liffey Partnership, and Cherry Orchard and Ballyfermot Football Clubs. Uisce Cliste will evaluate the impact of increasing access to free drinking water in areas of deprivation and a bid for funding was successful through Pobal.

The Schools research impact is also evidenced by our media activity. Prof Helen French discussed the 'role of exercise as a first-line treatment for osteoarthritis' as part of the Arthritis Ireland Inflammation Nation podcast series in November 2023, and delivered a webinar on 'physical activity, exercise and arthritis- busting some common myths' for Arthritis Ireland's national arthritis week in April 2024. Dr Aoife Stephenson and Dr Joice Cunningham, post-doctoral researchers on the MAINTAIN and ENACT projects produced a podcast on being active with arthritis with PPI contributors Eric Boyle and Noreena Coyle for World Arthritis Day 2023

Engagement

The School continues to grow its capability with respect to Public and Patient Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) in the research we do. This is evidenced by two recent award: Fiona Weldon was awarded the inaugural RCSI Public Research Partner Excellence Award recognising her contribution to and impact on our research into cerebral palsy. Ronan Cleary was awarded the undergraduate Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) in Research Award at RCSI Research Day 2024 for his contribution to the Youth Experience Matters project while completing the Research Summer School. A number of PPIE events took place this year:

- 1) March 2024 World Cafe on the Youth Experience Matters project, on the research theme of physical activity and rehabilitation in March, hosted by Dr Ailish Malone, PhD scholar Karen Brady and the research team at CP-Life, to action the top 10 priorities for enhancing participation in physical activity as identified and chosen by teenagers with physical disability.
- 2) May 2024, a workshop as part of the ENACT research study to agree on challenges and opportunities for developing models of care on arthritis in primary care in Ireland co-ordinated by Prof Helen French and Dr Joice Cunningham.

3) May 2024 a participatory workshop as part of the MAintAin research study to build an intervention to support people with arthritis to remain active, coordinated by Professor Suzanne McDonough and Dr Aoife Stephenson.

4) Professors Frances Horgan and David Williams led the RCSI PPI IGNITE Festival Event, iPASTAR Improving pathways for acute stroke care and rehabilitation: 'Stroke care - your voice matters' in October 2023. The iPASTAR stroke programme PPI panel members also attended the European Life after Stroke Forum which was held in Dublin in March 2024.

Ratification of the First RCSI Healthy Campus Action Plan

RCSI Healthy Campus Working Group chaired by Professor Suzanne McDonough completed the first RCSI Healthy Campus Action Plan which was finalised and presented to Academic Council for sign off and subsequent approval in May 2024.

Awards

2023 NUI HH Stewart Scholarships and Prizes; second prize awarded to Aine Symons

Marie Guidon Medal awarded to Aine Symons (Physiotherapy Class of 2024).

The ISCP Anne O'Brien Clinical Prize was awarded to James Linehan (Physiotherapy Class of 2024).

ISCP Student Research Prize was awarded to Alaidh Ni Mhuiri (Physiotherapy Class of 2024)

RCSI Public Research Partner Excellence Award. Fiona Weldon

RCSI undergraduate Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) in Research Award. Ronan Cleary

Appointment to national/international committees or advisory groups

Professor Suzanne McDonough

- Member of the International Science Advisory Panel for Ageing Well National Science Challenge Research Awards, New Zealand.
- Invited member of the National Physical Activity Pathways in Healthcare Model (PAPHM) Advisory Group
- Co-Lead of WHO Europe Network Working Group on Health Enhancing Physical Activity Promotion in clinical conditions

Professor Frances Horgan

- Health Service Executive (HSE) National Stroke Strategy Implementation Group member, April 2024-present

Professor Helen French

- Membership of the Osteoarthritis Research International (OARSI) Research and Training Committee
- Membership of the Osteoarthritis Research International (OARSI) Engagement Committee
- Membership of the European Union (EU) COST-Action 'Building an open European Network on OsteoArthritis research (NetwOArk)', Working Group 1- 'Patient engagement & information programme on OA' and Working group 4 'Building the European Society for Osteoarthritis (ESOA)

Dr Grace O'Malley

- Reappointed as Clinical Lead for the CHI Child and Adolescent Complex Obesity Service (one of two non-consultant/medical clinical leads across the five CHI clinical sites).
- Continued in role of Physiotherapy Expert with Guideline Development Committee, NICE (Define NICE – National Institute for Clinical Excellence) Obesity Clinical Guidelines, UK.
- Continued in Trustee and Secretary roles at European Association for the Study of Obesity, in addition to Director and Committee Member of Association for the Study of Obesity on the Island of Ireland.
- Continued in role as committee member on research sub-group of the International Organisation of Paediatric Physiotherapists (World Physiotherapy).

Helen Heery

- National CDNT Practice Education working group, National HSCP Database working group.

Dr Jennifer Ryan

- Member, Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists Research Network Steering Committee
- Appointed to European Academy of Childhood-onset Disability Meeting Scientific Committee for Annual Meeting 2026
- Member, European Academy of Childhood-onset Disability, Lifespan Special Interest Group
- Trustee, UP, the Adult Cerebral Palsy Movement

Dr Ailish Malone

- Member, Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists Research Network Steering Committee

Louise Keating

- National representative to the International Federation of Sports Physical Therapists, on behalf of Chartered Physiotherapists in Sports & Exercise Medicine (ISCP)

International Conferences organised by staff

Professor Suzanne McDonough: Lead of the Organising Committee 19th annual meeting and 15th conference of HEPA Europe, the European Network for the Promotion of Health-Enhancing Physical Activity.

Professor Frances Horgan: iPASTAR (Improving Pathways for Acute Stroke Care and Rehabilitation) symposium and Design Sprint, ERC Beaumont Hospital, February 2023

Professor Frances Horgan: PPI Festival Your Voice Matters in Stroke Care, RCSI, October 2023

Dr Grace O'Malley: Nomination to Scientific Committee of European Congress on Obesity, Venice, 2024

Dr Jennifer Ryan/CP-Life Research Centre "What I know now that I wish I knew then". International Alliance of Academies of Childhood Disability Listening and Sharing Event, 2023.

Dr Jennifer Ryan/CP-Life Research Centre. "Partnering to Pedal with Disability" Development of cycling resources with young people and their supporters". Seminar, June 2024

Dr Jennifer Ryan/CP-Life Research Centre. "Barriers and Facilitators to Health and Disability Service Access Experienced by People with Cerebral Palsy; an Australian Perspective". Seminar, March 2024

Staff List

Professor & Head of School

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Professor & Deputy Head of School

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Emma Kelly MISCP, CORU Registered Physiotherapist PT030712)

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Jennifer Ashton

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Joice Cunningham

Louise Tully

Honorary Clinical Lecturers

David Richards

Anthea Seagar

Deirdre English

Jenny Ashton

Cinny Cusack

Aileen Flynn

Sarah Slattery

Darren Rodgers
Laura Byrne
Ruth Fewer
Mary McCallan
Marian Glynn
Fiona Campbell
Grainne O'Hara
Catherine Devaney
Kari Christiansen
Michelle Fitzgerald
Kalpana Sivakumar
Alison Kearon
Eilis Keogh
Alison Brenna
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Emma Kelly
Caroline Traenor
Roisin Vance
Claire Egan
Fiona Kinsella
Chiara Reddin
Cathy Quinn
Ivan Clancy
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Senior Postdoctoral Fellow
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Jessica Burke

Principal Investigator
Colm Daly

Higher Degrees

Murphy Sarah J, Training load and injury risk in Leinster schoolboys' rugby: The SCRUM Study. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Publications

Almousa S, Vicenzino B, Mellor R, Alison Grimaldi, Kathleen Bennet, Frank Doyle, Geraldine M. McCarthy⁵, **Suzanne M. McDonough**, Jennifer M. Ryan, Karen Lynch⁶, Jan Sorensen⁷, Helen P. French. An Education and eExercise intervention for gluteal tendinopathy in an Irish setting: a protocol for a feasibility randomised clinical trial (LEAP-Ireland RCT) [version 1; peer review: 1 approved, 1 approved with reservations]. *HRB Open Res* 2023, 6:76 (<https://doi.org/10.12688/hrbopenres.13796.1>)

Bowman-Busato, J., Schreurs, L., Halford, J.C.G., Yumuk V., **O'Malley G**, Woodward E, De Cock D and Baker J. Providing a common language for obesity: the European Association for the Study of Obesity obesity taxonomy. *Int J Obes* (2024). doi.org/10.1038/s41366-024-01565-9

Brady K, Cleary R, O'Gorman E, **McDonough S**, Kerr C, Kiernan D, McConkey E, Ryan J, Malone A. Identifying the top 10 priorities of adolescents with a physical disability regarding participation in physical activity: A Delphi study. *Dev Med Child Neurol*. 2024 May 30. doi: 10.1111/dmcn.15986. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 38815177.

Brady K, Kiernan D, McConkey E et al. Participation in physical activity by adolescents with physical disability: Protocol for a national participation snapshot and Delphi consensus study ("Youth Experience Matters"). *HRB Open Res* 2024, 6:38 (<https://doi.org/10.12688/hrbopenres.13741.2>).

Callan F, **Keating L**, Casserley-Feeney S, **French HP**. ADvAnced PhysioTherapy in MuSculosKeletal Triage: Investigating prognostic factors, healthcare utilisation and clinical outcomes (ADAPT MSK) - a cohort study protocol. *HRB Open Res*. 2023 Dec 6;6:73. doi: 10.12688/hrbopenres.13769.1. PMID: 38384973;

Connor EO, Dolan E, **Horgan F**, Galvin R, Robinson K (2023). A qualitative evidence synthesis exploring people after stroke, family members, carers and healthcare professionals' experiences of early supported discharge (ESD) after stroke. *PLoS ONE* 18(2): e0281583.

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Cunningham J, Doyle F, **Ryan JM**, Clyne B, Cadogan C, Cottrell E, Murphy P, Smith SM, **French HP**. Primary care-based models of care for osteoarthritis; a scoping review. *Semin Arthritis Rheum*. 2023 Aug;61:152221. doi: 10.1016/j.semarthrit.2023.152221. Epub 2023 May 16. PMID: 37327762.

Ferdous F, Arthurs N, Tully L, O'Brien S, Smith SM, Walsh A, O'Gorman CS, **O'Malley G**. Addressing child and adolescent obesity management in Ireland: identifying facilitators and barriers in clinical practice. *Front Pediatr*. 2023 Jul 7;11:1222604 [doi: 10.3389/fped.2023.1222604](https://doi.org/10.3389/fped.2023.1222604).

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O'Callaghan, G., Fahy, M., O'Meara, S, **Horgan F. et al.** Transitioning to home and beyond following stroke: a prospective cohort study of outcomes and needs. *BMC Health Serv Res* (2024) 24, 449. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-024-10820-8>

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O'Shea O, Casey S, Giblin C, Stephenson A, Carroll TP, McElvaney NG, **McDonough SM**. Physical Activity, Exercise Capacity and Sedentary Behavior in People with Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency: A Scoping Review. *Int J Chron Obstruct Pulmon Dis*. 2023 Jun 16;18:1231-1250. doi: 10.2147/COPD.S389001. PMID: 37346078; PMCID: PMC10281283.

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Runhaar J, Holden MA, Hattle M, Quicke J, Healey EL, van der Windt D, Dziedzic KS, van Middelkoop M, Bierma-Zeinstra S, Foster NE, Brown J, Ingram C, Hickson S, Taylor R, Walker C, Haxby Abbott J, Allen K, Hurley M, Bennell K, Bossen D, Chaipinyo K, Cochrane T, de Rooij M, Risberg MA, Fitzgerald K, **French H**, Hale L, Henriksen M, Hinman RS, Hopman-Rock M, Keogh J, Veenhof C, Knoop J, Krauß I, Lvinger P, McCarthy C, Messier SP, Heinonen A, Osteras H, Anwer S, Lacerda ACR, Shankar G, Steinhilber B, Suzuki Y, Hunt MA, Talbot L, Teirlinck C, Doherty M, Tsai PF, Wallis J, Menek MY. Mechanisms of action of therapeutic exercise for knee and hip OA remain a black box phenomenon: an individual patient data mediation study with the OA Trial Bank. *RMD Open*. 2023 Aug;9(3):e003220. doi: 10.1136/rmdopen-2023-003220. PMID: 37640513; PMCID: PMC10462947.

Ryan J, Manikandan M, Fortune, J, Weldon F. CP-Life Research Centre: Submission in response to Green Paper on Disability Reform. March 2024

Ryan JM, Albairami F, Hamilton T, Cope N, Amirmudin N, Manikandan M... Fortune J. Prevalence and incidence of chronic conditions among adults with cerebral palsy: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology*. 2023;65(9):1174-1189.

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Swaithes L, Campbell L, Anthierens S, Skrybant M, Schiphof D, **French H**, de Wit M, Blackburn S, Dziedzic K. Series: Public engagement with research. Part 4: Maximising the benefits of involving the public in research implementation. *Eur J Gen Pract* (2023) Dec;29(1):2243037. doi: 10.1080/13814788.2023.2243037. PMID: 37609798

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Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Ailish Malone (PI), Participation in physical activity: what really matters to adolescents with physical disability? Health Research Charities Ireland – Health Research Board Joint Funding Scheme (Nov 2022 – Feb 2024). €114,816 to RCSI

Ailish Malone (Co-PI), Ciaran Bolger. Feasibility of Positron Emission Tomography in Degenerative Cervical Myelopathy. European Spine Society Taskforce Research (July 2023 – July 2025). €10,000 to RCSI.

Colm Daly (research fellow), Ailish Malone (PI). The Cerebral Palsy Adolescent Growth Evaluation Study (CP-AGE). Health Research Board Clinician Scientist Fellowship (Feb 2024 – Jan 2029), €283,308 to RCSI

Frances Horgan (PI), David Williams, PASTAR-Pathway for Acute STroke And Rehabilitation, Health Research Board / HRB, Collaborative Doctoral Awards (CDA), (Jun 2020) – (May 2025), total award to all institutions €1499996.13, to RCSI €1137573.59

Frances Horgan (PI), Improving quality of life (QOL) for palliative care patients (PCPs) and their caregivers with an early and ongoing personalised rehabilitative physiotherapy programme in a primary care setting, Irish Research Council (IRC), Employment-Based Postgraduate Programme, (Sep 2021 – Aug 2024), €82,500 to RCSI

Frances Horgan (PI), The emerging role of the stroke clinical nurse specialist in early supported discharge. Irish Research Council (IRC), Employment-Based Postgraduate Programme, (Sep 2022 – Aug 2025), €82500 to RCSI

Frances Horgan (PI), Codesigning Life after Stroke Support Pathways (CLASP) Health Research Board, Applied Partnership Award Programme, (May. 2023 – April 2025), €239,998 to RCSI

Frances Horgan (PI), Optimising upper limb therapy dosage and opportunity for practice using technology in an inpatient neurorehabilitation setting – a mixed methods study. Irish Research Council (IRC), Employment-Based Postgraduate Programme, (Sep 2023 – Aug 2027), €112000 to RCSI

Grace O'Malley (PI), 30th European Obesity Congress, Failte Ireland, Conference Grant, (Jan 2023 - Aug 2023) €31,700 to RCSI

Grace O'Malley (PI), Childhood Obesity Communication Toolkit for Primary Healthcare Professionals, European Association for the Study of Obesity, Research Grant, (Jul 2021 - June 2024) €121,874 to RCSI

Grace O'Malley (PI), Meeting the Challenge of Childhood Obesity Treatment in Irish Healthcare: Generating Data to Facilitate Action, Health Research Board / HRB Applied Partnership Awards, (Jan 2021 - Dec 2023), €239808.74 to RCSI

Grace O'Malley (PI), Online Childhood Obesity Education for Health Professionals, HSE, Service Level Agreement, (Jan 2022-Dec 2024), €104,210 to RCSI

Grace O'Malley (PI), Childhood Obesity Education for Health Professionals, Department of Health, Service Level Agreement, (Jan 2022 - Dec 2024), €518,000 to RCSI

Grace O'Malley (PI), StAR Research Lecturer Fellowship (June 2017 - Dec 2024), €148,000 to RCSI

Grace O'Malley (co-PI), RCSI COllaborate Initiative (April 2023 - August 2023) €5,000 RCSI

Helen French (PI), Better Osteoarthritis Care: Delivering education and training for primary care health professionals in Ireland, Health Research Board, Knowledge Translation Award (2022 - 2023), €36510 to RCSI

Helen French (co-PI)/Louise Keating (co-PI), Injury Surveillance of Schoolboys' Level Rugby in Leinster – the SCRUM study Phase 2, IRFU Charitable Trust (IRFUCT), Research Project Grant, (July 2022 – August 2023), €80000 to RCSI

Helen French (PI) An EDucation and eXercise intervention (EDX-Ireland) for gluteal tendinopathy in an Irish setting: a feasibility randomised controlled trial (LEAP-Ireland trial), HRB DIFA award 2021-2024 €329,661 to RCSI

Helen French (PI) Development of a Model of Care for Osteoarthritis in Primary Care in Ireland- A mixed methods study, HRB Investigator-Led Project award. 2020-2024. €365,886 to RCSI

Helen French (PI) Musculoskeletal physiotherapy triage in Ireland: investigating prognostic factors, healthcare utilisation and clinical outcomes in people presenting with musculoskeletal pain in secondary care €82,500 to RCSI

Suzanne McDonough/Helen French (co-Is). DigiBio Innovation Bid €383,915 of 7m for 0.5FTE Programme manager in RO

Suzanne McDonough (PI), Sustaining activity with arthritis (SAWA) following an Arthritis Ireland Be active with arthritis (BAWA) exercise programme, Health Research Charities Ireland – Health Research Board Joint Funding Scheme Arthritis Ireland, funding to RCSI €232,570.31, April 23 to Sept 2025

Suzanne McDonough (Co-I), Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of a peer-led walking programme to increase physical activity in inactive older adults: Walk With Me Study NIHR (NIHR131550) £1,115,754.81, £8500 to RCSI, March 22 - Feb 25

Suzanne McDonough (Co-PI), Non-digital support for maintaining physical activity in people with long-term conditions – within Maintenance Of physical acTivity beHaviour (MOTH) programme NIHR Allied Research Collaboration (ARC) Wessex, £68,348, £15,000 to RCSI Oct 2021-Sept 23

Suzanne McDonough (PI), Healthy Campus Charter and Framework, Higher Education Authority, Tender, (Dec 2021) – (Sep 2024), €10,000 to RCSI

Jennifer Ryan (Co-PI) ELEVATE, Science Foundation Ireland/Cerebral Palsy Foundation Strategic Partnership Programme, April 2024 to March 2029, €11,600,000; €1,700,000 to RCSI

Jennifer Ryan (PI) Cerebral Palsy Lifespan Health and Well-being Research Centre, Cerebral Palsy Foundation, July 2023 to June 2028, €1,500,000

Jennifer Ryan (PI) Use of intervention mapping to adapt a transition programme for young people with childhood-onset physical disability in Ireland: the Ignition 2 study, Health Research Board Applied Partnership Award, March 2023-Feb 2025, €240,000

Jennifer Ryan (PI) An investigation into the prevalence and experience of psychopathology and mental disorders among children and adolescents with cerebral palsy. Health Research Board-Health Research Charities Ireland Joint Funding Scheme, Feb 2023-May 2024; €114,607.

Jennifer Ryan (Co-PI) Clinical effectiveness of an adolescent-specific strengthening programme, compared to usual care, for ambulant adolescents with spastic cerebral palsy – the ROBUST trial. NIHR Health Technology Assessment, Jan 2023- August 2026, £1,395,482, £15,500 to RCSI

Jennifer Ryan (Co-PI) Clinical effectiveness of a child-specific dynamic stretching exercise programme, compared to usual care for ambulant children with spastic cerebral palsy – the SPELL trial. NIHR Health Technology Assessment, Jan 2023- August 2026, £1,385,787, £15,500 to RCSI

Jennifer Ryan (PI), StAR Research Programme, RCSI, Jan 2018 to Dec 2024, €150,000

Jennifer Ryan (PI) Evaluating an exercise is medicine module in a medical programme in Ireland. American College of Sports Medicine EIM-OC Franklin Microgrant, July 2023 to September 2024. \$750

Jennifer Ryan (PI) Medical Care of Adults living with Cerebral Palsy: A clinical practice guideline. Cerebral Palsy Foundation, Feb 2023 to August 2023, €14,747

POPULATION HEALTH

School and Units Overview

The School of Population Health (SPH) works to enhance human health by understanding, safeguarding and improving the health of populations through research, education and synergistic collaborations.

The School comprises the Department of Public Health and Epidemiology, Department of Health Psychology, Data Science Centre, Healthcare Outcomes Research Centre, Institute of Global Surgery, Converge: Centre for Chronic Disease and Population Health Research, the Cameron Scholars programme and the SPHeRE programme. It includes some 90 academic, research and professional staff, as well as more than 20 PhD scholars.

We are engaged in an exciting programme of growth, developing a suite of postgraduate programmes in population health leadership to launch in autumn 2024, and continuing to win significant research funding.

In the SPH, we recognise the importance of a diverse, inclusive and supportive environment for our team of academics, researchers, scholars and support staff, all of whom are committed to fostering a culture of excellence, innovation and collaboration.

