



EPINews

Newsletter of the School of Public Health

October 2019

WELCOME

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to share with you issue 21 of EPINews. Firstly, we would like to extend a massive thank you to Niamh McGrath and Emmy Racine, whom over the past two years did a magnificent job in delivering many successful EPINews issues. Well done to you both, your hard work and effort hasn't gone unnoticed. The past month has been a busy but very successful one for the School of Public Health, which saw the school host the joint **Society for Social Medicine & Population health and International Epidemiology Association Conference**. The conference attracted over 300 delegates from around the world, and the annual SSM pre-conference early career researchers' event also proved a major success, with almost 70 ECRs in attendance on the day, the largest attendance at a SSM pre-conference event to date. We extend our congratulations and thanks to everyone involved in organising all aspects of the conference, it's clear that all the hard-work and long hours paid off. The success of the conference is just one of the many achievements over the past months, as highlighted in this "bumper edition of the EPINews!

We hope you enjoy reading this edition and as always, we encourage you to circulate EPINews among your colleagues and direct any queries or comments to charlotte.griffin@ucc.ie or holly.mcgrath@ucc.ie

Ms Charlotte Griffin and Ms Holly McGrath

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SCHOOL NEWS

UCC School of Public Health hosts major international conference on population health

The Joint Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for Social Medicine & Population Health (the UK and Ireland's leading population health conference) and the International Epidemiology Association European Congress was held in Cork from 4th-6th September 2019!

The conference, organised by the School of Public Health in University College Cork and the wider public health community in Cork, attracted over 300 delegates from all over the world, ranging from senior academics to postgraduate students. A range of disciplines were covered such as epidemiology, health services research, psychology, public health and social sciences.

Keynote lectures were delivered by;

Professor Kenneth Rothman (Boston University, USA)–
The End of Statistical Significance Questing

Professor Margaret Whitehead (University of Liverpool, UK) - **“Barely Believable” or Nakedly Truthful: what is the point of doing research on child poverty and health?**

Professor Valerie Beral (University of Oxford, UK) - **The power of collaborative research in Epidemiology**

The conference addressed a wide range of themes, relevant to the health and wellbeing of the population, including social inequalities in health, the causes and prevention of major forms of cancer, the societal level determinants of mental health and wellbeing, obesity & food policy.

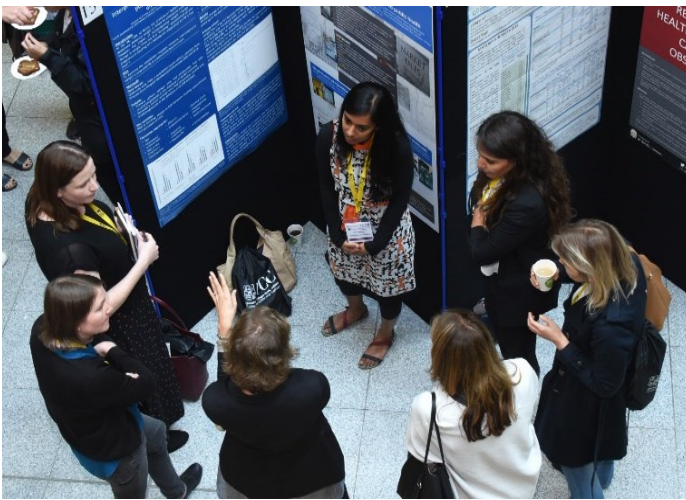




Pictured above: Charmaine McGowan, Lesley Herson and Marian O'Reilly



Pictured above: Eilis O'Reilly



Pictured above: group poster session



Pictured above Caroline Daly



Pictured above: Eunice T. Philip, Eve Griffin & Elaine McMahon



Pictured above: Ella Arensman

Annual Society of Social Medicine Early Career Researchers' Event

The annual SSM pre-conference early career researchers' event was held on September 3rd, 2019 at the Mardyke Pavilion, UCC. The event was organised by Dr Kate O'Neill, Ms Niamh McGrath and Ms Emmy Racine from the School of Public Health. It was a great success with almost 70 ECRs in attendance on the day, the largest attendance at a SSM pre-



Dr Sarah-Jo Sinnott shows the similarities and differences between an academic and industry CV during her talk “Switching it up - academia to industry”



Dr Linda O'Keeffe discussing imposter syndrome during her talk “Progressing from early to mid-career; finding a direction, creating your career narrative and beating impostor syndrome”



conference event to date! Funding secured from SSM, IEA and the HRB allowed organisers to provide a free event for ECRs, offer accommodation bursaries and subsidise a networking dinner for attendees.