Department of Health Psychology

The Department of Health Psychology provides undergraduate education to medical, physiotherapy and pharmacy students in RCSI, and postgraduate teaching to PhD students undertaking the HRB-funded SPHeRE (Structured Population Health, Policy and health-services Research Education) programme, students undertaking the Master's in Surgery (MCh), Master's (MSc) in Neurology and Gerontology, the Physician Associate programme and a module run by the School of Physiotherapy on Physical Activity and Health Behaviour Change in Clinical Populations.

The Department delivers teaching, learning and assessment content to students that enables them to develop an awareness of the importance of psychological principles and skills for patient communication and health outcomes, as well as providing specific workshops for students to develop skills of delivering interventions for behaviour change, and of resilience and reflection. The Department has collaborated with the University of Pennsylvania Positive Psychology Centre who provided training to RCSI faculty across Dublin and Bahrain in the delivery of small group teaching on nine core skills of resilience. Delivery of the RCSI/UPenn resilience programme commenced in September 2022, with eight of nine skills delivered in Years 1 and 2 of the THEP programme.

In addition, the Department delivers a very popular, fully online, optional Certificate in Lifestyle Medicine, available also as a student choice module. This inter-disciplinary, inter-departmental certificate involves approximately 50 hours of student activity, including 22 hours of online content and reflective assignments, with a substantive assignment for completion over the summer. The fourth annual intake to the Certificate in October 2023 involved 255 students registering for the certificate, which will be awarded at the end of 2024. The optional certificate will continue to be open to students annually each September.

Members of the Department are leading a range of research grants, working closely with patients and the public, as well as applied partners in the HSE, NOCA and other health services, health policy and patient representative groupings. Research successes included grant awards from the HRB, EU, Enterprise Ireland and the IRC. Ongoing research collaborations are internal, national and international, spanning a variety of health-related disciplines.

Department of Public Health and Epidemiology

RCSI has been teaching public health to medical students since 1841, a time when infectious diseases, child mortality and low life expectancy were affecting the population globally. Since this time, there has been a marked increase in life expectancy in European and North American populations, because of many factors including improved sanitation, better working conditions, improved management of infectious disease, and better access to healthcare. However, these improvements have not impacted population health in low-income countries to the same extent. In most low-income countries, poverty and infectious disease still have a major impact on population health and poor access to healthcare means that many people do not have access to basic primary care services, as well as tertiary health care such

as life-saving surgery. In addition, even within high income countries, health inequalities have been increasing. In tandem with this, the rise of non-communicable diseases has brought new challenges to the public health workforce in both high- and low-income countries, and this has led to a new set of skills being required. Finally, but perhaps most important, is that climate change has led to an increasing global health burden, with the World Health Organization naming climate change as the biggest threat to human health in the 21st Century. It is also recognised that climate change will not affect everyone equally, but it will be the most vulnerable and marginalised who will suffer most.

The health workforce, therefore, needs to have a thorough understanding of these different influences on population health and illness, as well as an understanding of the health professional advocate role in addressing the challenges that we will need to face in the coming years. At the Department of Public Health and Epidemiology, we therefore bring a broad perspective to both our teaching and research, and, over the last two years, we have sought to introduce the concepts of planetary health and inequalities in public health into the curriculum, including an introduction to the important topic of sustainable healthcare.

Data Science Centre

The mission of the RCSI Data Science Centre (DSC) is to improve human health and quality of life through rigorous and innovative design, analysis and reporting of health research studies. The DSC aims to enhance the quality of quantitative and qualitative research at RCSI, by informing and supporting study design, analysis and reporting of health research, building capacity and as an integral part of the research infrastructure and environment at RCSI.

We collaborate with RCSI researchers on high-impact substantive research projects and lead cutting-edge methodological research advancing knowledge in biostatistics and bioinformatics. The DSC supports researchers through provision of consultation and analysis services across the spectrum of RCSI research and learning and development in research methods, biostatistics, bioinformatics and statistical software. This is achieved through a range of activities, including delivering modules across several programmes, including the SPHeRE PhD programme, School of Postgraduate Studies, and several Master's programmes including the Master's in Surgery. The DSC supports all types of grant applications including fellowship awards, small and large funding applications, co-funded grants and national/international. The DSC works with investigators on research publications and supports PhD, MD and MSc candidates in their research projects and dissertations.

Healthcare Outcomes Research Centre

Established in 2016, the Healthcare Outcome Research Centre (HORC) is a research centre dedicated to the development and dissemination of evidence-based research on healthcare outcomes that inform healthcare policy and improves patient outcomes.

The healthcare outcomes research conducted by HORC examines the end results of healthcare services with a focus on patients' experiences, preferences and values, in addition to cost-effectiveness of service delivery. HORC considers healthcare outcomes as the effects of health interventions on the health status of the patient and population. These effects could be expressed as changes in the patient's knowledge and behaviour, health-related quality of life (HRQoL) or mortality.

HORC aims to inform decision-making at different levels of the healthcare system, including those who receive, provide, organise and pay for healthcare.

HORC staff contribute to manuscripts for scientific publications and national reports in healthcare and audit, and sit on a number of national working groups using data from the national hospital inpatient enquiry system (HIPE), CSO and clinical trials.

Institute of Global Surgery

The RCSI Institute of Global Surgery (IGS) aims to improve access to high-quality, essential surgical care for underserved populations, working in partnership with communities of surgery, anaesthesia and nursing providers, together addressing the gaps in surgical care provision in resource-poor settings. Our projects are based on growing the evidence-base in this field, building capacity and contributing to implementing long-term and sustainable research and training interventions.

The staff of the IGS is a multidisciplinary team led by the O'Brien Chair of Global Surgery, Professor Juan Carlos Puyana. The team includes surgeons, doctors, researchers, programme managers, educationalists and communications specialists. We draw on experts in all aspects of health, medicine and surgery from across RCSI to support our work.

The immediate outline of the IGS is to dwell and leverage on the successful and well developed educational and research projects within our long-term partnerships, while we seek new collaborations and identify new opportunities to expand and diversify our participation in innovative and sustainable solutions for advancing surgical care in global health. Though the primary focus of our work is on advancing universal access to care (SDG3), in doing so we address other SDGs that impact health, particularly SDG5 (gender equality), SDG10 (reducing inequalities), SDG13 (climate action) and SDG17 (partnerships).

Converge: Centre for Chronic Disease and Population Health Research

Converge: Centre for Chronic Disease and Population Health Research was established in 2023 and is led by Professor Edward Gregg as part of the Science Foundation Ireland-funded Research Professorship grant. The five-year Converge programme aims to build on a precision population health science framework by developing interconnected data ecosystems for epidemiology, intervention effectiveness and modelling to guide decisions on what risk factors to target, populations to select, and interventions most likely to change the magnitude and direction of the diabetes epidemic in Ireland. This programme continues to pursue a number of work package streams:

- Develop an epidemiologic data ecosystem and suite of innovative analysis and metrics to characterise the changing chronic disease burden in Ireland;
- Develop prototype diabetes registry for care monitoring and policy decision-making for Ireland, within and outside the HSE, with the aim of establishing platforms for population-level implementation and natural experimental studies of preventive care interventions;
- Develop innovative health impact models to guide prevention and risk stratification decisions for diabetes and chronic disease-related multimorbidity;
- Collaborate with global health centres for studies of diabetes to connect the Converge programme with leading studies and academic and industry collaborators;
- Develop a supportive evidence synthesis programme to ensure the changing landscape of diabetes research and guidelines are continually represented within Converge objectives.

Cameron Scholars programme

The Cameron Scholars programme is a dedicated School of Population Health initiative, funded internally by RCSI. The team is led by Dr Sarah Barry, SPH Director of Academic Programmes, and includes faculty, researchers and a programme manager. Since its establishment in 2023, the team has completed full accreditation of three new postgraduate awards: an MSc, Postgraduate Diploma and Postgraduate Certificate in Population Health Leadership. These courses have been co-designed with new module teams established across the SPH and production work continues and is overseen by the team. The new awards are designed in response to the need for more applied, outcomes-focused population health education and training to deliver on policy and evidence-based goals. Course design follows the multiple determinants of health approach and is competency-matched to build scientific and leadership competency in population health in response to international demographic and health profile pressures, the need for health system reform and policies for population health. The Cameron Scholars team delivers curriculum development and co-leadership of all modules alongside colleagues across the School of Population Health.

The team has been research-active since inception, building peer-support into its way of working with weekly research meetings to ensure support and new collaborations – with successful funding awards already secured.

The team has also been active building its evidence to policy and practice profile, including engagement with the Oireachtas Committee on Disability Matters, national media, international symposia and conferences.

SPHeRE programme

The School of Population Health is home to SPHeRE (Structured Population Health, Policy and health-services Research Education), the national, inter-institutional, structured doctoral programme, funded by the HRB. This programme is expanding Ireland's capacity to conduct population health and health services research and maximise its translation into policy and practice.

The SPHeRE programme provides a comprehensive set of capacity building and training activities to scholars. These activities are organised around expert-led, independent and peer-led learning processes. These core approaches to teaching and learning underpin the different stages of the PhD journey.

SPHeRE involves nine universities across Ireland: RCSI, TCD, UCC, DCU, Maynooth University, University of Galway, UCD, UL and TU Dublin. Professor Mary Clarke, Department of Health Psychology, is SPHeRE Programme Co-Director.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

School of Population Health

Key staff changes

Professor Breda Smyth appointed Professor in Public Health Medicine, June 2024

Brian Lynch appointed Deputy Head of School – Partnerships, December 2023

Sorcha O'Connor appointed School Administrator, June 2024

Individual achievements and activities

Professor Edward Gregg

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS / INVITED LECTURES

- Multimorbidity as the next Challenge and Transition in Type 2 Diabetes; Connolly Hospital Research Day, Dublin, 12 June 2024
- Using Epidemiologic Research for Better Diabetes Care: Past, Present, and Future Directions; Diabetes Ireland Conference and Exhibition 2024, Dublin, 21 May
- Making Sense of the Trends in Diabetes-Related Amputations in the UK, Europe, and the US; 20th Diabetic Foot Conference, Malvern, UK, 15 May 2024
- Transitions in Chronic Disease Epidemiology and What they Mean for Population Cancer Risk. Beaumont Hospital Cancer Conference, 16 May 2024
- Achieving Better Outcomes: Prioritising Policies for Action on Chronic Diseases. Healthcare Outcomes Research Centre spring webinar, 26 March 2024
- Effectiveness of NHS-based Multi-tiered Lifestyle Interventions to Achieve Type 2 Diabetes Prevention Across Glycaemic Risk Tiers. UK National Institute of Health Research Applied Research Consortium Symposium, London, UK, 11 March 2024,
- A Global Perspective on Trends and Transitions in the Type 2 Diabetes Epidemic; SeDIA Seremban Symposium; Population Health Decision-Making for Diabetes; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 10 January 2024
- Workshop and Lectures: Population health decision-making for the global diabetes epidemic. International Medical University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 10 January 2024
 - Lecture 1: Population health decision-making for the global diabetes epidemic
 - Lecture 2: The role and evolution of surveillance methods diabetes targeting and risk stratification
 - Lecture 3: The progression of intervention effectiveness research for diabetes prevention
- Advancing Cardiovascular Health for Inequalities in Ireland: Addressing Vulnerable Populations, Lifestyle Medicine and Data Systems for Decisions, RCSI, Dublin, 22 September 2023
- Secular Trends in Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes: The Status and Profile in the United States, International Diabetes Federation, online, 6 December 2023
- Insights from Quasi-Experiments in the Field of Diabetes Prevention and Care, Robert Koch Institute Workshop in Evaluation methods for complex interventions and health policies
- The Evolution of Data Analytics for Chronic Disease: Problems to Solve in the Next Era – Now, Next & Beyond in 'Health Analytics & AI', Ernst & Young, Dublin, 26 September 2023
- Clues to the Next Epidemiologic Transition in Type 2 Diabetes; Mohan Award Talk; Chennai, India; 15 July 2023
- Tracking the Status of the Diabetes Epidemic: What can the SEDIA Cohort Do? Royal Chulan Seremban, 8 July 2023

Dr Sarah Barry

SELECT SYSTEM GOVERNANCE AND DISCIPLINE CONTRIBUTIONS

- Non-Executive Director on the Board of the Health Research Board (HRB)
- Member, Planning and Performance Committee of the HSE Board
- Advisory Board member Advanced Care Research Centre Academy, University of Edinburgh
- Steering Group Member International Foundation for Integrated Care Ireland
- Scientific Committee Member: International Conference for Integrated Care. Synergising Health and Care: Leveraging Integrated Care for a Sustainable Future' 14-16 May 2025, Lisbon, Portugal
- External examiner/reviewer: MTU Certificate in Integrated Care, Special Purpose Award Integrated Care, SETU PhD Scholarship Programme 2024/TU RISE PhD Scholarship programme 2024; Reviewer: International Conference Integrated Care 2024; North America Conference on Integrated Care 2024
- Expert-External-Advisor, Department of Health/OECD/DG Reform TSI, 'Towards Person-Centred Integrated Care: aligning the health service workforce in Ireland with the needs of the person and the population' – 20 June 2024

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS / INVITED LECTURES

- How can population health leadership support integrated care policy & delivery - & vice-versa? International Conference of Integrated Care 2024, Belfast, 23-25 June 2024
- The challenges & opportunities of a new School of Population Health [w/ E. Healy & B. Lynch]. Association of Public Health Schools, Deans & Directors' Retreat, Porto, Portugal, 4-6 June 2024.

Professor Breda Smyth

- Partnership with the Ministry of Health, Federal Government of Germany advising on reform of the German public health system
- Member, AF Screen International Collaboration
- Irish Representative on European collaboration PHIRI (Population Health Information Research Infrastructure)

Dr Samira Jabakhanji

- HSE award for Best Open Access Paper in the Climate and Environment category 2023. Jabakhanji SB, Arnold SR, Aunan K, Chersich MF, Jakobsson K, McGushin A, Kelly I, Roche N, Stauffer A, Stanistreet D. Public Health Measures to Address the Impact of Climate Change on Population Health—Proceedings from a Stakeholder Workshop. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2022; 19(20):13665. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192013665>

Brian Lynch

- Appointed Chair, Health Research Charities Ireland, February 2024

Department of Health Psychology

Key staff changes

Dr Alan Maddock appointed lecturer

Individual achievements and activities

Professor Anne Hickey

- European Stroke Organisation/European Academy of Neurology – invited expert for guideline development
- Irish Research Council DOROTHY-COFUND Programme – Steering Committee member

INVITED LECTURE

- 'Maximising the Quality of Stroke Care in Ireland – Development of a National Stroke Audit'. NOCA INAS Dataset Revision meeting. Dublin, 21 May 2024.

Professor Mary Clarke

- External Examiner, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin
- External Examiner, Royal College of Physicians, Public Health Faculty
- Public Health Examinations Committee, Faculty of Public Health Medicine, Royal College of Physicians Ireland

Professor Frank Doyle

- Irish Association of Cardiac Rehabilitation: Council Member, invited expert for guideline development
- Member of the St Patrick's University Hospital Research Ethics Committee
- Psychological Society of Ireland nominee to the European Federation of Psychological Associations Standing Committee on Psychology and Health
- Associate Editor, *Journal of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy*

INVITED LECTURE

- 'The Good, the Bad and the Ugly – A Psychometrics Story'. Keynote presentation. 20th Annual Psychology, Health and Medicine Conference, Psychological Society of Ireland, Division of Health Psychology. UCC, 31 May 2024

Dr Caroline Kelleher

- Vice Chancellor Awards Winner 2023: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Award Champion Award, RCSI

INVITED SPEAKER

- Q-Con: Queer Women's Sexual Health and Well-being Conference. 16-17 September, 2023, LINC, Cork
- Debunking the Myths: The science behind sexual health, Rotunda Hospital, Dublin.

Dr Alan Maddock

- Co-Chair, All-Island of Ireland Mental Health Social Work academic research group
- Co-Editor, Special Issue: 'Mindfulness in Social Work: Special Issue Exploring Current Application and Potential in Social Work Practice and Education', *Social Sciences*
- Co-Editor, Special Issue: 'Examining the role of mindfulness and contemplative practices in supporting justice', *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*

INVITED LECTURE

- 'How do mindfulness-based practices and psychoeducation improve stress, burnout, mental health, and wellbeing of social work and social care practitioners?' Keynote presentation. 11th Annual Social Work and Social Care in Practice Conference. Northern Ireland Social Care Council, 20 March 2024.

Dr Lisa Mellon

- Co-Chair, Irish Society of Lifestyle Medicine
- Research lead, Irish Kidney Association

Dr Catherine Nora Moran

- Highly commended abstract, European Life After Stroke Forum (2024)
- Abstract Reviewer, Health-Enhancing Physical Activity (HEPA) conference, Dublin

Dr Maria Pertl

- Associate Editor, *Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine*
- Abstract Reviewer, Health-Enhancing Physical Activity (HEPA) conference, Dublin

Dr Lorna Staines

- Co-chair, Panel at the European Public Health Conference
- Awarded PhD

Professor Niall Pender

Principal Psychologist, Department of Psychology, Beaumont Hospital

2023-present Committee Member, European Federation of Psychological Associations Standing Committee on Clinical Neuropsychology

2022-present Panel Member (Neuropsychology), Disability Access Route to Education Programme

2020-present Committee Member, HSE-HSCP National Research Group;

2014-2024 Board Member, (*Chair of Board of Directors*, from 2015) Headway;

2014-present Board Member, Motor Neurone Disease Research Foundation;

2018-present Board Member, Neurological Alliance of Ireland;

2015-present Site lead, ENROLL-HD, international observational research programme.

International Brain Injury Association World Congress of Brain Injury:
Member, Conference committee (2022/2023).

INVITED LECTURES

- Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health to address the topic: The importance of community teams in neurological rehabilitation, 2023
- Neuropsychology of FND in medico-legal cases. Aviva medico-legal annual conference, 2023
- Neuropsychology in the Courts. Irish Medico-Legal Conference. February 2023
- Neuropsychology of MS. National MS masterclass. March 2024
- HD research in Ireland. HD patient conference. May 2024

Department of Public Health and Epidemiology

Key staff changes

Staff who joined the Department:

Conor Hammersley PhD

Shahnawaz Khijmatgar BDS (Bachelor of Dental Surgery) (India) MSc (UK) PhD (Italy) CSRT (USA)

Sharon McLaughlin BA, MSc

Maeve Mullooly PhD, MPH

Jade Parnell BSc, MSc, PhD

Keith Ian Quiltyne MBBS MD MPH PgCertMedE AdDipMedL FRCPI FFPHMI FFPH (UK)

Waleed Serhan: BSc, MSc, PhD

Individual achievements and activities

Professor Debbi Stanistreet

- Reviewer IJERPH
- Member of working group on career structures and career development for the multidisciplinary Public Health & Health Promotion workforce in Ireland
- Lead of Climate Health in Medical Education Ireland (CHIME)
- Member of Net Zero Carbon Surgery Commission Project
- Member of Irish Doctors for the Environment and co-chair of air pollution working group
- Member of SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) National Stakeholder Forum Committee
- Member of EUA Green Deal task-and-finish group
- HSE award for Best Open Access Paper in the Climate and Environment category 2023. Jabakhanji SB, Arnold SR, Aunan K, Chersich MF, Jakobsson K, McGushin A, Kelly I, Roche N, Stauffer A, Stanistreet D. Public Health Measures to Address the Impact of Climate Change on Population Health—Proceedings from a Stakeholder Workshop. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2022; 19(20):13665. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192013665>

Professor Ruairí Brugha

- Board member Irish Forum for Global Health
- Editorial Board *International Journal Health Policy and Management*
- Reviewer *Health Policy; International Journal Health Policy and Management*

Professor Ronán Conroy

- Associate Editor: *European Journal of Preventive Cardiology & Journal of Health Psychology*
- Reviewer: *Psychology Health & Medicine, Age and Aging, PLoSOne, BMJ, Health Psychology Open, Public Health*

Dr Ross Brannigan

- Member of the Sustainability and Climate Health Education subcommittee

Dr Barbara Clyne

- Associate Editor, *Trials*, 2021-present
- Public Funding Agency of Portugal—Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT), Member Health and Sport Sciences panel, 2022-present
- Member of National Clinical Effectiveness Committee (NCEC) Advisory Panel, Department of Health
- Module lead HRB (Health Research Board) SPHeRE PhD programme
- Member of SPHeRE Academic Panel

Pat Dicker

- Module lead for the Renal & GU module (THEP II)
- Member of editorial for *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*
- Member of the Research Peer Review Board: Irish Epilepsy Association
- Reviewer for *British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*

Dr Jennifer Fortune (left Dept in 9/23)

- Review editor for *Disability, Rehabilitation, and Inclusion*
- Guest associate editor for *Disability, Rehabilitation, and Inclusion*
- Member, Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists Research Network Steering Committee
- Fellowship: Evidence Synthesis Ireland

Dr Shahnawaz Khijmatgar

- Associate Editor: *Pilot and Feasibility Studies Journal*
- Editorial Board: *BMC Oral Health Journal*
- Reviewer: *Journal of American Dental Association; Journal of Indian Society of Pedodontics and Preventive Dentistry; Oral Diseases Journal; MDPI Journals; Journal of Evidence based dentistry*
- Life Membership: Indian Society of Dental Research
- Immediate Past President: Evidence Based Dentistry Network, International Association of Dental Research (IADR)
- Business and Innovation in Healthcare (Theme: Oral Health and General Health)

Dr Maisoon Mairghani

- Adjunct Lecturer of Public Health and Epidemiology at University of Limerick
- Member of Sudan Medical Council
- Member of UAE Diabetes Steering Committee
- Reviewer for: *BMC Health Services Research, PLoS One, Journal of Tissue Viability*

Dr Maeve Mullooly

- Member of the National Cancer Registry of Ireland Advisory Council
- Member of SPHERE Academic Panel
- Shortlisted for the Irish Cancer Society Senior Research of the Year Award 2024

Dr Jade Parnell

- Reviewer for *Stigma and Health, Body Image* and *The Cleft Palate Craniofacial Journal*
- RCSI Postdoc Society board member
- EpiKNOW project supporting women with epilepsy from preconception to postpartum, shortlisted for the PPI (Public and Patient Involvement) in RCSI Research Prize

Dr Jennifer Ryan (left Dept in 9/23)

- Trustee, Up – The Cerebral Palsy Movement
- Fellowship: Evidence Synthesis Ireland
- Member, Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists Research Network Steering Committee
- Member, HSE, Health and Social Care Professional Committee Research Group
- Associate Editor *Frontiers in Rehabilitation Science*

Dr Waleed Serhan

- Reviewer for social science journals: *International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies*, and *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*
- Guest lecturer, Department of Sociology, Trinity College Dublin

Dr Melissa Sharp

- RCSI representative to national Irish Research Staff Association. RCSI Postdoc Representative.
- Center for Open Science (COS) Ambassador. UC Berkeley -Berkeley Initiative for Transparency in the Social Sciences (BITSS) Catalyst
- Member of working group on STROBE-Equity and TARGET trial reporting guidelines
- Abstract Reviewer for Global Evidence Summit 2024 and Grant Reviewer for La Caixa Impulse Health Innovation Call 2024

- Reviewer for *BMC Research Involvement and Engagement*, *BMC Medical Research Methodology*, *BMJ Public Health*, *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, *Scientific Reports*
- National Patient Safety Office Conference 2023 General Patient Safety Poster Competition 3rd place

Dr Aisling Walsh

- Reviewer for: *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth*, *PLoSOne*, *BMJ Open*, *International Breastfeeding Journal*, *Maternal and Child Health Journal*, *International Journal for Equity in Health*
- Member of the Cerebral Palsy Lifespan Health and Wellbeing Research Centre
- Student Engagement and Partnership Programme (StEP) Staff Mentor 2023/2024
- Module lead HRB (Health Research Board) SPHeRE PhD programme
- EpiKNOW project supporting women with epilepsy from preconception to postpartum, shortlisted for the PPI (Public and Patient Involvement) in RCSI Research Prize
- Student Engagement and Partnership Programme (StEP) Student Partnership Champion 2023
- Participant on RCSI Aurora Women's Leadership Development Programme

Eunice Phillip

- Board member Irish Global Health Network
- Board member, STAND
- Student representative on RCSI Equality, Diversity, Inclusion Forum

Dr Paul Kavanagh

- Reviewer for *Tobacco Control*, *Health Promotion International*, *BMC Public Health*, and Editorial Board Member *Tobacco Use Insights*
- Board Member and Honorary Secretary, Faculty of Public Health Medicine, Ireland
- Board Member, Institute of Public Health in Ireland
- Board Member Action on Smoking and Health (ASH) Ireland, Council of the Irish Heart Foundation
- Member, Global Smoking Cessation Clinical Guideline Development Group, World Health Organization.
- Member of the National Screening Advisory Committee, Ireland
- Member of the National Cancer Registry of Ireland Advisory Council
- HSE Award for overall winner of Best Open Access Publication 2023. Bowe, A, Marron, L, Devlin, J & Kavanagh, P. (2021). An Evaluation of the Impact of a Multicomponent Stop Smoking Intervention in an Irish Prison. *International journal of environmental research and public health*, 18(22), 11981. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph182211981>

Dr Niall Roche

- MEHAI (Member of the Environmental Health Association of Ireland)

Data Science Centre

Individual achievements and activities

Professor Kathleen Bennett

- Member of National Research Ethics Committee (NREC) for COVID-19 biobank
- Academic Editor *PLOS ONE*
- Member of European Network for Centres of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance (ENCEPP)
- Symposium organised on 'The Impact of COVID-19 on cancer services and outcomes' Nov 2023, RCSI

Dr Fiona Boland

- Vice-Chair of the Royal College of Physicians in Ireland (RCPI) ethics committee
- Associate Editor *Journal of Multimorbidity and Comorbidity*
- Statistical Consultant for the *International Journal of Gynaecology and Obstetrics* (IJGO)
- Member of HIQA advisory group – National Standards for Information Management in Health and Social Care
- Member of the Skin Wound and Trauma (SWaT) research network
- Member of the Diabetes Ireland Research Alliance (DIRA) committee
- Member of the Irish Statistical Association (ISA)

Dr Caitriona Cahir

- Member of the NREC medical devices ethical committee
- Member of the International Society for Medication Adherence (ESPACOMP)

Healthcare Outcomes Research Centre

Key staff appointments

Tumeliwa Mphepo appointed research assistant

Events

- HORC members co-organised the webinar series 'The Future of Cancer in Ireland: Health Economic Perspectives', with the last two events 'Cancer screening and early diagnosis: Evaluating what works' and 'Equity and Inclusion in Cancer Care: Inequalities in care outcomes and patient experience' taking place in September and November 2023 respectively. The webinar series is in collaboration with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Ireland, Janssen Sciences Ireland and EY Ireland.
- HORC members co-organised the webinar series 'Chronic Disease in Ireland: How to achieve better outcomes', with the first two event 'Chronic Disease in Ireland: How to achieve better outcomes' and 'Preventing chronic disease: What policy interventions work?' taking place in March and May 2024. The series was organised in collaboration with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Ireland and Janssen Sciences Ireland.
- HORC members co-organised the seventh annual National Healthcare Outcomes Conference in April 2024, 'Improving Health Outcomes through AI', in collaboration with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Ireland and RCSI Events.

Individual achievements and activities

Professor Jan Sorensen

- Member of Research Steering Groups for: PANO trial, HIP Forge, LEAP-Ireland Trial, TRAUMA study, ExSCIP Randomised Feasibility Trial, Brain-restore programme, Lung Health Check programme
- Member of the OECD Hip and Knee Quality of Life Working Group
- Member of the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council Research Committee
- Member of the Danish Health Technology Council
- Chairing *viva voce* examination of Aaron Doherty, RCSI, 17 August 2023
- Examining PhD thesis 'Economic analysis of antimicrobial resistance in a lower middle income setting: the case of Ghana' by Evans Otieku, Aarhus University, 15 February 2024
- External assessor for adjunct and lecturer positions, Aarhus University, Denmark
- Peer-reviewer for Social Sciences and Humanities Open Competition, Competition Economics and Business Administration 2023, Dutch Research Council
- Peer-reviewer for various scientific journals including *Quality of Life Research*, *Pharmacoeconomics*, *Applied Health Economics and Health Polity*, *Journal of Medical Economics*, *Journal of Tissue Viability*, *Wound Repair and Regeneration*, *Scandinavian Journal of Public Health* and *BMJ Open*
- Presented at the College of Anaesthesiologists of Ireland annual Congress 2024, 24 May 2024
- Participated in: International Health Economic Association's Congress, Cape Town, 9-12 July 2023; Pre-hospital Emergency Care Research in Ireland Conference 2023, 14-15 November 2023; Smoke Free Partnership's Tobacco Tax workshop, Brussels, 6-7 November 2023; NICE Study Visit, London 10-11 January 2024; 4th Masterclass in Health Economics, Cork, 20- 21 March 2024

Dr Gintare Valentelyte

- Presented at the International Health Economics Association Congress, Cape Town, South Africa, 8-12 July 2023
- Presentation as invited alumni at the SPHeRE PhD scholar orientation day, 29 September 2023
- Supervision of RCSI surgical student on a research publication on prediction of surgical outcomes for abdominal surgery in Ireland November 2023 – present
- Peer-reviewer for various scientific journals including *BMC Health Services Research*

Tumeliwa Mphepo

- Participated in 4th Masterclass in Health Economics, Cork, 20-21 March 2024

Institute of Global Surgery

The United Nations Global Surgery Learning Hub ([SURGhub](#)) was officially launched at the end of June 2023 with our partners in the Global Surgery Foundation (GSF) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). The SURGhub app was also launched in September 2023. In June 2024 this open-access digital learning hub for surgery now has 5,020 learners from 165 countries who have signed up to get access to 54 courses which are provided by 11 content partners.

In August 2023, the IGS, in partnership with the East, Central and Southern Africa College of Nursing (ECSACON), held a webinar on 'Infection Prevention and Control in the Operating Theatre Environment,' as part of the Perioperative Nursing E-learning Foundational Programme (PeN), which was attended by 119 people.

In August 2023, the SURG-Water project (a collaboration between RCSI IGS and Dept of Physiology and Medical Physics) was successful in advancing to the Seed Phase of the SFI/Irish Aid SDG Challenge for Climate Change. This has allowed the team to continue its work into 2024 to develop two prototypes of reactors treating rainwater with UV light suitable for maternal health care delivery in rural Malawi where very often babies are born with no running water on site.

In August 2023, the IGS provided expert input to the SELF Symposium in California, which sought to develop consensus around the development and roll-out of self-assessed surgical training simulation models for low-resource environments. RCSI signed a funding agreement in May 2024 to continue to support low-resource setting teams undertaking this work.

In October 2023 the IGS launched the Akazi Exhibition - Breast Cancer in Malawi. This unique exhibition showcased the photography of Antonio Jaén Osuna, IGS Communication Specialist, who has been documenting the lived realities of women battling with breast cancer in rural Malawi, one of the poorest countries in the world. The work has been undertaken as part of the Akazi project (generously supported by the Irish Research Council), which is collaborating with the Malawian Ministry of Health, local NGOs and other stakeholders to improve care delivery for the many women affected by this deadly disease. The exhibition was then on display in the Dun Laoghaire Lexicon in February and March of 2024.

In February 2024 a new initiative exploring the climate change and health nexus was initiated, with support from the Royal Irish Academy. It uses Photovoice as a participatory research tool to examine how water shortages affect maternal health care in Malawi. Findings are expected to make an important scientific contribution by providing primary evidence on water needs at the time of birth, when new mothers and their babies are particularly vulnerable.

In February 2024, the IGS attended the 5th conference of the Global Initiative for Children Surgery (GICS) held in Manila, Philippines, to provide an update on the KidSURG project, and share experiences and latest developments with other sectoral stakeholders, working to define and promote optimal resources for children's surgery in resource-poor regions of the world.

In May 2024 the Pan-African Paediatric Surgery e-Learning Programme (PAPSEP), the first ever pan-African training platform for children's surgery, completed its first three-year cycle. PAPSEP was developed as part of a hugely successful collaboration between Kids Operating Room, RCSI Institute of Global Surgery, West African College of Surgeons (WACS) and the College of Surgeons of East Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA). The next cycle of PAPSEP started in May 2024 and will see this life-saving knowledge made available to even more local surgeons across Africa, ultimately saving more children's lives across the continent.

The IGS continues to work with the student community and partners from the Centre for Global Surgery at Stellenbosch University, South Africa, in the 'SURG-Ed project: a Global North-South Collaboration to Develop a Global Surgery Research Module through Student Partnership'. During this reporting period the project was successfully awarded SteP 2 funding to carry out a needs assessment within the student body of Stellenbosch University to inform course design. This activity was completed in October 2023. A programme of mutual visits between RCSI and Stellenbosch was initiated in May 2024, supported by ERASMUS+ funding, to advance curriculum development in view of launching the course in the next academic year. This body of work was selected by the National Student Engagement Programme (NStEP) to feature on their website as a case study of best practice in staff-student partnerships in action.

High-Level Achievements under the Collaboration Programme 2023

Digitalisation of the COSECSA Secretariat in Arusha

The Salesforce Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system was successfully launched in May 2023, with COSECSA staff now proficient in its use.

Finalisation and Launch of the CANECSA Logbook

The CANECSA logbook was finalised and officially launched. This marks a significant step in streamlining and standardising training documentation.

Graduation Milestone

COSECSA achieved a milestone with 910 graduates as of December 2023.

First In-Person CANECSA Examinations

The first in-person CANECSA examinations were successfully conducted in Harare, Zimbabwe, in November 2023. This event was supported by four Irish examiners

Essential Surgical Training (EST) Courses

Five Essential Surgical Training courses were conducted in Rwanda and Tanzania. 138 medical doctors received training, with 63 in Rwanda and 75 in Tanzania.

Cross-Sectional Analysis of the Specialist Surgeon Workforce

A collaborative analysis by COSECSA and the RCSI team reported an 85% retention rate of COSECSA-trained surgeons within the ECSA region. Funded by Milestone in Surgical Procedures.

In February 2024, the COSECSA e-logbook recorded its 500,000th operation. This achievement was highlighted with an interview featuring Dr Aaron Munkondya, the neurosurgeon from Zambia who performed the milestone procedure.

COSECSA examination process

The COSECSA examination process in Ethiopia was supported by a diverse cohort of 260 examiners, including surgeons from both the COSECSA region and overseas. Notably, 10 examiners from RCSI provided invaluable expertise and support during the examinations this year.

Individual achievements and activities

Professor Juan Carlos Puyana

AWARDS

- Honorary International Member of the Brazilian College of Surgeons, 35th Panamerican Congress of Trauma, in Florianópolis, Brazil, July 2023
- Honorary Member of the Colombian Surgical Association, 19th World Congress of Endoscopic Surgery, 25th Latin American Congress of Surgery FELAC and 49th National Colombia Surgical Week Congress in Cartagena city, Colombia, November 2023

INVITED LECTURES & SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

- COSECSA examiner, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, December 2023
- Panel discussion on Global Surgical Education and the Workforce, 23rd COSECSA scientific conference
- Climate change panel, Charter Meeting, 'Rising to Challenges in a changing world', RCSI, February 2024:
 - Irish training group meeting (ISTG): the role of surgeons, RCSI and the Institute of Global Surgery in global health
 - Symposium I: Surgery responding to global and environmental change: Impact of climate change on surgery in LMICs
 - Trauma and orthopaedic surgery: Challenges and priorities in the management of severe pelvic trauma
- 'Injury Prevention, Acute Care Surgery Failure to Rescue and Esophageal Perforations', 23rd European Congress of Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ECTES), Lisbon, Portugal, April 2024
- 'Engendering effective Community-Facility interactions for locally-appropriate initiatives to improve blood availability at facility level in Kenya', NIH NHLBI Bloodsafe, Ghana, June 2024

- 'International Collaboration: Enhancing Patient Care Through Global Partnerships and Challenges', Breaking Barriers in Surgery - Achieving Inclusive Patient Care, AIS webinar, June 2024

Dr Jakub Gajewski

- Awarded the RCSI Student Partnership Champion Award in October 2023 for the Step 2 project 'SURG-Ed: A Global North-South Collaboration to Develop a Global Surgery Research Module through Student Partnership'
- Won first place for Best Surgical Research Poster for joint presentation on 'Building paediatric surgical capacity in rural Malawi – an Ireland-Africa partnership', 46th Millin Meeting Surgical Research Symposium, RCSI, November 2023
- Invited to join Executive Board of the Innovations in Global Surgery (IGS) and organising committee of the Innovations in Global Surgery 2025 Conference (ICIGS)

Dr Chiara Pittalis

- Awarded the RCSI Student Partnership Champion Award in October 2023 for the Step 2 project 'SURG-Ed: A Global North-South Collaboration to Develop a Global Surgery Research Module through Student Partnership'
- Won first place for Best Surgical Research Poster for joint presentation on 'Building paediatric surgical capacity in rural Malawi – an Ireland-Africa partnership', 46th Millin Meeting Surgical Research Symposium, RCSI, November 2023

Dr Inés Peric

- Awarded the Education Innovation Award in late June 2023, for the innovation project 'Participatory Co-Creation to develop E-learning Programmes for Surgical Workforce in Sub-Saharan Africa.'

Eric O'Flynn

- Awarded the Education Innovation Award in late June 2023, for the innovation project 'Participatory Co-Creation to develop E-learning Programmes for Surgical Workforce in Sub-Saharan Africa.'

Converge

Key staff appointments

Dr Nicholas Clarke, Programme Coordinator/ Research Fellow, August 2023

Dr Naomi Holman, Research Fellow, August 2023

Dr Dominika Bhatia, Postdoctoral Researcher, November 2023

Dr Gintare Valentelyte, Postdoctoral Researcher, December 2023

Declan Noone, Research Assistant, September 2023

Key Work Package Team Lead appointments

Dr Naomi Holman, Research Fellow, RCSI – WP1: Epidemiology and dynamics of diabetes and morbidity

Dr Claire Buckley, Consultant, HSE Public Health – WP2: Population implementation and intervention effectiveness

Dr Jonathon Briody, Health Economist, RCSI – WP3: Health impact, decision and economic modelling

Dr Steven James, Senior Lecturer in Nursing, UniSC, Australia – WP4: Diabetes and global health impact

Dr Melissa Sharp, Research Fellow, RCSI – WP5: Evidence synthesis

John McCaffrey, Research Assistant, RCSI – WP5: Evidence synthesis

Events

- Converge stakeholder planning day, 26 April 2024
- Seminar 'The Network for Healthy Populations: Tackling the Burden of Diabetes through better care, lower risk factors and healthier living environments', with Professor Lorraine Lipscomb, Novo Nordisk Network for Healthy Populations, University of Toronto

Individual achievements and activities

Dr Naomi Holman

- Using the National Diabetes Audit to understand the effects of COVID-19 on people with diabetes, Invited presentation at the Diabetes UK Annual Professional Conference, April 2024, London
- Using the National Diabetes Audit for Research, Invited seminar, University of Southampton, February 2024

Dr Gintare Valentelyte

- Panelist, MSc, 'Dragon's Den' student project examination event, Graduate School of Management, RCSI, 23 February 2024
- Presentation at the annual SPHeRE Conference, RCSI, 29 February 2024
- Poster presentation, RCSI Annual Research Day, 6 March 2024
- Presentation at the Healthy Ireland Researcher's event, Department of Health, Dublin, 20 June 2024
- Presentation at the European Health Economics Association Conference, Vienna, Austria, 29 June-4 July 2024

Dr Jonathon Briody

- Invited to present research to Dementia Research Network Ireland (DRNI) advocates advisory board, the Dementia Research Advisory Team (DRAT), the Dementia Trials Ireland (DTI) and Global Brain Health Institute (GBHI) PPI panel and representatives of the Lewy Body Society.

Dr Melissa Sharp

- How current research assessment practices are impacting early career researchers in Ireland. Invited panelist at the National Open Research Forum. Dublin, Ireland.
- Communicating evidence synthesis: co-designing summary formats with end users. Oral presentation at the European Public Health Association Conference. Dublin, Ireland.
- Co-design focus group workshops to develop evidence synthesis summary formats for use in clinical guideline development. (19-22 September 2023). Oral presentation at the Guideline International Network Conference. Glasgow, Scotland.
- Updating the web-based 'Right Review' tool: an international Delphi process. (19-22 September 2023). Oral presentation at the Guideline International Network Conference. Glasgow, Scotland.

Cameron Scholars team

Key staff appointments

Dr Hannah Christie, June 2024

Dr Angela Flynn, January 2024

Dr Gráinne Kent, April 2024

Dr Cathal O'Hara, April 2024

Dr Noreen O'Leary, September 2023

Dr Eithne Sexton, January 2024

Dr Claire Timon, September 2023

Events

Webinar: Advancing Population Health in a New Era Leading Population Health in a New Era, 19 June 2024

Individual achievements and activities

Dr Angela Flynn

- Spinout Accelerator award, King's College London, May 2024
- Event organiser, online seminar Innovations in Women's Health, March 2024
- O'Hara C, Kent G, Flynn AC, Gibney ER & Timon CM. Using artificial intelligence to estimate the nutritional content of meal photos: an evaluation of ChatGPT-4. Proceedings of the Nutrition Society, Nutrition Society Congress, Belfast 2024

Dr Noreen O'Leary

- School of Population Health representative on RCSI Interprofessional Learning committee
- Generating meaningful presence in online learning spaces. Irish Network of Healthcare Educators conference, January 2024
- Navigating the integration of practice-based interprofessional education in healthcare education: A theoretically infused qualitative case study. Irish Network of Healthcare Educators conference, January 2024
- Oireachtas Committee on Disability Matters presentation on her research focused on the evidence base for children's disability services and is engaged in ongoing advocacy work in this area

Dr Eithne Sexton

- Sexton E, O’Flaherty M, Hickey A, Williams DJ, Horgan F, Macey C, Cuffe P, Timmons S, Collins R, Bennett K. Alternative Scenarios for Projected Prevalence of Stroke and Post-Stroke Dementia to 2046 in Ireland: A Preliminary Model-Based Analysis. Society for Social Medicine, Newcastle, September 2023.
- Sexton E, O’Flaherty M, Hickey A, Williams DJ, Horgan F, Macey C, Cuffe P, Timmons S, Collins R, Bennett K. Alternative Scenarios for Projected Prevalence of Stroke and Post-Stroke Dementia to 2046 in Ireland: A Model-Based Analysis. European Stroke Organisation Conference, Basel, May 2024.