This year, the event focused on developing ECRs' careers in research, within and outside of academic settings. Attendees heard about ways of engaging with existing organisational structures and initiatives, such as mentoring, the research support service and the innovative [‘Odyssey’](#) Programme. Middle and senior career academic researchers spoke about key skills for ECRs; securing funding and writing research papers, as well as the personal side of career progression in academia; finding what excites you and managing imposter syndrome. In the afternoon, attendees heard from researchers who are pursuing competitive and fulfilling careers in business, the NGO sector and in private industry. Before closing the day, facilitated break-out sessions gave speakers and attendees an opportunity to further discuss topics raised during the oral presentations and led to the initiation of an ECR network for epidemiologists in Europe and reflections on the SSM mentoring scheme. A networking dinner at the Oyster Tavern, Cory City Centre was well attended by ECR delegates from Ireland, England and further afield.

Members of the SSM ECR subcommittee who organised the Joint SSM & IEA pre-conference ECR event titled “Developing your career in research: challenges and opportunities in a changing market” Pictured I-r: Mr Paul Henery (Communications Officer), Dr Kathryn Skivington (Chair), Dr Janice Atkins (Mentoring Officer), Ms Georgia Chatzi (Newsletter Officer), Dr Kate O'Neill (Local Officer) and Ms Niamh McGrath (Local Officer).

AWARDS

Congratulations to....



Dr Karen Matvienko-Sikar was awarded the Stan Maes Early Career Award from the European Health Psychology Society in September 2019. The award is made in recognition of outstanding research excellence and contributions to professional practice. It is a highly competitive award open across Europe and is a signifier of the high quality of Karen’s contribution to health psychology to date and recognition of her potential as a research leader in the future.



Congratulations to **Mr Declan Whelan-Curtin** who successfully graduated from the IMI Diploma in Management.

Congratulations to **Ms Emmy Racine**, who won a prize for best rapid fire presentation during the SSM conference. Her presentation was entitled, ‘Us’ and ‘Them’: Identifying a suitable approach to involving patients and healthcare professionals in a consensus process to inform intervention development.



In a first for the College, one of our Trainees won two awards this year! **Dr Peter Barrett**, an SpR in Public Health Medicine won the William Stokes Award for his study *Increased risk of long-term renal disease in women who deliver preterm infants: a population-based cohort study* and he won the Dorothy Stopford Price Medal for his submission *A national measles outbreak in Ireland linked to a single imported case*. The William Stokes Award recognises research of the highest standards carried out by Trainees in Higher Specialist Training.

The Dorothy Stopford Price Medal was introduced in 2018 to recognise excellence in research or audit on vaccination, immunisation or control of infectious diseases and its potential impact on public health. The medal is awarded by the Faculty of Public Health Medicine.



Dr Frances Shiely awarded HRB-TMRN SWAT grant



Dr Frances Shiely, HRB Clinical Research Facility Cork & School of Public Health, University College Cork, was recently awarded a SWAT grant from the HRB TMRN. The SWAT is titled, *‘Development and testing of a novel multi-trial programmable animation platform: An education intervention to improve the efficiency and success rate of pre-screening and subsequent recruitment’*. The MRC-NIHR-TMRP Collaborator is Professor Shaun Treweek, University of Aberdeen.

Horizon 2020 Funding Awarded for the (MINDUP) study



In August, **Prof Ella Arensman**, **Dr Birgit Greiner** and colleagues were awarded funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 fund for the Mental Health Promotion and Intervention in Occupational Settings (MINDUP) study.