Dr Claire Timon

- Member of Irish Cancer Society Nutrition and Dietetics Steering Group
- Member of Research Engagement Across Community Health (REACH) Collaboratory Steering Group
- Member of AI in Education Working Group in RCSI
- O’Hara C, Kent G, Flynn AC, Gibney ER & Timon CM. Using artificial intelligence to estimate the nutritional content of meal photos: an evaluation of ChatGPT-4. Proceedings of the Nutrition Society, Nutrition Society Congress, Belfast 2024
- Marshall N, Warters A, Lambert V, Butler M & Timon CM. Health literacy interventions and health literacy-related outcomes for older adults: A systematic review. Presented at the International Conference on Integrated Care, Belfast 2024.
- Butler M, Timon CM, Warters A, Marshall N, Lambert V, O’Dea E, Downes P & Coulter M. An investigation of research capacity, research support needs and research priorities amongst staff in Community Healthcare Organisation 9. Presented at the International Conference on Integrated Care, Belfast 2024.
- Empowering Women through Technology: A Focus on Nutrition, Innovations in Women’s Health Symposium, MyNutriWeb, 5 March 2024

Dr Hannah Christie

- Organised seminar (collaboration with Maastricht University and Nottingham Trent University) ‘Intersectional approaches to technology in dementia’. 28/11/2023, Maastricht, Netherlands

Dr Gráinne Kent

- Member of the Association for the Study of Obesity on the Island of Ireland (ASOI)
- Member of Irish Nutrition and Dietetics Institute (INDI)
- CORU Registered Dietitian
- Participant of 29th seminar of the European Nutrition Leadership Platform 2024.
- O’Hara C, Kent G, Flynn AC, Gibney ER & Timon CM. Using artificial intelligence to estimate the nutritional content of meal photos: an evaluation of ChatGPT-4. Proceedings of the Nutrition Society, Nutrition Society Congress, Belfast 2024

Dr Cathal O’Hara

- O’Hara C, Kent G, Flynn AC, Gibney ER & Timon CM. Using artificial intelligence to estimate the nutritional content of meal photos: an evaluation of ChatGPT-4. Proceedings of the Nutrition Society, Nutrition Society Congress, Belfast 2024

SPHeRE programme

Staff changes

- Dr Michelle Caffrey, Assistant Director of Academic Affairs, was appointed in January 2024

Events

- SPHeRE Network 10th Annual Conference: ‘Health Services Research – Improving Population Health and Influencing Health System Reform’ hosted in RCSI, 29 February 2024

Staff List

School of Population Health

Professor and Head of School

Edward W. Gregg PhD

Director of Academic Programmes

Sarah Barry PhD, MA, BD, Bacc Phil, Dip Corporate Governance

Professor in Public Health Medicine

Breda Smyth MD, MPH, FFPHMI

Research Manager

Elaine Healy BA (Mod), MSc (research), MSc Leadership, PG Dip Statistics

Operations Manager & Deputy Head of School - Partnerships

Brian Lynch BComm, MSc, MPH, Prof Dip Quality Management

Postdoctoral Researcher

Samira Jabakhanji PhD

Research Assistant

John McCaffrey BA, HDipPsych, MSc

School Administrator

Sorcha O'Connor

Department of Health Psychology

Professor and Head of Department; Deputy Dean for Positive Education

Anne Hickey BA(Mod), PhD, AFPsSI, C HealthPsychol PsSI

Associate Professors

Mary Clarke BA, MSc, PhD

Frank Doyle BA (Hons), MLitt, PhD, C Health Psychol PsSI, Fellow PsSI, FEHPS

Senior Lecturers

Sally Doherty BSc (Hons), PhD, CPsychol (*seconded: Psychology Lead, RCSI-Bahrain*)

Lecturers

Barbara Caska MA, PhD, CPsychol PSsI, CPsychol BPsS, AFBPsS (to 30 April 2024)

Caroline Kelleher BA (Hons), PhD, Dip BSLM/IBLM, ProfDip (Positive Health)

Alan Maddock BBS, H.Dip SocPol, MSW, PhD

Lisa Mellon BA, MSc, PhD, C Health Psychol PsSI, PGDip, Dip BSLM/IBLM

Catherine Nora Moran BA, MPsySci, PGradCertStats, PhD

Maria Pertl BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD, C Health Psychol PsSI, PGDip, Dip BSLM/IBLM

Lorna Staines BA (Hons), MRes, PhD

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor

Niall Pender BA, MSc, MSc, PGDip, PhD, CPsychol (BPS), CClinNeuroPsychol (PsSI), AFPsSI, FPsSI
Principal Psychologist, Department of Psychology, Beaumont Hospital.

Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer

Diane Gillan BA, MA, DClinPsych, PgDip (Neuropsychol). Senior Clinical Neuropsychologist, Beaumont Hospital

Postdoctoral Researchers

Abdelsalam Ben Saoud MB, BCh, BAO (Hons), MSc (Hons), FIPC, PhD

David Byrne BA(Hons), PhD

Nora Donnelly PhD (to February 2024)

Isabelle Jeffares PhD (to 31 May 2024)

Catherine Nora Moran BA, MPsySci, PgGradCertStats, PhD
Liam Watts PhD

Research Assistants

Mohamed Abdelnasser (since June 2024)
Cheyenne Downey
Brian Doyle (since May 2024)
Jane McGlinchey (since January 2024)
Megan Oglesby

Department Coordinator

Niamh Corbett MMII Grad, PG Dip CompSc, MA

Scholars

PhD students: 7 supervisor, 5 co-supervisor
MD Students: 1 supervisor, 4 co-supervisor
MSc/MPharm Students: 2
Undergraduate: 4
Student Research Placements: 12

Department of Public Health and Epidemiology

Associate Professor and Head of Department

Debbi Stanistreet RGN, DPSN, BA (Hons) PhD SFHEA

Professors Emeriti

Ruairí Brugha MB, BCh, BAO, MD, FFPHMI, MSc, DCH, Dip Obs
Ronán Conroy BA, MusB, DipEd, DSc

Senior Lecturers

Barbara Clyne BSocSc, MSocSc, PG Dip, PhD

Lecturers

Ross Brannigan BSc, PhD
Patrick Dicker BA, MA, MSc, CStat
Maisoon Mairghani MBBS, MSc, PhD
Maeve Mullooly PhD, MPH (started July 2023)
Jennifer Ryan BSc, MSc, PhD fHEA (until September 2023)
Aisling Walsh BA, MSocSc, PhD

Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturers

Paul Kavanagh MB, MSc, PG Dip Health Ec, PG Cert Med Ed, MRCPI, FFPHMI
Lois O'Connor MB BAO BCh MICGP MPH MFPHMI
Caoimhe O'Sullivan MA, MPH, PhD, FFPH

Honorary Senior Lecturer

Niall Roche BSc (Env Health), MHSc

Honorary Clinical Lecturer

Sadhbh Lee MB BCh BAO MRCPI
Keith Ian Quintyne MBBS MD MPH PgCertMedE AdDipMedL FRCPI FFPHMI FFPH (UK) (since October 2023)

Research Fellow/Senior Postdoctoral Fellow/Senior Research Fellow/Postdoctoral Fellows

Jennifer Fortune BSc, PG Dip, PhD (until September 2023)
Conor Hammersley PhD (Oct 2023 to April 2024)
Samira Jabakhanji MSc, PhD
Shahnawaz Khijmatgar BDS, MSc, PhD, CSRT (since March 2024)
Shona Lee BA, MSc, PhD (until October 2023)
Manjula Manikandan BPT, MSc, PhD (until September 2023)
Iryna Mazhak MPA, PhD

Jade Parnell BSc, MSc, PhD (since August 2023)
Waleed Serhan BSc, MSc, PhD (since November 2023)
Melissa Sharp BS, MPH, PhD, PhD

Research Assistants

Sharon McLaughlin BA, MSc (since February 2024)
Eunice Phillip BScN, MPH

Department Administration

Roma Acosta BA
Mary O'Connell

Scholars

PhD Students: 3

Data Science Centre

Professor and Head of Data Science Centre

Kathleen Bennett BSc, PhD

Senior Lecturers

Fiona Boland BSc, MSc, PhD
Caitriona Cahir BA (Mod), HDip (Psy), PhD
Stephen Madden BA (Mod), MRes, PhD

Senior Postdoctoral Researchers

Jonathan Briody, BSc, MSc, PhD
Bernadine O'Donovan, BA, PhD
Eithne Sexton PhD (until January 2024)

Postdoctoral Researchers

Tina Bedenik, BA, PhD
Ian Darragh, BSc, MSc, PhD (from February 2024)
Juliane Frydenlund
Róisín Leahy BSc, PhD (until February 2024)
Catherine Waldron BSc, PhD (April to June 2024)
Mengyang Zhang BSc, PhD

Research Assistant/Administrator

Nicola Frew BSc, MSc (until January 2024)
Sorcha O'Connor (from May 2024)
Samantha Trevaskis

Affiliated Staff

Valeria Lima Passos, PhD (based in School of School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences, RCSI)
Aidan Beegan, BSc, MSc (based in Children's Health Ireland)

Scholars

PhD students (main/co-supervisor): 16
MD students: 2
Master's by research: 2
MPharm: 4

Healthcare Outcomes Research Centre (HORC)

Professor and Director

Jan Sorensen MSc (Health Econ.)

Postdoctoral Researcher

Gintare Valentelyte MSc (Health Econ), PhD (until December 2023)

Research Officer
Laura Hammond

Research Assistant
Tumeliwa Mphepo MSc (Health Econ)

Institute of Global Surgery
O'Brien Chair of Global Surgery
Professor Juan Carlos Puyana MD FACS FCCP FRCSC

Programme Director – Research
Jakub Gajewski MSc, PhD

Programme Director – Education, Training and Advocacy
Eric O'Flynn MA, MSc

Programme Director – Operations
Deirdre Mangaoang MA, MBA (until May 2024)

Operations Coordinator
Fergal O'Rourke BA, PgCert

Research Fellow
Chiara Pittalis MSc, PhD

Communication Specialist
Antonio Jaén Osuna BA, MA

Collaboration Programme Manager
Lucia Brocato MSc

Education Project Manager
Dr Ines Perić PhD

Surgical Training Research and Data Management Officer
Lawa Shaban MBChB, MSc

Scholars
PhD students: 4
Visiting students (Research Summer School and volunteers): 5

Converge
Senior Research Fellow and Programme Coordinator
Nicholas Clarke MSc, PhD

Senior Research Fellow
Naomi Holman PhD

Postdoctoral Researchers
Dominika Bhatia
Gintare Valentelyte MSc (Health Econ), PhD

Research Assistant
Declan Noone

Visiting Scientist
Steven James (June-Sept 2024)

Scholars
PhD (main/co-supervisor): 2

Visiting students
Undergraduate: 4

Cameron Scholars programme

Senior Lecturer
Angela Flynn PhD (since January 2024)

Lecturers
Noreen O'Leary PhD (since September 2023)
Eithne Sexton PhD (since January 2024)
Claire Timon PhD (since September 2023)

Postdoctoral Researchers
Hannah Christie PhD (since June 2024)
Gráinne Kent PhD (since April 2024)
Cathal O'Hara PhD (since April 2024)

Programme Manager
Hilary Murray BSc, MA, PhD

Visiting Scientist
Steven James (June-September 2024)

SPHeRE programme

Programme Manager
Katherine Walsh

Assistant Director for Academic Affairs
Michelle Caffrey PhD (since January 2024)
Noreen O'Leary PhD (until September 2023)

Technology Enhanced Learning Manager
Ciaran McCarthy

Programme Administrator
Leon McCarthy

SPHeRE scholars: 24

Higher Degrees

Department of Health Psychology

Guzman V, 2024, *Older People's Well-being, Interventions and Support during Epidemics (WISE): Perspectives from the COVID-19 pandemic and implications for the future*, Primary supervisor Dr Maria Pertl, co-supervisor Professor Frank Doyle.

Data Science Centre

Myers C, 2024, *COVID-19 and the impact of social determinants of health on health-related outcomes in women with breast cancer: a mixed-methods cohort study*. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024

Institute of Global Surgery

Gajewski J, 2023, MSc in Leadership and Innovation in Healthcare, RCSI

Publications

AlKalbani, S.R, **Kavanagh, P.** (2023). Building On Success in Tobacco Control: A Roadmap Towards Tobacco-Free Oman (Perspective Review). *Journal of Public Health International*, 6(4), 1-17. doi: 10.14302/issn.2641-4538.jphi-23-4635

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Andreeva D, Gill C, Brockbank A, Hejmej J, Conti-Ramsden F, Doores KJ, Seed PT, Poston L, eLIXIR Partnership, Edwards D, Stewart R. Trends in Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection and vaccine antibody prevalence in a multi-ethnic inner-city antenatal population: A cross-sectional surveillance study. *BJOG: An International Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology*. 2023 Aug;130(9):1135-44.. 10.1111/1471-0528.17508

Aoko O, Maharaj T, **Boland F**, Cheriyan D, Ryan J. Meta-analysis: Impact of intragastric balloon therapy on NAFLD-related parameters in patients with obesity. *Alimentary Pharmacology and Therapeutics*. 2024. 10.1111/apt.17805

Astaire E, Jennings L, Khundakar M, Silverio S.A, **Flynn AC**. General practitioners' experiences of providing lifestyle advice to patients with depression: A qualitative focus group study. *PLoS ONE*. 2024. 10.1371/journal.pone.0299934

Atkinson MJ, **Parnell J**, Diedrichs P.C. Task shifting eating disorders prevention: A pilot study of selective interventions adapted for teacher-led universal delivery in secondary schools. *International Journal of Eating Disorders*. 2024. 10.1002/eat.24100

Barker MM, Davies MJ, Sargeant JA, Chan JCN, **Gregg EW**, Shabnam S, Khunti K, Zaccardi F. Age at Type 2 Diabetes Diagnosis and Cause-Specific Mortality: Observational Study of Primary Care Patients in England. *Diabetes Care*. 2023. 10.2337/dc23-0834

Bates, O. B., Freeman, N., Arslan, S., Abdi, Z., Oyekan, A., Gorgu, G., **Stanistreet, D.** (2024). Integrating planetary health into the continuing professional development and training in family medicine: protocol for a scoping literature review. doi:10.21203/rs.3.rs-3961389/v1

Bedenik T, Kearney C, Ní Shé É. Trust in embedding co-design for innovation and change: considering the role of senior leaders and managers. *Journal of Health Organization and Management*. 2024. 10.1108/JHOM-07-2023-0207

Bekele A, Alayande BT, Iradukunda J, Minja C, Riviello R.R, Geraghty J, **O'Flynn E**, ..., Borgstein E. A cross-sectional survey on surgeon retention in the COSECSA region after specialist training: Have things changed? *World Journal of Surgery*. 2024. 10.1002/wjs.12069

Bennett K, Cahir C, Sorensen J. Costs associated with adverse drug reactions in an older population admitted to hospital: a prospective cohort study. *European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*. 2023. 10.1007/s00228-023-03552-x

Berghella V, Aviram A, Chescheir N, de Costa C, Dicker P, Goggins A, Gupta JK, D'Hooghe TM, Odibo AO, Papageorghiou A, Saade G. Improving trustworthiness in research in women's health: A collective effort by OBGYN Editors. *European Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Biology*. 2024 Jan 1;292:71-4.. 10.1111/1471-0528.17588

Berghella V, Aviram A, Chescheir N, de Costa C, Dicker P, Goggins A, Gupta JK, D'Hooghe TM, Odibo AO, Papageorghiou A, Saade G. Improving trustworthiness in research in women's health: A collective effort by OBGYN Editors. *European Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Biology*. 2024 Jan 1;292:71-4.. 10.1002/ijgo.14964

Berghella V, Aviram A, Chescheir N, de Costa C, Dicker P, Goggins A, Gupta JK, D'Hooghe TM, Odibo AO, Papageorghiou A, Saade G. Improving trustworthiness in research in women's health: A collective effort by OBGYN Editors. *European Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology and Reproductive Biology*. 2024 Jan 1;292:71-4.. 10.1016/j.ajogmf.2023.101085

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Yanful B, Kirubarajan A, **Bhatia D**, Mishra S, Allin S, Di Ruggiero E. Quality of care in the context of universal health coverage: a scoping review. *Health Research Policy and Systems*. 2023. 10.1186/s12961-022-00957-5

Zelenak C, Nagel J, Bersch K, Derendorf L, **Doyle F**, Friede T, et al. Integrated care for older multimorbid heart failure patients: protocol for the ESCAPE randomized trial and cohort study. *ESC Heart Failure*. 2023;10(3):2051-65.

Zhou B, Sheffer K.E, Bennett J.E, **Gregg EW**, Nejatizadeh A, Nenko I. Global variation in diabetes diagnosis and prevalence based on fasting glucose and hemoglobin A1c. *Nature Medicine*. 2023. 10.1038/s41591-023-02610-2

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). Impact of guidance issued during COVID-19 to expand take-home doses of opioid agonist treatment (OAT) in Ireland: a population-based analysis of prescribing practices and patient outcomes 2018 to 2023, SDAP-2023-029, HRB, May 2024. €209,142

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). Tailoring Lung Cancer Screening for Ireland: Using Existing Datasets to Generate Evidence-Based Recommendations for Health Policy, SDAP-2023-033, HRB, May 2024, total value €247,000 (no share). €344,765

Bennett K. (PI). Development of a New-Generation Chronic Disease Registry to Drive Population Monitoring and Comparative Effectiveness Research, SFI EMPOWER (IQVIA Industry partner), 2024. €229,650

Bennett K. A mixed method approach to the evaluation of the 'Know Check Ask' medication safety campaign amongst Healthcare professionals and patients/carers. €259,402

Bennett K. (PI): Making improvements in the system with targeted data collection to improve decision-making and outcomes, Irish Pharmaceutical Health Authority (IPHA) Industry project, 2024. €19,927

Bennett K. (Funded Investigator). FutureNeuro - Phase 2. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), 2023, total value €17.9 million, share. €211,000

Bennett K. (PI). Surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, but now what? Exploring the rehabilitation needs of people with brain tumours in Ireland. HRCI-HRB-2022-021. Health Research Board / HRB and HRCI (Breakthrough Cancer). November 2022. €344,765

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). Early Detection and Early Intervention 'The Lung Health Check'. Irish Cancer Society, ICS-2023, 2023. €3,000,000

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). Examining the effectiveness, and cost-effectiveness of a Work and Cancer Self-management programme to support women with breast cancer to return to work. HRB-DIFA-2023-006, Health Research Board, 2023. €1,035,135

Bennett K. (Joint Lead). Putting data in the Service of Personalized Health care through the development of a prototype Learning Health System. SFI EMPOWER/Novartis, 2023. €293,806

Bennett K, Sexton E. (Co-applicant). Co-design Life After Stroke support pathways (CLASP). HRB-APA-2022-19, Health research board, 2023. €240,000

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). Health information and education resources for women with epilepsy from preconception to postpartum. HRB-APA-2022-14, Health Research Board, 2023. €174,609

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). Identifying support needs of adolescents and young adult cancer survivors returning to education and work, ICS-AHPC-2023, Irish Cancer Society Allied Health Professional Cancer Research Award, 2023. €75,000

Bennett K. (PI). Building public trust and confidence in the secondary use of patient data to drive continuous healthcare improvement. EMPOWER/IQVIA-2021. Science Foundation Ireland (SFI), 2022. €70,000

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). The StrokeCog-R study: a randomised pilot study of a novel cognitive rehabilitation intervention in stroke. HRB-DIFA-2020-20, HRB, 2022. €398,220

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). An EDucation and eXercise intervention (EDX-Ireland) for gluteal tendinopathy in an Irish setting: a feasibility randomised controlled trial (LEAP-Ireland trial). HRB-DIFA-2020-18, HRB, 2022. €329,661

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). Prescription drugs with potential for misuse: A multi-indicator analysis of supply, patterns of use and the associated health burden in Ireland over the past ten years. HRB-SDA-2021, 2022. €249,856

Bennett K. (Co-PI). Examining the impact of COVID19 on cancer in Ireland. CMP21BEMU, Irish Cancer Society, 2021. €189,040

Bennett K. (Co-applicant). Investigating breast cancer risk factors to understand breast cancer epidemiological outcomes. EIA-FA-2019-012, Health research Board, 2020. €752,129

Bennett K. Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics of drug-drug interactions in older community-dwelling adults. €82,500

Bennett K. Estimating the population health impact and cost-effectiveness of implementing evidence based diabetes care and prevention in Ireland. €106,365

Boland F. (Co-Lead). Perinatal outcomes of early-onset fetal growth restriction in Ireland: A retrospective observational study – the multicenter PERIMETER study. RCSI Translational Seed Funding Programme / Rotunda Foundation, 2023. €109,273

Boland F. (Co-applicant). Medicines and Social Prescribing to address patient priorities in multimorbidity (MIDAS): A multi-arm definitive cluster randomised trial in Irish general practice. DIFA-2023-002, HRB Definite intervention Feasibility Award, 2023. €1,200,000

Boland F. (Co-applicant). Preliminary testing of the Safety, Usability and Functionality of an innovative and smart medical device: Compression Therapy System Prototype for Venous Leg Ulcer treatment in healthy volunteers. EI Innovation Partnership, 2022. €1,000,000

Boland F. (Co-applicant). 'Identifying Children at Risk of Schizophrenia. ECSA-2020-005, Health Research Board Emerging Clinician Scientist Award, 2021. €1,000,000

Boland F. (Co-applicant). Data CDRx project: Data analysis of policies and practices for safe, appropriate controlled drug prescribing. SDAP-2019-023, HRB Secondary Data Analysis, 2020. €250,000

Boland F. (Collaborator). Developing Innovative Analytical Methods for research ON Deprescribing (DIAMOND). Ref: 227348/Z/23/Z, Wellcome Career Development Awards, 2023. €2,400,000

Boland F. (Collaborator). The evaluation of personal formularies in general practice to support safe, effective and cost-effective prescribing. CSF-2023-012, HRB Clinician Scientist Fellowship, 2023. €50,000

Boland F. (Collaborator). Targeted Review and Amalgamation of Unmapped Major trauma and Ambulance data in Ireland: TRAUMA. SDAP-2021-006, HRB Secondary Data Analysis, 2020. €250,000

Boland F. (Collaborator), **Bennett K.** (Collaborator). iPASTAR - Improving Pathways for Acute STroke and Rehabilitation. Health Research Board Collaborative Doctoral Awards, 2019. €1,500,000

Boland F. (Collaborator). Evidence-based guidance in general practice: exploring general practitioner preferences, content prioritisation and dissemination, HRB-APA-2019-001, Health Research Board, 2019. €218,000

Breathnach F, **Dicker P** (Collaborator): Ireland STUDY: Investigating the Role of Early Low-dose Aspirin in Pregnancies Complicated by Diabetes. HRB (Health Research Board) DIFA (Definitive Intervention and Feasibility Award) 2017-26. €777,000

Brocato L. RCSI/COSECSA Collaboration Programme. Irish Aid - Department of Foreign Affairs, Ireland. May 2021 – May 2024. €1,400,000

Briody J. (Principal applicant), **Bennett K.** (Co-applicant). Estimating the population health impact and cost-effectiveness of implementing evidence-based diabetes care and prevention in Ireland. EPSPD/2022/165. Irish Research Council (IRC), September 2022. €106,365

Brugha R (PI), Gajewski J (PI). The 'AKAZI' project. Irish Research Council COALESCE Research Fund. 2019-2023. €349,000; RCSI: €104,000

Byrne D, Boland F, Doyle F. Assessing Patient Reported Outcome Measures using Invariance, Stability and Equivalence Analysis: The "PROMISE" study of Network Analysis Methods. Irish Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship; 2024. €112,987

Cahir C. (PI), Bennett K. (Co-investigator). The scope and nature of potential medication-related harm in older populations in Ireland. HRB Secondary Data Analysis Grant (SDAP-2021-020). December 2021-October 2025. €247,627

Cahir C. (PI). Medication without harm: Building a network and knowledge exchange programme. HRB Knowledge Translation Award (KTA). December 2022- December 2024. €24,675

Cahir C. (Co-investigator). Improving outcomes for Women diagnosed with early breast cancer through adherence to adjuvant Endocrine Therapy (SWEET). National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Programme Grants for Applied Research. May 2020- May 2026. £16,958

Cahir C. (Co-investigator). Investigating deprivation-specific and ethnic inequalities in adherence to endocrine therapy in women with ER+ve breast cancer: can these explain disparities in survival? Cancer Research UK. November 2023-November 2025. £83,290

Christie, H. 'Inclusive recommendations for healthcare professionals in the home care context regarding sexuality and intimacy in dementia: Synthesis and dissemination.' Alzheimer Netherlands InterAct grant (INDUCT; Maastricht University and Trinity College Dublin). €11,500

Clarke M (PI), Barry, S, Browne J. Structured Population Health, Policy and Health Services Research Education (SPHeRE), 2022-2030, 21361, Health Research Board, 25/8/2022. €8,259,148. €2,663,708 (RCSI share)

Clarke N Investigating the role of thinking style and defensive information processing in cancer screening participation: A opportunity to improve uptake of organised screening." €714,383

Clyne B. Evidence synthesis and translation of findings for national clinical guideline development: addressing the needs and preferences of guideline development groups. €235,037

Clyne B, Sharp M. Update of the National Clinical Effectiveness Committee (NCEC) National Standards for Clinical Practice Guidance 2015. €22,736

Clyne, B. Sharp, M Rapid Health Technology Assessments (rHTA) in Ireland: When do we need them?" €239,807

Doyle F, Boland F. Do psychometrics matter? The effects of advanced psychometric analyses on depression randomised trial outcomes. Irish Research Council COALESCE/2021/68. €204,851

Doyle F, Boland F, Sorensen J, Deasy C, Masterson S, Willis D, Hennesly D, Hickey A, Brent L, Fitzgibbon N, Moran B: Targeted Review and Amalgamation of Unmapped Major trauma and Ambulance data in Ireland: TRAUMA, Health Research Board Secondary Data Analysis Projects, 2021-2024. €249,725

Doyle F, Kavanagh P, Bauld L, Blake M, Burke S, Byrne M, Siersbaek R, Smith S, Sorensen J, Stanistreet D, Ward KD, Williams P. COMMunity PARTICipation to set direction on design and implementation of financial incentives in Stop Smoking services in Ireland: COMPASS. Health Research Board Applied Partnership Awards; 2023. €257,327

Doyle F, Hickey A, Harkin D, Ryan A, **Moran CN**: Impact of resilience and professionalism training in international medical students: IMPRINT randomised crossover trial, Irish Medical Council - Irish Network of Healthcare Educators, 2022. €4,982

Doyle F, Sorensen J, Kavanagh P, Valentelyte G. Health Economics of Financial Incentives and Stop Smoking Services Research Award 2022, Health Services Executive Tobacco Free Ireland, 2022. €60,000

Doyle F, ESCAPE: Evaluation of a patient-centred biopsychosocial blended collaborative care pathway for the treatment of multi-morbid elderly patients. €365,401

Flood, M. (lead applicant), **Clyne B (co-applicant)** et al. The SYNERG-IE Programme. HRB Applied Programme Grant (APRO) (2023-2027). €2,498,321

Flynn, A. (Co P.I.) King's Together Fund. 'An investigation of the wants and needs for Pregnancy in Athletes and their postpartum return to sport in relation to Nutrition' (The PAN project). £19,905

Flynn, A. (Co P.I.) Almond Board of California. 'Can almond nut consumption improve nocturnal glycaemic control in women diagnosed with gestational diabetes mellitus?' £275,276

Flynn, A. (Co I.) Bikkja Trust. 'Maternal micronutrient deficiency in hyperemesis gravidarum.' £8,394

Flynn, A. (P.I.) Wellcome Trust Seed Award/Rosetrees Trust 'Prevention of Gestational Diabetes in Obese Pregnant Women; a Proof of Principle Study Targeting Early Pregnancy Intervention to Women at Risk.' £60,553, RT £34,032

French, H., Cadogan, C., **Clyne, B., Doyle, F.**, Ryan, J., & Smith, S. Development of a Model of Care for Osteoarthritis in Primary Care in Ireland - A mixed methods study). Health Research Board, Investigator Led Projects. (January 2020-2024). €366,000

French H, **Doyle F**, Cunningham J, Smith S: Better Osteoarthritis Care: Delivering education and training for primary care health professionals in Ireland. Knowledge Translation Awards: KTA-2022-021, Health Research Board, 2022. €36,510

French H, **Doyle F, Bennett K, Sorensen J**, McCarthy G, **Ryan J**, McDonough S, Grimaldi A, Vicenzino B, Mellor R: An EDucation and eXercise intervention (EDX-Ireland) for gluteal tendinopathy in an Irish setting: a feasibility randomised controlled trial (LEAP-Ireland trial). DIFA-2020-018, Health Research Board, 2021. €329,662

Gajewski J. StAR Intl PhD Programme 2020. RCSI. October 2020 – 2024. €36,000.

Gajewski J. kidSURG. BD. 2020 – 2023. + matched in-kind contribution. €211,861

Gajewski J. kidSURG Phase 2. 2023-2024. €92,000

Gajewski J. StAR Intl PhD Programme 2019. RCSI. October 2020 – 2024. €29,957

Gajewski J. PhD training for surgical systems researchers, 2023, Enterprise Ireland. €12,000

Gajewski J., Staff Mobility Grant, 2022 MSCA Erasmus+ 2022-2025. €28,000

Gajewski J. Establishing pathways to safe surgery: case of Malawi, Zambia and Tanzania (SURGpath). €199,694

Gajewski J OptiSurge-OPTImising pathways to scale up access to safe SURGery for underserved populations. €6,205

Gajewski J. McGuigan K. 'Supporting climate resilient health facilities in Malawi through sustainable access to water using solar disinfection of harvested rainwater: the SURG-Water Project', Science Foundation Ireland and Irish Aid, Concept Phase 2023: €40,584, Seed Phase 2023-2024: €185,307.

Gregg, EW Changing the direction of diabetes with integrated, population-level, data-driven decision-making; Science Foundation Ireland; Principal Investigator; 1/04/2023 – 21/3/2028. €4,259,130

Gregg, EW (Principal Investigator) Estimating the population health impact and cost-effectiveness of implementing evidence-based diabetes care and prevention in Ireland. Irish Research Council Enterprise Employment Scheme. €39,000

Gregg, EW (PI) To identify interventions to reverse or mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on primary health care of hypertension and diabetes in Latin America & Caribbean (LAC). World Bank/Pan American Health Organization. €140,000.

Gregg, EW (PI) Systematic review for available frameworks and hospital/tertiary indicators for diabetes. World Health Organization. €21,569

Gregg, EW (PI) Development of a secondary and tertiary metrics module for WHO/diabetes. World Health Organization. €22,000

Gregg, EW Prioritising Action on Persistent and Emerging Missed Opportunities in CVD Prevention in Ireland. Novartis. €40,000

Gregg, EW (PI) Implementation of Delphi surveys to prioritise metrics for the Global Diabetes Monitoring Framework. €22,000

Gregg, EW School of Population Health Funding. €300,000

Gregg, EW World Bank. €75,000

Gregg, EW (Co-PI) Development of a New-Generation Chronic Disease Registry to Drive Population Monitoring and Comparative Effectiveness Research. €179,000

Harkin D, **Doyle F**, Clarke E, Ryan A, Kennedy N, Harbinson M, Kearney G: PROfessionalism in Partnership for Education Research (PROPER) Study: a novel online express team-based learning approach to knowledge acquisition and skills development in medical professionalism for medical students. North-South Research Programme 2021, Higher Education Authority, 2022. €199,320

Hickey A, Browne J, Thomas S. SPHeRE Phase II (2021 Cohort) 2021-2025. Health Research Board (HRB). €810,669

Hickey A, Browne J, Thomas S: SPHeRE Phase II (Extension or 1598). 2018 – 2025. Health Research Board (HRB). €2,499,997

Hickey A, Tully C, Williams D, Horgan F, Byrne E, Kelly PJ, Collins R, Thornton J, **Sexton E**, Merriman N, McCormack J, Ni Bhreacháin M: Maximising the Quality of Stroke Care in Ireland – Development of a National Stroke Audit. APA-2019-036. 2021-2024. €239,973

Hickey A, Williams D, Horgan F, Kelly PJ, **Pender N**, Wren MA, Pendlebury S, Johnston M, **Bennett K**, Merriman N, Fahy M. The StrokeCog-R study: pilot testing a novel intervention DIFA-2020-20 2022-2025. Health Research Board (HRB). €398,218

Hopewell S (lead applicant) **Ryan J** (co-applicant). Clinical effectiveness of an adolescent-specific strengthening programme, compared to usual care, for ambulant adolescents with spastic cerebral palsy – the ROBUST trial. National Institute for Health and Social Care Research (NIHR); Health Technology Assessment Programme. Jan 2023-Aug 2026; GBP £1,395,482 (€1,622,227). €17,800 to RCSI (left Dept 9/23)

Hughes J. (PhD scholar), **Cahir C.**, **Bennett K.** (Co-investigators/supervisors). Pharmacoepidemiology and pharmacoconomics of drug-drug interactions in older community-dwelling adults. Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Programme (GOIPG/2021/1213). September 2021- September 2024. €100,000

Kelleher C, Hutch A. Adapting Active*Consent for multi-cultural and diverse students in Ireland, Higher Education Authority (HEA), 2021. €50,000

Madden S.F. (Co-applicant). Translational Cancer research On pan-heR iNhibition (ACORN): Dublin City University/PUMA Biotechnology, Inc. Strategic Partnership. SFI-SPP 2021. €800,000

Madden S.F. (Co-applicant). Linking 11-oxygenated androgens, skeletal muscle glucose metabolism and diabetes risk in polycystic ovary syndrome. HRB-ECSA 2020. €774,703

Madden S.F. (Co-applicant). The impact of mutations in PI3K/AKT pathway gene loci on response to PI3K inhibitors. HRB-EIA 2019. €900,000

Madden S.F. (Co-supervisor). The multi-omic interrogation of HER2-positive breast cancer. IRC-Enterprise Partnership Scheme, 2019. €96,000

Madden S.F. (Collaborator). Precision Diagnosis and Care for Families with Pulmonary Fibrosis in Ireland. HRB-ECSA 2020. €769,035

Madden S.F. (Collaborator). Interrogating the role of miRNA in predicting responses to novel modulator therapies in children with Cystic Fibrosis. HRB-EIA 2022. €608,106

Madden S.F. (Collaborator). Examining the diagnostic and functional role of a novel DNA meThylation signaturE in predicting ColoRectAl Cancer meTastasis - "INTERACT". HRB-ILP 2022. €369,787

Madden S.F. (Collaborator). Investigating the relationship between the Complement Pathway and outcomes in Psychosis; from Clinical High Risk to First Episode Psychosis. HRB-ILP 2022. €369,866

Maddock, A. Mindfulness-based Social Work and Self-Care. Office of Social Services, Department of Health, Northern Ireland. €35,210

Maddock, A. (co-applicant). Supporting the mental health of persons with physical impairments in Cambodia. Swedish Research Council. €250,000

McCarthy C, **Clyne B** (Co-Applicant) Essential Medicines in General Practice. HSE Post CSCST Fellowship (2023-2025). €85,041

McCarthy C, **Clyne B** (Collaborator) Personal formularies in general practice to support safe, effective, and cost-effective Prescribing. HRB Clinician Scientist Fellowship (2023-2026). €381,210

McDonagh S, Hurley-Ossing D, French H et al **Walsh A (collaborator)** Sustaining activity with arthritis (SAWA) following an Arthritis Ireland Be active with arthritis (BAWA) exercise programme. Health Research Board/Health Research Charities of Ireland. (April 2023-April 2025). €198,834

Mellon L, Doyle F, Walsh A, Conlon P, O'Seaghda C, Riddell P, McCormick A, Moore C: A qualitative investigation of patient preferences for medication adherence strategies post organ transplant. School of Population Health, RCSI, RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences, 2022. €15,528

Mellon L, Doyle F, Walsh A, Moore, M: Patient preferences for care. Irish Kidney Association, 2022. €55,445

Mellon L, Clyne B. A rapid review of the impact of COVID-19 on clinical health outcomes for patients with heart failure. Irish Heart Foundation Project Grant (April 2022). €19,977

Mellon L (co-applicant) The effect of After Action Review in enhancing safety culture and second victim experience and its implementation in an Irish hospital. APA-2019-024. Health Research board, 2020. €231,724

Mellon L. (co-applicant). HealthEIR: A Journey to Improving Health and Wellbeing Through Community-Based Social Self-Care. HSE SlainteCare fund. €338,218

Mohamed NF, **Doyle F.** Virtual care Psychoeducation Framework to Augment Lifestyle Changes and Medication Adherence among individuals with Coronary Heart Diseases in Malaysia. Malaysia National Heart Institute: Fundamental Research Grant Scheme (FRGS), Malaysia Ministry of Higher Education; 2023. €20,000 (Ringgit Malaysia 95,000)

Moran CN, Demeyere N, Quinn T, Dockree P, Brosnan M, **Doyle F, Hickey A:** A Critical Review of Confounding Factors Affecting the Assessment of Cognitive Impairment in Stroke and Dementia: Challenges and Recommendations, Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Grant, 2023. €2,350

Moriarty F, Fahey T et al. **Clyne B** (Collaborator). Sláintemedicines – a roadmap to essential medicines entitlement for universal health coverage. PI Dr Frank Moriarty, HRB Investigator Led Projects, (2019-2023). €282,879

Mullooly M (Co-PI): Examining the impact of COVID-19 on cancer in Ireland' Irish Cancer Society. 2021-2024. €315,000

Mullooly M (PI): Investigating breast cancer risk factors to understand breast cancer epidemiological outcomes. Health Research Board, Emerging Investigator Award, (2020 – 2025). €754,131

Murphy A, Smith S, et al. **Clyne B** (Collaborator). Health Research Board Clinical Trials Network 2021 2026. Primary Care Clinical Trials Network Ireland. (2021-2026). €999,979

Ní Cheallaigh C (PI), et al. **Kavanagh P** (Collaborator). INCLUDE: Integrating National Repositories for the Cooperation Linkage and Understanding of a Data Driven approach to the needs of Excluded people. HRB SDAP (Secondary Data Analysis Projects) award. 1/12/2021 – 30/10/2024 €248,981

O'Flynn E. WiSURG research fellowships 2024. \$33,850

O'Flynn E, Perić, I. SELF Mentorship Programme & Community of Practice. Intuitive Foundation. May 2024. US\$278,000

O'Flynn E, Perić I. United Nations Global Surgery Learning Hub. Global Surgery Foundation. 2022-2024. US\$116,546

O'Keeffe L (PI), et al. **Kavanagh P** (Collaborator). What next? Priority setting and future-proofing for chronic condition prevention and management in Ireland: The Future-Proof study. HRB APA (Applied Partnership Award). 1/12/2021 – 30/10/2024 €240,000

O'Malley G (PI) O'Brien S (Lead Knowledge User) **Walsh A** (co-applicant) Smith S, Baur L, O'Gorman C, O'Shea B, O'Shea D, Schubert S, Ward F, O'Malley M, Looney K: Meeting the Challenge of Childhood Obesity Treatment in Irish Healthcare. Health Research Board, Ireland. Applied Partnership Award. (2021-2024). €239,800

Pedersen S, Thorgaard Skou S, Herrman-Lingen C, Scherer M, Albus C, Wachter R, **Doyle F, Sorensen J,** ... Jaarsma T, Reuver M, Burg M: ESCAPE: Evaluation of a patient-centred biopsychosocial blended collaborative care pathway for the treatment of multi-morbid elderly patients. H2020 SC1-BHC-24-2020 RIA, EU, 2020. €6,101,616. €365,401 (applicant share)

Perić, I, O'Flynn E. Paediatric Anesthesia Training in Africa e-learning programme. 2024-2026. US\$98,240

Pertl M, Doyle F, Collier S, Guinan E, Wallace E, **Walsh A.** Managing depression among patients with cancer: Identifying what works best through Network Meta-Analysis and Stakeholder consultation Irish Cancer Society Psycho-Oncology Research Award (March 2020). €59,996

Pertl, M (co-applicant). Personalised Exercise Rehabilitation in Cancer Survivorship: The PERCS Programme. Irish Cancer Society COVID-Cancer Rapid Response Award, 2021 (1761), €149,930

Pittalis C. 'The climate change and health nexus: using Photovoice as a participatory research tool to examine how water shortages affect maternal health care in Malawi', Feb-Nov 2024, Royal Irish Academy Charlemont Award. €2,500

Ryan, M. (lead applicant), **Clyne B (co-applicant)** et al. HRB Evidence Synthesis to support Clinical practice Guideline development (HRB-ESCG) (2024-2028). €2,558,926

Ryan, J. (lead applicant), **Fortune J, Walsh A.** An investigation into the prevalence and experience of psychopathology and mental disorders among children and adolescents with cerebral palsy. Health Research Board-Health Research Charities Ireland Joint Funding Scheme. Feb 2023-May 2024. €114,607

Ryan, J. (lead applicant), **Fortune J, Walsh A.** Use of intervention mapping to adapt a transition programme for young people with childhood-onset physical disability in Ireland: the Ignition 2 study. HRB Applied Partnership Award March 2023-Feb 2025. €240,000

Sexton E. (Principal applicant), **Bennett K.** (co-applicant). Scenario and Intervention Modelling in Ireland for Stroke: Evaluating the effect of alternative policy scenarios and interventions for stroke in Ireland on outcomes and costs. ARPP-2020-010, Health research Board, 2021. €227,336

Sharpe, M, Baral B, Burke S, Curtin P, Grimes DR, Murphy P, Whelan M, **Clyne B** (mentor). Optimising the dissemination of health research in Ireland. Health Research Board Applying Research into Policy & Practice. Postdoctoral Fellowship. €240,288

Smith S, O'Shea E et al. **Clyne B** (Collaborator). HRB Collaborative doctoral award Lead Applicant. 2018-2023 Managing complex multimorbidity in primary care: a multidisciplinary doctoral training programme. (2018-2024). €1,416,644

Sorensen J, Lynch B. Arthritis Ireland Private cost of Arthritis, 2024. €40,000

Sorensen J, Lynch B, Funding for Cancer Webinar Series 2024. Novartis Ireland Limited and Janssen Sciences Ireland, February 2024. €24,000

Sorensen J, Hammond L, Valentelyte G, Lynch B, Funding for National Healthcare Outcomes Conference. Novartis Ireland Limited, April 2024. €24,000

Staines, L. Investigating the persistence of psychotic-like experiences using experience sampling methods. Royal Irish Academy, Charlemont Award. €2,500

Stanistreet, D. ENBEL (ENHANCING BELMONT RESEARCH ACTION TO SUPPORT EU (European Union) POLICY MAKING ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH) consortium including **Stanistreet D.** Connecting health and climate change 1/11/2020 – 31/10/2023 Horizon 2020(EU). €2,993,207. RCSI:€36,000

Stanistreet, D. SFI Sustainable Development Goal Challenge Project – Surgical Data Science; Principal investigator of a project focusing on scaling up quality in surgical training across the College of Surgeons Eastern, Central and Southern African regions (COSECSA). February 2022 – July 2023. Total funding (Science Foundation Ireland and Irish Aid). €310,429

Stanistreet, D. Dublin City Council DCC, Community Health Needs and Assets Assessment of four disadvantaged areas in Dublin, Dublin City Council 2023-2025. €80,000

Stanistreet, D. Higher Education Authority, HEA Support for COVID-19 Related Research Costed Extensions, Higher Education Authority 2023. €21,050

Stanistreet, D. Health Research Board Postdoctoral Internship Programme, Health Research Board / HRB 2022-2024. €138,526

Stanistreet, D. RCSI, Collaborate Initiative – IPO (Insights & Planning Office) 2021-2024. €5,000

Stanistreet, D. Growing Up in a Pandemic: health behaviours and the impact of COVID-19 on health inequalities among young people in Ireland — Teenpath Covid, EU Horizon 2020. €184,591

Stanistreet, D. Applying a community led total sanitation approach to the problem of Household Air Pollution in Africa; a smokeless village pilot project. €228,994

Theologis T (lead applicant) **Ryan J** (co-applicant) Clinical effectiveness of a child-specific dynamic stretching exercise programme, compared to usual care for ambulant children with spastic cerebral palsy – the SPELL trial. National Institute for Health and Social Care Research (NIHR); Health Technology Assessment Programme. Jan 2023-Aug 2026; GBP £1,385,787 (€1,611,116). €17,800 to RCSI. **(left Dept in 9/23)**

Timon C, Flynn A. 'Leveraging data and AI to empower citizens to make healthier and more sustainable food choices'. 2024. Horizon Europe. €2,849,475

Timon, C. Co-applicant: Health Research Board 'Secondary Data Analysis Project: Investigating a data driven approach to inform population-based resource allocation for improved equity in primary care services in Ireland.' €247,864

Timon, C. Irish Research Council 'PANO Trial: Physical Activity and Nutrition Optimisation.' €219,977

Wallace E, Fahey T, **Boland F, Clyne B** et al. Characterising problematic polypharmacy in older community dwelling people attending general practice. PI Dr Emma Wallace, Emerging Clinician Scientist Award 2020, (2020-2024). €1,000,006.