The project aims to improve mental health and wellbeing in the workplace by developing, implementing and evaluating a comprehensive, multilevel intervention targeting both clinical and non-clinical mental health issues. The project involves 15 countries and 17 project partners, including: the National Suicide Research Foundation, European Alliance Against Depression; the Australian 'Mates in Construction' (a workplace intervention to reduce suicide in construction workers); the National Suicide Research Foundation; Pintail, the World Health Organization and Institution of Occupational Safety & Health (IOSH). The project has a total funding allocation of €4 million. Of all 141 submissions, the MINDUP project received the highest ranking. The kick off meeting will take place in Cork in January.

PHD AWARDS



Congratulations to **Dr Susan Calnan** who successfully defended her PhD thesis entitled 'A programme to reduce excessive alcohol consumption among college students in Ireland: Analysis of context, implementation and impact'. **Thesis supervisors included Head of School, Professor Ivan Perry, and Dr Martin Davoren.** Susan is currently working as a post-doctoral researcher on the **HRB-funded CHERISH** study at the School of Public Health and we wish her the best of luck in her future career.

STUDENT PLACEMENT



Dylan Burke is a 4th Year UCC Pharmacy Student completing his 4-month placement with the HRB CRF-C. He is Vice-Chairperson and Finance Officer for the UCC Pharmacy Society, VP of External Affairs for the Irish Pharmaceutical Students Association and APPEL Representative. He is currently undertaking a research project titled 'Anonymous survey of patient and clinical staff opinions regarding the relevance of clinical trial outcomes regarding clinical decision making.'

TEACHING AND LEARNING



Colette Cunningham was involved in the development of a University Wide Module on Global Sustainable Development, that she will also teach on - **UW1201 Global Sustainable Development: Interdisciplinary Perspectives** (5 credits)
This module is suitable for all levels. Please check it out at <https://www.ucc.ie/admin/registrar/calendar/language/lan006.html>

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Ali S. Khashan, Marie Evans, Marius Kublickas, Fergus P. McCarthy, Louise C. Kenny, Peter Stenvinkel, Tony Fitzgerald, Karolina Kublickiene. (2019). [Preeclampsia and risk of end stage kidney disease: A Swedish nationwide cohort study.](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002875) PLOS Medicine <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002875>

O'Riordan F, F Shiely, S Byrne, D O'Brien, B Palmer, D Dahly, T O'Connor, D Curran, A Fleming. (2019). [An investigation of the effects of procalcitonin testing on antimicrobial prescribing in respiratory tract infections in an Irish University Hospital setting - a feasibility study.](https://doi.org/10.1093/jac/dkz313) Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, July 2019. pii: dkz313. doi: 10.1093/jac/dkz313

Cully G, P Corcoran, E Cassidy, F Shiely, E Arensman (2019). [Method of self-harm and risk of self-harm repetition: findings from a national self-harm registry.](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2019.07.001) Journal of Affective Disorders, 2019; 246: 843-850.

Shiely F, M McCarthy (2019). [The Effect of Small Group Tutors on Student Engagement in the Computer Laboratory Lecture.](https://doi.org/10.14434/josotl.v19i1.23729) Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, 2019;19(2). doi.org/10.14434/josotl.v19i1.23729

Samantha Dick, Eadaoin Whelan, Martin P. Davoren, Samantha Dockray, Ciara Heavin, Conor Linehan and Michael Byrne (2019). ["A systematic review of the effectiveness of digital interventions for illicit substance misuse harm reduction in third-level students"](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-019-0400-0). BMC Public Health.

Meadbh Mac Sweeney, Colette Cunningham. (2019). [Developing key performance indicators for a lymphoedema service in Ireland using a classic Delphi technique.](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12913-019-0400-0) Journal of Lymphoedema 2019, Vol 14, No 1, pages 5 – 75.



Christie Godsmark in action giving a public presentation at the West Cork Forum, as part of the Taste of West Cork Food Festival. The forum was a conference on food safety, food justice, sustainability and climate change, and Christie gave a talk on food systems, diet and environmental health.