Wallace E, Smith S, Collins C, Murphy E, **Clyne B** (co-applicant), Harkins V, Foy F, Kelly M, Hanley K, Cox T. Evidence-based guidance in general practice: exploring general practitioner preferences, content prioritisation and dissemination. HRB Applied Partnership Award, (2019-2023). €207,815

Walsh A, Bennett K, Daly C, Daly D, Flynn C, Lambert V, Matthews A, McGrane K, Murphy P, Murphy S, O'Shaughnessy F: Health information and education resources for women with epilepsy from preconception to postpartum. Health Research Board, Ireland. Applied Partnership Award. (August 2023-July 2025). €174,609

Walsh A, Balfe J. Fertility and Pregnancy with Cystic Fibrosis: A Study of the Experience of Fertility and Maternity Care for People with Cystic Fibrosis in Ireland. €110,000

Walsh A, Mazhak I. Health Profiles, Health Care Needs and Coping Strategies of Ukrainian Female Refugees Settled in the Czech Republic and Ireland. €215,534

Ward KD, **Doyle F, Kelleher C, Kavanagh P.** Smoking cessation in LGBTQ. 2023 Fulbright Alumni Project Grant; 2023. €1,000

Innovation and Commercialisation Activities

Patents Granted

Greene G, Costello R, Sulaiman I, Seheult J, **Conroy R, Doyle F:** A method for monitoring adherence to medication: European Patent Office, Application No: 17151063.9. Germany, 2024

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

Overview

The highlight of the School of Postgraduate Studies calendar is always the conferring ceremonies. Since July 1st 2023, we have graduated 73 scholars with higher degrees by research: 52 PhD, 15 MD, and 6 MSc (Including 11 MD/PhD by prior publication).

For the academic year 2023/24 we registered 130 new scholars for higher degrees by research: 83 PhD, 38 MD, 9 MSc and 0 MCh, including 6 PhD/MD by prior publication. This represents a 31% increase in the number of new PhD/MD scholars compared to 2022/23 and is the largest intake of PgRs to date (2022/23 was itself a 46% increase on the previous year).

Thanks to our continued collaborations with Soochow University, Fulbright and Qatar University, we currently have 40 RCSI StAR PhDs registered. Alongside these we currently have 68 RCSI StAR MD scholars. These MD StAR scholarships are in partnership with the Beacon Hospital, Blackrock Health, Bon Secours, Mater Private Network, Highfield Healthcare, UPMC Whitfield Waterford, and St. Vincent's Private Hospital. Our 2023/24 intake includes 15 additional PhD scholars from the RCSI Soochow StAR PhD Programme, including 2 funded by the China Scholarships Council. We currently have scholars of over 50 different nationalities registered to the school.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

A "*Black Jacket Ceremony*" was inaugurated in November 2023. New scholars were welcomed to RCSI and presented with a black RCSI/SPGS jacket. The ceremony also hosted the inaugural SPGS awards for Research Communication (Scientific), Research Communication (Public) and Research Output Impact. The ceremony will now take place annually after the induction of the October cohort (and will include the previous April cohort).

In October 2022 we launched the Professional Doctorate programme in Pharmacy, Nursing, Physiotherapy and Positive Health. The programme was extended in May 2024 to include Population Health, Health Professions Education and a general DProf programme in Health Sciences.

In International partnerships, a new Joint PhD Programme in "Precision & Regenerative Medicine" has been developed in collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh and it set to launch in September 2024 with the aim of recruiting 10 scholars per year. A new agreement with King Abdullaziz University in Jeddah, KSA has been signed to allow junior faculty and clinical educators from KAU pursue higher degrees with RCSI. A co-tutelle agreement with Sorbonne University in Paris has been developed and will recruit the first joint PhD scholars under the agreement in September 2024. A further agreement with the University of Jordan is under development to allow Jordanian Scholars undertake their PhD training at RCSI. An agreement for a joint/Dual PhD programme with the University of Minnesota is also under development, while 20 MSc by Research scholars are due to start a dual programme in September 2024 between RCSI and Soochow University at the new JEI in Suzhou.

From January 2024, SPGS launched mandatory supervisor training for all research supervisors. Delivered online via the Epigeum platform, the training addresses a key deficit identified by the CINNTE review and provides state-of-the-art training for all research supervisors.

We were again delighted to support our Secondment award winners to undertake their placements. Scholars will travel to The University of Oxford, Imperial College London, Stanford University, University of Michigan, The Perlmutter Cancer Center at New York Langone Medical Center, M3 Research Center and Hertie Institute for Clinical Brain Research, University Hospital Tübingen, Free University of Berlin

External Committees

Breast Cancer Now Grant Committee – Professor Darran O'Connor (Chair) April 2024 - Present
Breast Cancer Now Scientific Strategy Committee – Professor Darran O'Connor (Member) November 2023 - Present

Student Engagement and Partnership (StEP)

SPGS funded one StEP project this year led by Bess McBride and PGR scholar Justin Laiti focused on building research communities. A research forum was organised for postgraduates to share their research with each other, and a Microsoft Teams postgraduate group was set up to further connect scholars.

Staff Training

Dean Lennon - Managing Through People programme

Staff List

Professor & Head of School

Darran O'Connor BA (Mod), MSc, PhD

Associate Professor

Emer Reeves PhD (Deputy Head of School, MD programmes)

Catherine Greene PhD (Deputy Head of School, PhD programmes)

Deirdre Fitzgerald-Hughes PhD (Deputy Head of School, Academic Quality and Policy Development, Chair of ARC) (Promoted in 2024)

Roger Preston, PhD (Deputy Head of School, Curriculum Development (Promoted in 2024))

Senior Lecturer

Sudipto Das, PhD (Deputy Head of School, DProf & MSc programmes) (Promoted in 2024)

Quality and Operations Managers

Lisa Maye-Gregory MComm, MTh (seconded as Head of Registry Services from September 2023)

Dean Lennon BA (Business) Acting Quality & Operations manager since September 2023

Programme Coordinators

Bess McBride MSc

Caroline O'Rourke

Kathleen Molloy

Maya Dumana MPH

Higher Degrees

MSc

Harumi Ramanayake, Development of 3D collagen-based scaffolds as gene delivery platforms for microRNA-146a-5p to breast cancer cells. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Ivana Ilic Dimitrijevic, The Effect of Collagen Scaffold Structural Properties on Dental Pulp Stem Cells Viability and Survival. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Michelle Beirne, Incorporation of pharmacy technicians into the medication administration process in a national paediatric cancer inpatient service; an implementation study. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Rabia Saleem, Glypican 2 (GPC2) Is a Potential Immunological Target in Adult and Childhood Cancers. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Saeid Javadi, Patient-Specific Human Heart 3D Modelling by Micro-CT Image Processing. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Sujithra Srinivas, Micro-RNA Based Rhythmicity During Epileptogenesis in Mice. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Bláithín Arnold, A framework for assigning in-use shelf life for aseptically manipulated small molecule preparations in unlicensed hospital compounding units –A Delphi Study. MSc, RCSI & NUI 2023.

MD

Aaron S. Doherty, Progressing the Clinical Applications of Novel Antimicrobial Peptide Polymers for Recalcitrant Infections. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Leona Nertney, Serious Acute Unexplained Events in Children: Towards a Rationalization of Resource use in the Paediatric Emergency Department. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Michelle Casey, Impact of Elexacaftor/Tezacaftor/Ivacaftor on airway inflammation and clinical outcomes in patients with Cystic Fibrosis. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Seán Joseph Armstrong, The Impact of Rapid Testing on Antimicrobial Stewardship in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Adrian Francis Daly, Discovery of novel genes and mechanisms in rare neuroendocrine diseases. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Séamus Hussey, Epidemiology and outcomes in paediatric inflammatory bowel disease. MD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Claire Power, Prevalence, clinical characteristics and genotype of children with Congenital Imprinting Disorders in Ireland. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Emer O'Brien, Evidence-based guidance in general practice: exploring general practitioner preferences, content prioritisation and dissemination. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Kathryn Mulryan, Introducing a network of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs) linked to lung volume reduction services in Ireland: Analysis of health economic implications. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Lisa Prior, Combination of the PI3K inhibitor Copanlisib with HER2 directed agents Trastuzumab and Trastuzumab-Emtansine (T-DM1) in patients with advanced HER2 positive breast cancer. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Mairi Lucas, The immune microenvironment of early stage oestrogen receptor positive, HER 2 negative breast cancer - impact on prognosis and prognostic signature performance. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Meredith Kinoshita, Methods of Assessing Breastmilk Intake in Preterm Infants. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Niall Linnane, Evaluation of the biomechanics and histology of native aortic coarctation tissue: Understanding the need for bespoke patient therapies. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

William Duggan, Fusobacterium infection and SRPK1 as modulators of prognosis and chemotherapy response in mucinous colorectal cancer. MD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Enda Hannan, Robotic colorectal surgery: The utilisation of robotic technology in challenging pathologies and vulnerable patients. MD RCSI & NUI 2024.

PhD

Aileen Harnett, Exploration of the role of EZH2 and BRD4 in the transcriptional dysregulation of epileptogenesis in epilepsy. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Archita Biswas, Systems Analysis of Deeply Phenotyped GBM Cohorts of Long- and Short-Term Survivors. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Avelino Ferreira, Synthesis, functionalisation and characterisation of ultrasmall gold nanoparticles with targeting properties for applications in nanomedicine. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Cathal John Caulfield, The synthesis and in-vitro / in-vivo testing of near infrared fluorescent BF2-azadipyromethene imaging probes. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Catherine Murphy, Exploring the immune microenvironment of cisplatin-resistant neuroblastoma via genetic profiling in a range of in vitro and in vivo models. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Catherine Finnegan, Investigating the Role of Early Low Dose Aspirin in Diabetes. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Ellen Finnegan, Molecular Mechanisms of Epileptogenesis and epilepsy-induced cognitive impairments; a dual role for m6 A. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Eva Clemente, Epigenetics as a diagnostic and therapeutic target in colorectal cancer. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Justine Mathoux, Evaluation of the role of glycans of the biomolecular corona and development of well-characterised glyco-nanoparticles for biomedical applications. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Lorna Staines, Psychotic experiences; onset, persistence, and interventions. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Maria (Mimi) Rosealie Borrelli, Identification of the Human Dermal Fibroblast Stem Cell. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Marko Dobricic, Impact of the glycan component of the biomolecular corona formed around nanoparticles. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Muirne Spooner, An exploration of factors affecting how medical students seek, use and respond to feedback. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Pauline Wilson, What is the clinical utility of SEM measurement for the detection of foot ulcer development among adults with diabetes? An epidemiological profile of people at risk for diabetic foot ulceration. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Sarah J Murphy, Training load and injury risk in Leinster schoolboy rugby players - the SCRUM study. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

Stephen Keelan, Translational and Clinical Research Identifies Novel Therapeutic Targets and Surgical Advances in the Modern Management of Breast Cancer. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2023.

David Filan, The Arthroscopic Correction of Underlying Femoroacetabular Impingement: Multi-faceted Clinical Implications and Outcomes Evaluation. RCSI & NUI 2023.

Derek Hennessey, Advances in endourological technology and the impact on outcomes and the environment. RCSI & NUI 2023.

Aoife Kearney, Carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales: identifying drivers of transmission in healthcare environments. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Aoife Feeley, Surgical priming; the role and validity of virtual reality in the preoperative setting to improve proficiency in surgical trainees. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Bhairavi Sawant, Field, evaluation of the use of transparent polypropylene jerry cans a+C14:E16s reactors for solar water disinfection. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Charlotte Myers, COVID-19 and the impact of social determinants of health on health-related outcomes in women with breast cancer: a prospective cohort study. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Christopher Simpson, Development of a thermoresponsive hydrogel as a minimally invasive drug delivery platform for bone regeneration. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Ciara Gallagher, CADM1 is modulated by TGF β signalling through miRNA 200a-3p in high-risk neuroblastoma. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Claire Comerford, Elucidating the role of von Willebrand factor in multiple myeloma disease biology. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Colette Cunningham, An eHealth education intervention to improve kangaroo care knowledge, confidence, and the general evidence-based practice self-efficacy of neonatal nurses: A complex mixed methods evaluation study. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Conor Toale, The utility of high-stakes technical performance assessments in surgical training: establishing a framework across the continuum from selection to certification. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.
Dearbhla Doherty, Low von Willebrand Factor (VWF) Levels: Novel Pathological Insights and Therapeutic Strategies. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Donagh O'Shea, A gene-activated injectable and 3D printable hydrogel for articular cartilage repair. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Ellen King, DNA and mRNA vaccines for neuroblastoma: design, development, and immunogenicity testing. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Fergal Gearóid Kavanagh, An investigation of changes in surgical practice in Otolaryngology during the COVID-19 Pandemic. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Frances Cleary, Developing embedded fabric computing edge intelligence for healthcare e-textile applications. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Haritha Jacob, Development of poly-(lactic-co-glycolic acid) nanoparticles for the sustained release of MCC950 for the treatment of post-traumatic osteoarthritis. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Isabelle Boothman, Identifying genetic risk factors and develop predictive models for specific adverse drug reactions induced by particular anti-seizure medication. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Karen Conboy, Chromatin landscape mapping identifies dysregulation of signalling pathways in human temporal lobe epilepsy. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Karen Jordan, Metabolic surgery for the treatment of comorbid type 2 diabetes and obesity in adults in Ireland: Evaluating the evidence. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Katie McCormick, Development of non-viral gene-based therapeutics for application in bone tissue engineering. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Laura MacDarby, Neuromonitoring in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit and the Analysis of Amplitude Integrated Electroencephalography in Children 2 months to 16 years. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Lauren Fagan, A Novel Role for Nutrient Receptors in Cartilage and Joint Disease; dissecting circadian and metabolic responses to IL-1 β versus TNF in chondrocytes, and relevance for osteoarthritis. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Lyndsey Flanagan, Targeting anti-apoptotic BCL-2 dependence in Multiple Myeloma. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Marc-Michel Wilson, Profiling of m6A RNA methylation reveals epitranscriptomic regulation of multiple key pathways in human lobe epilepsy. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Paul O'Dowd, Exploiting Click Chemistry in the Design of Next Generation Pt(II) Probes. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Rachel Moore, Exploring the role and therapeutic potential of Ubiquitin Specific Peptidase 11 (USP11) in estrogen receptor positive breast cancer. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Siobhan O'Flaherty New approaches to enhance the sustainability of solid-phase peptide synthesis and the applicability of solution-phase peptide conjugation. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Vicki Sandys, Can the use of artificial intelligence and wearable technology enable the optimisation of fluid status in haemodialysis patients?. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Viveka Guzman, Older People's Well-being, Interventions and Support during Epidemics (WISE) : Perspectives from the COVID-19 pandemic implications for the future. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Clare Rock, The Role of the Environment in Transmission of Pathogens to Patients in the Healthcare Setting. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Hannan Mullett, Shoulder Instability in An Athletic Population - Role of the Latarjet Procedure. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Kevin Conlon, Chronic Pancreatitis: Insights in to an orphan disease. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Odhran Shelley, Factors influencing death and disability following burn injury and measures to improve outcome. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Patrick Forde, Neoadjuvant Immunotherapy for Resectable Non-Small-Cell Lung Cancer. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Ronan Cahill, Aerosols, Airflow and Airspace Contamination During Laparoscopic Surgery. PhD, RCSI & NUI 2024.

Publications

Higher degrees listed above published in the RCSI Library

Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Professor Darran O'Connor, Principal Investigator, Grant# 2020-1-IE02-KA107-000744
2020-2023 ERASMUS+ International Credit Mobility "Joint PhD programme Soochow University",
€37,320

Professor Darran O'Connor, Principal Investigator, 2022-2025 ERASMUS+ International Credit Mobility
"Joint PhD programme Qatar University", €25,800

Professor Darran O'Connor, Principal Investigator, 2022-2025 ERASMUS+ International Credit Mobility
"Joint PhD programme University of Pittsburgh", €30,960

Professor Darran O'Connor, Principal Investigator, 2023-2025 ERASMUS+ International Credit Mobility
"Joint PhD programme Soochow University, University of Minnesota and HBKU", €134,720

PSYCHIATRY

The Department of Psychiatry provides teaching at undergraduate level for medical students within Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and for elective students from other medical schools. Medical students attend clinical attachments at Beaumont Hospital, Connolly Hospital, North Dublin Mental Health Services, St. Vincent's Hospital (Fairview), Cavan General Hospital, Newcastle Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital (Kilkenny), Cluain Mhuire Family Centre (Blackrock), University Hospital Waterford, Louth/Meath Mental Health Services, North Kildare Mental Health Services, Monaghan Hospital, St Patrick's Hospital and Highfield Healthcare. Clinical teaching includes the use of on-line video lectures, interactive tutorial program, small-group tutorials, case-based teaching, and clinical skills tutorials.

The Department also provides Basic Specialist Training in Psychiatry through the RCSI Rotational Training Programme in Psychiatry and Higher Specialist Training in Psychiatry through the National Higher Specialist Training Programme.

We have a very active research programme, and specific research themes include cellular cytoarchitectural and protein signature of major psychiatric disorders, youth mental health, psychiatric epidemiology, genetics of psychiatric disorders, behavioural phenotypes of genetic disorders, the neuropsychiatry of epilepsy, structural and functional neuroimaging of genetic and neuropsychiatric disorders, ECT and mental health services research.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Professor Kieran Murphy

- Director, Board of Management, St John of God Hospital
- Chair, Clinical Governance, Quality and Safety Committee, St John of God Hospital
- Director, Board of Management, Avista
- Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Developmental Disorders

Professor Mary Cannon

- Vice President, College of Psychiatrists of Ireland
- Vice Chair, Youth and Student Psychiatry Faculty, College of Psychiatrists of Ireland
- Member of the Royal Irish Academy (MRIA)
- Member of executive board of RAMI
- Member of Executive Committee of Academic Faculty. Royal College of Psychiatrists
- Member HSE Transitions/ Youth Mental Health Working Group for Sharing the Vision Implementation Committee
- Co-Lead Organiser "New Directions in Youth Mental Health".Royal Irish Academy, September 2022
- Hosted Fulbright Scholar Professor Farrokh Alemi, George Mason University, Virginia US

Professor David Cotter

- 2004–present Dean and Vice-Dean, RCSI Deanery
- 2021-2023 Wellcome Trust Innovations Flagship Awardee
- 2023-2026 External Advisory Board, CELEBRATE UKRI funded "Advancing adolescent mental health"
- 2023-2026 Programme Committee, Schizophrenia International Research Society (SIRS)
- 2021-2024 Awards Committee, SIRS
- 2017–present Conference Organizing Committee, College of Psychiatry of Ireland
- 2019–present Co-chair Irish Psychosis Research Network
- Ongoing Editorial board of Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine
- Ongoing Executive Committee Member, Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland
- Ongoing Steering group Health Service Executive Climate Action & Sustainability Program
- Ongoing Steering group member Irish Clinical Academic Training Programme (ICAT)
- My recent research has focused on inflammatory contributions (including social/environmental exposures) and early biomarkers of psychosis. My work has shown that dysregulation of inflammatory markers and pathways (complement and coagulation) represents a vulnerability to illness, and a novel opportunity for therapeutic intervention. Other risk factors such as suicidal ideation has also been identified as a predictive factor. I am increasingly interested in public Mental Health and the link between biological factors and public mental health.

Professor Siobhan MacHale

- Government appointed College of Psychiatrists of Ireland representative on the National Implementation and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) for the implementation of the Sharing the Vision Mental Health Strategy 2020 – 2024
- Chair of the NIMC Specialist Group on Women's Mental Health
- Member HSE Alcohol Programme Implementation Group since 2022
- Presentation to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Assisted Dying representing the College of Psychiatrists of Ireland

Professor John Lyne

- Editor-in-Chief for Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine. The journal received its first official impact factor of 5.1. The SCIMAGO journal rank increased from 0.94 in 2022 to 1.04 in 2023. The journal published a themed issue on perinatal mental health and delivered multiple podcasts related to key publications in the journal.
- Chair of the Research Ethics Committee, Newcastle Hospital.
- Member of physical health special interest group in College of Psychiatrists of Ireland and chair of physical health implementation working group, Newcastle Hospital.
- Member, Academic Faculty, College of Psychiatrists of Ireland and Member Youth and Student Faculty, College of Psychiatrists of Ireland.
- Developed three podcasts in collaboration with RCSI psychsoc medical students which were uploaded to Moodle RCSI psychiatry curriculum in April 2023.

Dr Melanie Föcking

- Promotion to Senior Lecturer, RCSI, effective October 2023
- Deputy Director, RCSI International Electives Programme (European placements)
- Schizophrenia International Research Society, Co-chair of Educational Committee 2024-2025
- European Graduate School for Neuroscience (EURON), RCSI coordinator
- Co-lead on the RCSI THEP2 CNS Module Medical Curriculum Development
- Chair of the HUPO Brain Proteome Project Steering Committee
- Associate Editor Frontiers in Psychiatry
- Editor PROTEOMICS and PROTEMICS Clinical Applications

Dr Darren Roddy

- President of the Royal Academy of Medicine (RAMI) in Ireland Student Section.
- Organiser of RAMI Student Research Workshops held online and in person July/August 2023
- Member of RAMI executive committee
- Contributor for Knowing Neurons, a neuroscience education website.
- RCSI Human Research Ethics Committee member
- Supervision of Academic intern (AN) 2023
- Supervisor of 14 research summer students, summer 2023
- Founder of PRADO (Psychiatry Research - Adversity, Development and Outcomes) group
- Supervised students have presented at Neuroscience Ireland, Anatomical Society and Irish College of Psychiatry conferences 2023/23
- Research Student - overall winner undergraduate presentation - RCSI Research Day
- Review editor for Frontiers in Psychiatry

Professor Mary Clarke

- External Examiner, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin
- External Examiner, Royal College of Physicians, Public Health Faculty
- Public Health Examinations Committee, Faculty of Public Health Medicine, Royal College of Physicians Ireland

Staff List

Professor / Head of Department

Kieran C Murphy M Med Sci, PhD, FRCPI FRCPsych

Professors

Mary Cannon MB, BCh, BAO, FRCPsych, MSc, PhD, MRIA

David Cotter MB, BCh, BAO, FRCPsych, PhD

Professor Emeritus

Vincent Russell MB, BCh, BAO, MSc, MRCPsych, FRCPC

Associate Professor

Mary Clarke BA, MSc, PhD (jointly with Department of Psychology)

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor

Siobhan MacHale, Beaumont Hospital (Liaison Psychiatry)

Finian O'Brien, Monaghan General Hospital

John Lyne, Newcastle Hospital

Brian O'Donoghue, St Vincent's University Hospital

Senior Clinical Lecturers

Caragh Behan

Fiona Toal

Darren Roddy

Joe McAndrew

Senior Lecturers

Moayyad Kamali, Newcastle Hospital, Greystones

Aideen Moran, Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown

Robert Daly, North Dublin Mental Health Service

Selena Pillay, North Dublin Mental Health Service

Melissa Gill, Cavan General Hospital

Iulia Dud, Highfield Healthcare

Eric Roche, Cluain Mhuire Family Centre

Aiveen Kirley, Cluain Mhuire Family Centre

Anwar Ul Haq, St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny

MacDara McCauley, St Brigid's Hospital, Ardee

Sarah Prasad, St Patrick's University Hospital (St Edmundsbury)

Darran Flynn, Waterford University Hospital

Allen Bulfin, North Kildare Mental Health Services

Angela Noonan, St Vincent Hospital, Fairview

Louise Brennan, Tallaght University Hospital

Ian McClelland, St Vincent Hospital, Fairview

Melanie Focking, Beaumont Hospital

Honorary Senior Lecturers

Helen Barry

Maurice Clancy

Leah Lawler

Diane Gillan (Jointly with the Dept of Psychology)

Maeve Moran

Andrew Eustace

Angela Cabalredo

Justin Brophy

Miriam Kennedy

Linda O' Rourke

Richelle Kirrane

Rachel Cullivan

Jennifer Wilson-O'Raghallaigh

Jogin Thakore

Harish Parvathaiah

Clinical Lecturers

Naoise Mulcrone
Liam Kennedy

Post-Doctoral Fellows

Colm Healy

Honorary Lecturers

David Mongan
Helen Coughlan
Sahar Riaz

Clinical Tutors

Grace Omoijade - Cavan General Hospital
Liliana Marques - Cluain Mhuire, Blackrock
Francesco Piacenza - University Hospital Waterford
Rachel Sparrow & Ushna Osman - Connolly Hospital
Aoibheann McLoughlin - St Vincents' Hospital, Fairview
Deepak Prashant & Afshan Zareen - North Dublin MHS
Oisin O'Brien - Newcastle Hospital, Greystones
Caroline O'Byrne - St Luke's Hospital Kilkenny
Josef McGrane - Louth/Meath MHS
Darren Daly - Highfield Healthcare
Mohamed Elamin - Kildare North MHS
Kayode Timothy - Monaghan Hospital

Postdoctoral Researchers

Subash Raj Susai
Niamh Dooley

PhD students

Lorna Staines
Jonah Byrne
Jennifer Murphy
John Hoey
Ronan Fleury
Emmet Power

Administrative Staff

Máire O'Donovan
Hilary Atkinson
Catriona O'Grady

Publications

Al Mukhaizeem S, Nasa A, Waldron D, McDaid A, Gorman PJ, Featherstone M, Barry M, Murphy P, Gallagher H, Nair S, O'Connor M. Investigating the effectiveness of oral ketamine on pain, mood and quality of life in treatment resistant chronic pain. *Frontiers in Pain Research*. 2023 Nov 23;4:1268985..1268985.

Butler E, **Clarke M**, Spirtos M, Keeffe L M O, & Dooley N. (2024). Pregnancy complications and childhood mental health: is the association modified by sex or adverse social circumstances? Findings from the 'growing up in Ireland' national infant cohort study. doi:[10.1007/s00127-024-02678-2](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00127-024-02678-2)

Byrne JF, Mongan D, Murphy J, Healy C, **Föcking M**, **Cannon M**, **Cotter DR**. Prognostic models predicting transition to psychotic disorder using blood-based biomarkers: a systematic review and critical appraisal. *Transl Psychiatry*. 2023 Oct 28;13(1):333. doi: 10.1038/s41398-023-02623-y. PMID: 37898606; PMCID: PMC10613280.

Byrne JF, Healy C, Föcking M, Susai SR, Mongan D, Wynne K, Kodosaki E, Heurich M, de Haan L, Hickie IB, Smesny S, Thompson A, Markulev C, Young AR, Schäfer MR, Riecher-Rössler A, Mossaheb N, Berger G, Schlögelhofer M, Nordentoft M, Chen EYH, Verma S, Nieman DH, Woods SW, Cornblatt BA, Stone WS, Matalon DH, Bearden CE, Cadenhead KS, Addington J, Walker EF, Cannon TD, **Cannon M**, McGorry P, Amminger P, Cagney G, Nelson B, Jeffries C, Perkins D, **Cotter DR**. Proteomic Biomarkers for the Prediction of Transition to Psychosis in Individuals at Clinical High Risk: A Multi-cohort Model Development Study. *Schizophr Bull.* 2024 Apr 30;50(3):579-588. doi: 10.1093/schbul/sbad184. PMID: 38243809; PMCID: PMC11059811.

Cogley C, Bramham J, Bramham K, Smith A, Holian J, O'Riordan A, The JW, Conlon P, **MacHale S**, D'Alton P (2023) High rates of psychological distress, mental health diagnoses and suicide attempts in people with CKD in Ireland *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation*, 2023 <https://doi.org/10.1093/ndt/gfad021>

Carey E, Healy C, Perry Y, Gillan D, Whitehouse AJO, **Cannon M**, Lin A. Evidence that infant and early childhood developmental impairments are associated with hallucinatory experiences: results from a large, population-based cohort study. *Psychol Med.* 2023 Apr;53(5):2116-2124. doi: 10.1017/S0033291721003883. Epub 2021 Sep 29. PMID: 34583789; PMCID: PMC10106299.

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Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Professor David Cotter, PI and Lead Investigator Vista: Vision To action for promoting mental healthier and recovery. An implementation Science approach to Sharing the vision - Ireland national mental health policy, 2024-2029, €2.4m

Professor David Cotter, PI: SFI Future B=Neuro research Center for chronic and rare neurological disease, 2023 -2029 €17.9m

Professor David Cotter: PI Trusting: Horizon Research and Innovation Actions NORIZONHLTH-2022-STAYHLTH-01-04-two-stage, 2023-2028 €5,999,510

Professor David Cotter: Predicting outcome in first episode psychosis. Health research board LIP award, 2022-2025, €370,000

Professor David Cotter, PI and lead PSI Start HRB Clinical Doctoral Award, 2022-2027, €1.39m

Professor David Cotter: co applicant €449,000 to RCSI DC/MC Youth Gems, 2020-2025 €9.9m

Professor David Cotter: PI Cytokine Analysis for STEP, 2022-2025 €118,130

Professor David Cotter: PI PRESCIENT examines a range of potential risk factors for young peoples at ultra-high risk for psychosis with the aim of creating tools to better predict outcomes and develop the best possible treatment plans, 2022-2026 \$589,000

Professor Mary Cannon: Health Research Board, Applied Programme Grants, APRO-2023-023 VISTA Vision To Action for Mental Health Policy, 1st December 2023 to 28th February 2028, €132,488.

Professor John Lyne: TRUSTING: A TRUSTworthy speech-based AI monitorING system for the prediction of relapse in individuals with schizophrenia, Horizon Europe Health, December 2022, €5,999,510; Co-Applicant Share: €508,113

Professor John Lyne: VISTA: VISion To Action for promoting mental health and recovery. An Implementation Science approach to "Sharing the Vision" - Ireland's national mental health policy, Health Research Board, September 2023, €2,499,608; Co-Applicant Share: €416,601.33

John Lyne: Achieving recovery in psychotic disorders with comprehensive clinical guidelines, Health Research Board, September 2023, €2,499,904; Co-Applicant Share: €416,650.67

Professor David Cotte/ Dr Melanie Föcking: Investigating the relationship between the Complement Pathway and outcomes in Psychosis; from Clinical High Risk to First Episode Psychosis, Health Research Board, Health Research Award, 2022-2025, €370,000

Dr Melanie Föcking: HSE SPARK Seed program 2023, Melanie Föcking, co-lead Prof John Lyne, Schizophrenia and cooking - Impact of Nutritional interventions on the Quality of Life in schizophrenia spectrum disorders €3,000:

Dr Melanie Föcking: Hiding In Plain Sight: CNS Moodle Quizzes to Warm Up Your Neurons, RCSI Student Engagement and Partnership (StEP) Programme 2022 Level 2 Funding and extension from RCSI COMPPAS, August 2023, €3,000

Dr Melanie Föcking: Gender Medicine – a neglected dimension of medicine? RCSI Student Engagement and Partnership (StEP) Programme 2023, Level 1 Funding, €1,750

Dr Darren Roddy: Early stress, the maturing brain and psychosocial function. Exploring relationships between early life adversity and functional outcomes in adolescence through to early adulthood: a longitudinal study of three international cohorts Irish Research Council IRC - SFI/IRC Pathway Programme, €544099.14

Professor Mary Clarke (PI), Barry, S, Browne J. Structured Population Health, Policy and Health Services Research Education (SPHeRE), 2022-2030, Health Research Board €6,000,000

RADIOLOGY

Overview

The Department of Radiology is committed to teaching medical students, and has a strong and growing research portfolio, with many industry and international research collaborations. Many of the radiologists are on national and international committees in their respective fields, and play a key role in developing national guidelines and policy in radiology. The radiology consultants are invited to give talks at national and international meetings.

The Radiology Department is responsible for teaching both diagnostic imaging and interventional radiology to RCSI medical students throughout the medical school curriculum. RCSI medical students rotate through the Radiology Department and receive one-to-one teaching from radiology consultants and radiology registrars in a structured programme. The Department of Radiology provides research opportunities for medical students at RCSI, and several RCSI students have presented radiology related research papers at National and International academic meetings.

Professor Nuala Healy commenced the role of Chair of Radiology, RCSI in April 2024. Professor Healy is a Consultant Breast and Oncology Radiologist.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Duke, Deirdre.

- Chairperson of the Development Group organised through NCCP for HSE national Clinical Guideline: "Diagnosis and staging of patients with breast cancer". (Currently undergoing national and international review).
- Co- Chairperson of the Development Group organised through NCCP for HSE national Clinical Guideline: "Clinical and radiological surveillance of patients post breast cancer treatment". (Currently at analysis stage).
- Duke Deirdre, Common, Matthew. Best oral presentation at British Society of Breast Imaging Annual conference Nov 2023. Assessing the value of mammography in symptomatic patients with normal breast examination: A retrospective observational study at the Beaumont Breast Centre. Common M, Rohan P, McCarthy C, Downey E, Hambly N, ní Mhuirheartaigh N, Kerr J, Power C, Hill A, Duke D.

Healy, Nuala.

- Radiologist Member NICE Guidelines Breast Cancer Update (to March 2024)
- Research Lead, British Society of Breast Radiologists.
- Update of Royal College of Radiologists' 'Guidance on screening and symptomatic breast imaging'
- Editorial Board Cancer Imaging Journal (Breast Section Editor)
- Editorial Board Insights into Imaging
- Trustee and organising committee member Symposium Mammographicum
- Lead organiser Cambridge Conference on Breast Cancer imaging.
- ECR breast subcommittee member.
- Moderator scientific session ECR, Vienna, March 2024
- ECR Scientific Subcommittee Reviewer, 2024
- Moderator European Society of Breast Imaging, Valencia, September 2023
- EUSOBI Prize for best poster September 2023. Acellular dermal matrix: An imaging pitfall on postoperative imaging. Carriero S, Healy N, Giannotti E, Kilburn-Toppin F, Gilbert F.

Lee, Ronan

- Lee, Ronan, Edward Malone Practice Based Learning (PBL) medal winner 2023: for 'In patients who have completed adjuvant immunotherapy or targeted therapy for cutaneous melanoma, what radiological surveillance imaging and at what interval should radiological surveillance be carried out to detect locoregional disease or distant metastases?' presented at ASM and then included as a contributing member of the national NCCP Melanoma Guideline published this year 2024.

Looby, Seamus

- Examiner for European Diploma in Neuroradiology exam 2023
- Representative from Ireland for the neuroradiology division of the Union of European Medical Specialists (UEMS) 2023-2024
- National delegate for Ireland at the European Society of Neuroradiology 2023-2024.
- Member of National Clinical Guideline: Radiological Staging and Surveillance of Patients with Cutaneous Melanoma (2024).

Morrin, Martina

- NCCP: Rectal cancer neoadjuvant guideline development group (National)
- Guideline development group ESGAR Quality Assurance CT Colonography.

O'Shea, Aileen

- NCCP: Rectal cancer neoadjuvant guideline development group (National)
- ESR candidate for the IAEA Rays of Hope Anchor Centres (International)
- Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, Scientific Program Committee, RSNA (International)
- Radiology Editor's Recognition Award 2023 (Reviewing with Special Distinction)
- Specialist Reader, Oxford Handbook of Clinical Medicine 11th edition, Radiology Chapter
- Deputy Editor, RadiologyAdvances, the Open Access Journal of the RSNA
- Deputy Editor, Images in Radiology

Power, Sarah

- Member of the guidelines committee, for National Clinical Guideline for Stroke for the UK and Ireland. London: Intercollegiate Stroke Working Party; Published 2023 May 4.

Invited Lectures

Farrell, Terence. Invited Speaker. Breaking the Back of Spinal Trauma Imaging. Irish Society of Neuroradiology, Annual Meeting 2024.

Healy, Nuala. Invited Speaker. Artificial Intelligence in Breast Imaging. Gathering around Cancer, Dublin, Ireland, November 2023

Healy, Nuala. Invited Speaker. Role of Abbreviated MRI in breast imaging. International Breast Imaging Masterclass, Tirana, Albania, September 2023

Healy, Nuala. Invited Speaker. AI in Breast Imaging. Chinese Breast Meeting (Online), December 2023

Looby, Seamus. Invited Speaker. Clinically Relevant Skull Base and Temporal Bone Anatomy. Annual Scientific Meeting, Irish Faculty of Radiology, September 2023.

Looby, Seamus. Invited Speaker. Pitfalls in Imaging of Spinal Cord Lesions. Irish Society of Neuroradiology Meeting, Belfast, May 2023.

Morrin, Martina. Invited Speaker. CT Colonography, dealing with difficult cases. ESGAR Annual Meeting meeting Gottenberg May 2024

Morrin, Martina. Invited Speaker. CT Colonography workshop, Vienna, Austria, March 2023.

Mulholland, Doug. Invited Speaker. MRI versus US of the Shoulder - Which is Best and When? Faculty of Radiologists Irish MRI meeting, January 2024.

Nicholson, Paddy. Invited Faculty. Management of Complications in Neurointervention – European Course in Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy (ECMINT) 5.2, Oxford. 2023.

Nicholson, Paddy. Invited Panellist. Complex Aneurysm Treatment – International Case Review Session, European Society of Minimally Invasive Neurological Therapy (ESMINT) Congress, Marseille 2023.

Nicholson, Paddy. Invited Speaker. Burnout in INR: It's a marathon, not a sprint. 23rd Annual Interventional Neuroradiology Symposium & 8th Annual Karel G. Terbrugge Lectureship & Neurovascular Anatomy Workshop, Toronto 2023.

Nicholson, Paddy. Invited Speaker. "Surpass Evolve Flow Diverter: Long term follow-up from first human use", Podium Presentation, LINNC (Live Interventional Neuroradiology, Neurology & Neurosurgery Course) Paris 2023.

Nicholson, Paddy. Invited Speaker. SIH, underlying pathologies (leak classification), International CSF Loss Expert Meeting Freiburg. 2023.

Nicholson, Paddy. Invited Speaker Advanced Neurointerventional Fellows Course. Toronto, Ontario, Canada 2023.

Power, Sarah. Invited speaker. Living with intense (frequency & workload) Mechanical Thrombectomy rotas, how to cope (online). ECMINT course 2024.

Power, Sarah. Course tutor, topic: How to Prevent and Manage Complications in Neurointerventional Procedures, and hands on learning with flow models. INR academy London 2024

Power, Sarah. Invited speaker. Non-aneurysmal Subarachnoid Haemorrhage. European Stroke Organization Conference (ESOC) 2023. 24-26 May Munich 2023.

Power, Sarah. Invited speaker on following topics: Intro to Ischemic Stroke treatment techniques, Imaging algorithms in patient selection, Aspiration catheters: what/when/how, Training the stroke team, When to stop? MV NEXT Course, Dusseldorf September 2023

Power, Sarah. Invited speaker. Update on WFITN Women's Committee Achievements. ABC WIN Conference, Val d'Isere, January 2024,

Power, Sarah. Invited Speaker. Basics on acute ischemic stroke treatment (Inclusion/Exclusion criteria, Trials) (online). ESNR Basic Neuroradiology Course, March 2024,

Power, Sarah. Course tutor. Stroke and it's Mimics, Diagnosis and treatment. Member of the 2024 course film reading panel. IDKD diagnostic imaging course. Diseases of the Brain, Head and Neck, Spine. Davos March 2024.

Power, Sarah. Invited panelist. WLNC iCure Stroke 2024, Istanbul May 2024.

Scientific Presentations

"Whippets" - neuroradiological findings relating to an emerging drug problem. MR Common, P Rohan, S Looby. ASM, Irish Faculty of Radiology, Dublin, Ireland, Sept 2023.

Process of Unruptured Brain Aneurysms – a Decisional Needs Assessment. European Stroke Organization Conference 2021 and Annual North American Meeting of the Society of Medical Decision Making 2021. Mar Liu E, Pieterse AH, Rawal S, Agid R, Nicholson P, Radovanovic I, Rinkel G, Schaafsma JD. Physician and Patient Perspectives on the Treatment Decision Oral presentations. Int J Stroke 2021;6(1):3-513. 2023

Physician and patient perspectives on the treatment decision process of unruptured brain aneurysms: Presenter(s): Joanna Schaafsma, from University Health Network. Pieterse, A., Liu, X. Y. E., Rinkel, G., Rawal, S., Agid, R., Nicholson, P., & Radovanovic, I. (2023). O.O.7.4 - Canada. Patient Education and Counseling, vol. 109, supplement, pp. 150, ISSN 0738-3991. doi: 10.1016/j.pec.2022.10.340.

Analysis of mammographic surveillance programme post treatment of primary breast cancer. Crilly E. Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists. Faculty of Radiologist and Radiation Oncologists Annual Scientific Meeting, September 2023

In patients who have completed adjuvant immunotherapy or targeted therapy for cutaneous melanoma what radiological surveillance imaging and at what intervals? Lee R. Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists Annual Scientific Meeting, September 2023

Side marking in interventional radiology: Is everything all right? Or was it all left? Lee R. Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists Annual Scientific Meeting, September 2023

An audit of timing of CT pulmonary angiogram in the investigation of acute pulmonary embolus (PE). Brosnan C. Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists Annual Scientific Meeting, September 2023

Are catheter-directed therapies superior to anticoagulation alone in the treatment of acute iliofemoral deep venous thrombosis? Crilly E, Brosnan C, Mulholland D. Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists Annual Scientific Meeting, September 2023

The Role of MRI in Evaluating Patients with Thunderclap Headache: A Pictorial Review Rohan P, Common M, McCarthy C, Farrell TP. Faculty of Radiologists Irish MRI meeting, January 2024.

The Role of MRI in Evaluating Patients with Endometriosis: A Pictorial Review. Rohan P, Brosnan C, Common M, Ryan J. Faculty of Radiologists Irish MRI meeting, January 2024

Side marking in interventional radiology: Is everything all right or was it all left? Singh S, Lee R, Mulholland D. Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists Spring Meeting, April 2024

Tag localisation vs wire localisation: which is the more effective technique for localising non-palpable breast lesions? Singh S, Hamza E, Patterson R, Daly G, Duke D, Hill A. Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists Spring Meeting, April 2024

Acellular dermal matrix: An imaging pitfall on postoperative imaging. Carriero S, Healy N, Giannotti E, Kilburn-Toppin F, Gilbert F. EUSOBI, September 2023

Impact of breast density on preoperative breast MRI on evaluation of invasive lobular carcinoma. McCarthy L, Giannotti E, Chen Y, Healy N, Kilburn-Toppin F, Provenzano E, Gilbert F. BSBR November 2023

Impact of breast density on preoperative breast MRI evaluation of invasive lobular carcinoma. McCarthy L, Giannotti E, Kilburn-Toppin F, Healy N, Chen Y, Provenzano E, Gilbert F. ECR, March 2024.

Diagnostic performance of lesion conspicuity and contrast-to-noise ratio (CNR) values on contrast-enhanced-mammogram (CEM) recombined images in predicting malignancy. Allajbeu I, Manavaki R, Nanaa M, Healy N, Papalouka V, Payne N, Gilbert F. ECR March 2024

Analysis of the current mammographic surveillance post primary breast cancer in a symptomatic breast centre. Crilly E, Common M, Horan J, Hegarty A, Sorenson J, Downey E. BSBR, November 2023, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Analysis of the language demographics of patients attending Beaumont Breast Clinic. Singh S, Downey E, Kearns K, Riordan J, Hill A, Hambly N, NiMhuircheartaigh N, Healy N, Duke D. Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre Conference, Dublin Ireland, May 2024.

Assessing the value of mammography in symptomatic patients with normal breast examination: A retrospective observational study at the Beaumont Breast Centre. Common M, Rohan P, McCarthy C, Downey E, Hambly N, ní Mhuircheartaigh N, Kerr J, Power C, Hill A, Duke D. BSBR, November 2023, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Multicentre review of the direct access mammography programme in Ireland for women with breast pain. Geoghegan C, Horan M, Crilly E, Kelly A, Lyons R, Geoghegan L, Duke D, Sweeney L, McCartan D, O’Keeffe S. BSBR, November 2023, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Comparison of abbreviated breast MRI with full protocol breast MRI in women with a high familial risk of breast cancer. Lenihan J, Kerr J, Ni Mhuircheartaigh N, Duke D, Bambrick M, Hambly N. BSBR, November 2023, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Analysis of the current mammographic surveillance post primary breast cancer in a symptomatic breast centre. Crilly E, Common M, Horan J, Hegarty A, Sorenson J, Downey E, Duke D. Faculty of Radiologists and Radiation Oncologists, Annual Scientific Meeting. September 2023, Dublin, Ireland.

Tag localisation vs wire localisation: which is the more effective technique for localising non-palpable breast lesions? Hamza E, Duke D, niMhuircheartaigh N, O’Brein A, Hegarty A, Hassett C, Crilly E, Patterson R, Singh S, Hill A. Beaumont Hospital, Dublin, Ireland Surgical Research Society, January 2024, Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Imaging follow-up is required for true renal artery aneurysms? A multi-centre retrospective cohort study of renal artery aneurysms. Tong E, Clark A, Lee RJ, Sheahan K, 4, Motyer R, Dunne E, Mulholland D, Lee MJ. What ICHAMS (2024)

Online Courses

Duke D, Duignan J, Cassidy D. “AI and medical imaging”. Online micro-credential course delivered via RCSI.

Staff List

Chair of Radiology

Nuala Healy FRCR, FFR RCSI, M Clin Ed, MD, MB, BCh, BAO

Honorary Associate Professors

Deirdre Duke FFR RCSI, FRCPI, MSc (Rad. Sciences)

Mark Logan MB, BCh, BAO, FFR RCSI, FRCP(C) FRCPI, FFSEM

Seamus Looby MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI, FFR RCSI

Martina Morrin FFR RCSI, FRCR, MSc, FRCPI

John Thornton MB, BCh, BAO, FRCSI, FFR RCSI, FRCR

Honorary Senior Clinical Lecturers

Alan O’Hare MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI, FFR RCSI MSc

Paddy Nicholson MB, BCh, BAO, FFR RCSI

Lecturers

Emma Griffin MB, BCh, BAO, MRCPI, FFR RCSI

Conor Reid MB, BCh, BAO, MRCS, FFR RCSI

John Finnegan FFR RCSI, MB, BCh, BAO

Secretary

Gail O’Brien

Summer Research Students 2024

Total 11

Publications

Ademola A, Bala F, Menon BK, Thornton J, Casetta I, Nannoni S, Goyal M, Herlihy D, Fainardi E, Power S, Saia V, Hegarty A, Pracucci G, Demchuk A, Mangiafico S, Boyle K, Michel P, Hildebrand KA, Sajobi TT, Hill MD, Toni D, Murphy S, Kim BJ, Almekhlafi MA. Workflow and Outcome of Thrombectomy in Late Time Window: A Pooled Multicenter Analysis. *Can J Neurol Sci.* 2024 Apr 19;1-7. doi: 10.1017/cjn.2024.60. Online ahead of print. PMID: 38639107

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Clifford S, McGuire A, Dhannoon A, Daly G, Tong E, O'Grady S, Abdulhadi A, Sorensen J, Morrin M, Hill A. Validation and comparison of two new scoring systems for the predication of complicated versus uncomplicated appendicitis. *Ir J Med Sci.* 2024 Jun;193(3):1435-1440. doi: 10.1007/s11845-023-03594-1.

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Geoghegan C, Horan M, Crilly E, Kelly A, Lyons R, Geoghegan L, Duke D, Sweeney L, McCartan D, O'Keeffe S. A multicentre review of the direct access mammography programme in Ireland for women with breast pain. *Clin Radiology* 2024. February Volume 79 issue 2, E227-E231,

Hainc N, Alcaide-Leon P, Willinsky R, Krings T, Nicholson P. Heterotopia (PNH) associated with a "transmantle band sign" in epilepsy patients. *Periventricular Nodular Epilepsia* 2023 Jun;64(6):1605-1611. doi: 10.1111/epi.17604 PMID: 37014283.

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Horan J, Reid C, Boland MR, Daly GR, Keelan S, Lloyd AJ, Downey E, Walmsley A, Staunton M, Power C, Butt A, Duke D, Hill ADK. Assessing mode of recurrence in Breast Cancer to identify an optimised follow-up pathway: 10-year institutional review. *Ann Surg Oncol* 2023. Oct; 30 (10): 6117-6124. Doi: 10.1245/s10434-023-13885-7. Epub 2023 Jul 21. PMID: 37479843

Itsekzon-Hayosh ZE, Hendriks EJ, O'Reilly ST, Al Shahrani R, Agid R, Nicholson P, Terbrugge K, Radovanovic I, Andrade H, Schaafsma JD, Krings T. Thoracolumbar spinal dural arteriovenous fistulae present with longer arteriovenous transit compared to cranial and cervical dural fistulae. *Interv Neuroradiol*. 2023 Jan 5:15910199221149096. doi: 10.1177/15910199221149096 PMID: 35227413

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O'Cearbhaill RM, Nicholson PJ. Diffuse pachymeningeal T2-FLAIR hyperintensity in spontaneous intracranial hypotension: to obviate gadolinium administration or not. Reply: *Neuroradiology*. 2023 Sep;65(9):1319-1320. doi: 10.1007/s00234-023-03188-9. PMID: 37580447.

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Yogaretnam T, Heffernan J, Leung R, Heeney C, Walsh A, Looby S, Caird J, Brett FM. Intratumoral histological and molecular heterogeneity in an adult diffuse glioma. *Clin Neuropathol*. 2024 Mar-Apr;43(2):60-64.

Book Chapters

Nicholson, Paddy. Surgical Management of Refractory Intracranial Hypertension. In: *Cerebrospinal Fluid Rhinorrhea*. De Macedo Filho L, White A, Rech M, Nicholson P, Radovanovic I, Gentili F, Almeida JP. 1st ed. Elsevier; 2023. p. 108-116

Power, Sarah (Eds): *Diseases of the Brain, Head and Neck, Spine 2024-2027*. Chapter 3. Stroke and it's Mimics, Diagnosis and Treatment. *IDKD Springer Series*, Juerg Hodler et al. Power S, Achala S. Vagal. Page 29-39

SURGERY

Overview

Our Department has a strong focus on teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students. We direct the research programme for third-year students and the [clinical electives programme](#) for final year students, providing international collaborations with centres of excellence worldwide. We deliver teaching to the [Physician Associate Studies](#) programme, the paramedic programme, postgraduate teaching to clinical staff within the RCSI Hospitals group and clinical education of postgraduate doctors.

The Department engages with the CBL facilitation and development in both Years 1 and Year 2. We also lead both the Research and Education portfolios of the Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre. Professor Gozie Offiah is also the lead on the THEP implementation group.

We have a broad continuum of research interests, spanning clinical to translational to basic laboratory research. Our principal experimental focus is on breast cancer research. Specifically, the mechanisms of therapeutic resistance to endocrine drugs in breast cancer and the contribution of altered adhesion to breast cancer development or progression. The department has strong collaborative relationships with national and international collaborators, including NUI Galway, UCD, UL, TCD, Lund University (Sweden), Sidney Kimmel Cancer Centre at Johns Hopkins (USA), University of Michigan (USA), Western University Ontario (Canada), University of Pittsburgh University of Edinburgh, Biomedical Center, Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen, Charles University, Pilsen, Czech Republic, Toxicogenomics Unit, National Institute of Public Health, Prague, Czech Republic, Department of Biochemistry, Manchester University, NHS Foundation Trust, London, United Kingdom and Baylor College of Medicine, Texas.

Summary of Key Achievements / Academic Activities

Gozie Offiah

- Promoted to Associate Professor
- Appointed as Director of Curriculum at RCSI
- Appointed as Commissioner at the Accreditation Commission on Colleges of Medicine (ACCM)
- Invited speaker to the Bethune Round table 2024 organised by the Office of Global Surgery (OGS) University of Alberta, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry in collaboration with Canadian Network for International Surgery (CNIS)
- Invited speaker to the inaugural Ada Lovelace Science Cabaret on Women in STEM by Labman and Chapelgarth at North Yorkshire
- Invited speaker at the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission's (IHREC)
- Invited speaker at the QS Higher Education Summit Europe 2023 on curriculum development
- Planning committee chair for the International Conference on Communication in Healthcare (ICCH) 2024 in Zaragoza, Spain

Ann Hopkins

- Promoted to Associate Professor
- Leading the Beaumont RCSI Cancer Centre's participation in the INTERACT-Europe-100 interspecialty cancer curriculum EU consortium
- Editorial board memberships: *Scientific Reports*, *Cells*
- Invited Speaker: Second International Chorioallantoic Membrane Conference, Erlangen, Germany, February 2024
- Prizes to postgraduate supervisees: Sheppard Prize 2023 (scientific) to Izabela Cymer, Irish Association for Cancer Research outreach award shortlist to Niamh McAuley

Marie McIlroy

- Appointed as: Secretary (Shadow), Irish Association for Cancer Research (succeeding February 2025)
- Appointed: Society for Endocrinology (UK) - Elected to Scientific Committee 09/2023
- Invited Speaker at:-
 - Androgen receptor interactions in endocrine resistant breast cancer - location, location, location. British Endocrine Society annual conference. Glasgow, UK 11/2023.

- Androgen receptor interactions provide insight into steroid mediated metabolic shifts in endocrine resistant breast cancer. Gordon Research Conference – Hormone Dependent Cancers, Maine, USA 08/2023
- External Examiner, Queens University of Belfast, PhD Candidate

Staff List

Professor and Chairman

Arnold DK Hill MCh, DSc, FRCSI,

Professor

Leonie Young PhD

Associate Professors

Ann Hopkins BSc, PhD, PGDipEd

Gozie Offiah BSc, MBBCh, BAO LRCP&SI, MD, MMedSc

Mark Redmond LRCP&SI, MB, BCh, FRCSI

Tom Walsh MD, MCh, FRCSI

Honorary Clinical Professor

Deborah McNamara MB, BCh, FRCSI

Paddy Broe MB, BCh, MCh

Richard Reilly

Ronan Cahill MB, BCh

Honorary Clinical Associate Professor

Abel Wakai MB, BCh

Brian Kneafsey MB, BCh, FRCSI

Colm Power LRCP&SI, MB, BCh

David Bouchier Hayes LRCP&SI, MB, BCh, FRCSI

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Liam Joyce MB, BCh, FRCSI, FRCSEdin

Mark Grannell MB, BCh

Mayilone Arumugasamy LRCP&SI, MB, BCh, FRCSI

Mohsen Javadpour MB, BCh

Padraig Daly LRCP&SI, MB, BCh

Paul Balfe MB, BCh

Shahbaz Mansoor MBBS, FRCSI

Sherif El-Masry MB, BCh

Simon Cross MB, BCh, FRCSI, FRCS(Edin) MD

Senior Lecturers

Peter Naughton LRCP&SI, MB, BCh

Niall Davis PhD, FRCSI

Honorary Senior Lecturers

Abeeda Butt, Consultant Breast Surgeon

Achille Mastro Simone LRCP&SI, MB, BCh. FRCPI

Athar Sheikh MBBS, FRCSI

Barry O'Sullivan MB, BCh, BAO, MCh, FRCSI

Ben Husien MB, BCh

Daragh Moneley LRCP&SI, MB, BCh

David Beddy MB, BCh

David O'Brien MB, BCh

Des Twomey LRCP&SI, MB, BCh

Dilly Little LRCPI&SI, MB, BCh, FRCSI, MD

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Elrasheid Kheirelseid MB, BS, MRCSI
Emeka Nzewi MB, BS, FRCSI
Fabio Bartolozzi DMS
Faisal Awan MB, BS
Farah Mustafa MB, BS
Gerard Markey MB, BCh
Ijaz Cheema MB, BS, FRCSGlas
Ivor Cullen MB, BCh
James Forde MB, BCh
James Murphy MB, BCh, BAO, MD, FRCSI
Jamie Smith MB, BCh
Kieron Sweeney MB, BCh
Mark Quinlan MB, BCh
Michael Allen MB, BCh
Michael Quirke MB, BCh
Morgan McMonagle MB BCh
Niamh McCawley MB, BCh
Osama El-Faedy MB, BS, AI, MRCSI
Osama El Sadig MB, ChB, FRCSI
Patricia Fitzgerald LRCP&SI, MB, BCh
Pawan Rajpal MBBS FRCSI, FRCSEdn
Peter McCullough LRCP&SI, MB, BCh
Ponnusamy Mohan MB, BS, FRCSI
Richard Mascarenhas MB, BS, FRCS Glasgow
Richard Power MB, BCh
Rick Pretorius MB, ChB
Ronan Long MB, BCh,
Sayed Aly MB, BCh, FRCSI
Tariq Cheema FRCSI
William Robb MB, BCh

Honorary Clinical Lecturers

Philip O'Halloran LRCP&SI, MB BCh
Safwat Ibrhaim MB, BCh
Sarmad Alshamery MB, ChB

Senior Clinical Educator

Frank Cunningham MB, BCh, FRCSI

Senior Clinical Lecturer

Hannah Patricia Fitzgerald MD

Lecturers

Donata Kilduff MD, PGDipHPE
Jean McBryan BSc(Hons), PhD
Marie McIlroy BSc(Hons), PhD

Clinical Lecturers

Claire Hevican BDS NUI, MB, BCh, BAO, PGDipHPE
Reem Salman MB, BCh, BAO, MMedSc FRCSI, MCh EBSQ
Susan Ogbo MB, BCh, BAO
Syafiz Zulkifli MB, BCh, BAO
Laura Finnegan MB, BCh, BAO
Megan Power Foley MB, BCh, BAO Mch
Syama Gollapalli MB, BCh, BAO Mch
Rory Crean MB, BCh, BAO
Bronagh Harrington MB, BCh, BAO Mch
Gabriel Orsi MB, BCh, BAO

Clinical Tutors

Chloe Spillane MB, BCh, BAO
Sneha Singh MB, BCh, BAO
Dylan Viani Walsh MB, BCh, BAO
Kasie O'Reilly MB, BCh, BAO
Vikita Kowlessar MB, BCh, BAO
Ethan Gilkinson MB, BCh, BAO
Amira Hanis Amir MB, BCh, BAO
Kameron Chatoor MB, BCh, BAO
Alexander Alabi MB, BCh, BAO
Adel AlGhazwi MB, BCh, BAO

Clinical Intern Tutor

Charles Lee MB, BCh, BAO

Research Fellow

Daniela Ottaviani PhD
Damir Vareslija BA, PhD
Sara Charmsaz PhD
Petra Jagust PhD

Research Academic

Katherine Sheehan MD
Nicola Cosgrove BSc

Post Doctoral Fellows

Jason McGrath PhD
Mihaela Ola PhD

Post-Graduate Students

Aisling Hegarty RGN, BSc, MSc
Cecilia Di Nardi PhD
Alessandra Allotta
Shannon Kalsi
Louise Watson
Heng Yang Lee
Leanne Cussen
Gordon Daly
Gavin Dowling
Niamh McAuley BSc
Izabela Cymer BSc
Sandra Hembrecht MB, BCh, BAO (StAR MD fellow)
Maria Abancens Izcue BSc, MSc
Stephanie Agbana MSc, PhD Scholar
Jingqi Xin
Salma Ebrahim Erasmus Placement

Bioinformatician

Ramón Fallon MSc

Senior Research Technicians

Fiona Bane BAMod, MSc
Lance Hudson BSc
Sinead Cocchiglia MSc

Senior Technicians

Derrick Borwick
Martin Dunphy

Research Assistant

Sean Hickey MSc
David Marnika
Vikrant Singh PhD
Zahra Farabakhsh MSc

Research Nurse

Chinelo Rosemary Eze
Trudi Nelson MSc

Nurse Tutor

Mary Keville RN, RM, MSc
Siobhán Murphy BNS, MSc LHPE, RN,RCN

Secretaries

Aisling McKernan
Paula Carty
Teresa Malone

Higher Degrees

MCh

Sneha Singh, RCSI & NUI, 2024
Vikita Kowlessar, RCSI & NUI, 2024
Gabriel Orsi, RCSI & NUI, 2024
Ethan Gilkinson, RCSI & NUI, 2024
Amira Hanis Amir, RCSI & NUI, 2024
Kameron Chatoor, RCSI & NUI, 2024
Alexander Alabi, RCSI & NUI, 2024
Aisha Saleem, RCSI & NUI, 2024
Kate Somers, RCSI & NUI, 2024

MSc in Surgical Science (University of Edinburgh)

Chloe Spillane

PG DIP HPE

Laura Finnegan
Bronagh Harrington
Rory Crean
Chloe Spillane
Adel AlGhazwi

PhD

Derek Hennessey: Advances in endourological technology and the impact on outcomes and the environment. RCSI & NUI, 2023

Publications

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Active Grants and Grants Awarded

Hopkins, Ann (PI), Glavey, Siobhan (co-PI). Developing an innovative patient-centred xenograft model of Multiple Myeloma – PhD studentship conversion. Breakthrough Cancer Research. June 2024. €49,795.

McBryan, Jean. CircRNA as a blood biomarker for ovarian cancer. SUMSCH007, Breakthrough Cancer Research. 12th June – 31st July 2023. €3,000, Applicant.

McBryan, Jean; Butt, Abeeda. Investigating temporal gene expression dynamics in breast cancer cells as they respond to Tamoxifen treatment. Beaumont Hospital Cancer Research and Development Trust. 4th April 2024- 3rd April 2025. €30,000. Applicant.

Davis N. AMBER emerging Research: A Biomimetic tissue engineered biomaterial for ureteric grafting. 2024 for 2 years. €30,000. Co-Principal Investigator.



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