<https://www.atasteofwestcork.com/new-cover-page-1>

Christie also reviewed a recent report for the Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre titled 'Heatwave Guide for Cities'. The report contains the School logo at the back due to her contribution. <https://www.climatecentre.org/downloads/files/IFRCGeneva/RCCC%20Heatwave%20Guide%202019%20A4%20RR%20ONLINE%20copy.pdf>

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Agreli H, Barry F, Burton A, Creedon S, Drennan J, Gould D, May CR, Smiddy MP, Murphy M, Murphy S, Savage E, Wills P, Hegarty J. (2019). [Ethnographic study using Normalization Process Theory to understand the implementation process of infection prevention and control guidelines in Ireland](#). *BMJ Open* Aug 2019, 9 (8) e029514

Gillian M. Maher, Gerard W. O'Keeffe Christina Dalman Patricia M. Kearney Fergus P. McCarthy Louise C. Kenny Ali S. Khashan. (2019). [Association between preeclampsia and autism spectrum disorder: a population-based study](#). *The Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcpp.13127>

Lynch, Brenda, et al. "[An interrupted time-series analysis of the impact of emergency department reconfiguration on regional emergency department trolley numbers in Ireland from 2005 to 2015](#)." *BMJ open* 9.9 (2019): e029261.

Claire Kerins, Catherine Houghton, Sheena McHugh, Fiona Geaney, Elaine Toomey, Catherine Hayes, Ivan J. Perry, Colette Kelly. (2019). [Implementation of a Calorie Menu Labelling Policy in Public Hospitals: Study Protocol for a Multiple Case Study](#). SAGE journals. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1609406919878339>

Visit the school website for a full list of publications

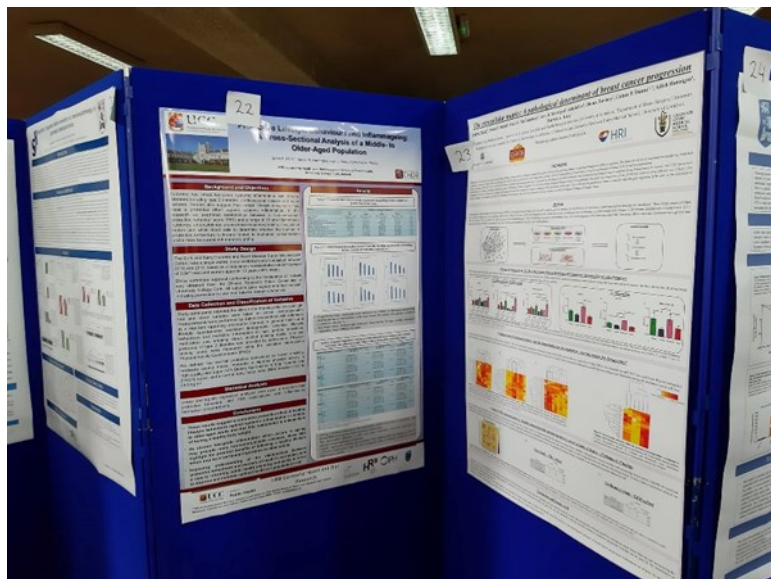
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School of Public Health UCC Represented at Cancer Research Conference

On the 5th and 6th of September 2019, Breakthrough Cancer Research hosted a Translational Cancer Conference. The conference was timed to coincide with a 20-year celebration of translational cancer research and the arrival of a new Director of Clinical/Translational Research for the Cork region. The symposium highlighted the latest findings in translational cancer research and brought together researchers and clinicians across a variety of disciplines.

In this conference, Dr Seán Millar presented his findings on the relationships between protective lifestyle behaviours and chronic low-grade inflammation. Evidence has linked low-grade systemic inflammation with chronic diseases. Studies also suggest that certain lifestyle behaviours may have a protective effect against

systemic inflammation. The results from Dr Millar's research suggest a cumulative protective effect of healthy lifestyle behaviours against systemic inflammation in middle- to older-aged adults and that this relationship is independent of having a healthy body weight. As chronic low-grade inflammation, which occurs in ageing, may precede many non-communicable diseases, these data highlight the potential benefits of following a healthy lifestyle which may be of particular importance to older adults.

School of Public Health UCC Organises European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) Trendspotter Study

A Trendspotter study is a rapid information assessment that uses multiple social research methods to explore a topic of interest or concern. The approach was developed, and has been used, by the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) since 2011 as a tool to complement other routine drug monitoring methodologies. It has generally been utilised to explore emerging phenomena and new trends that are in their infancy and/or not covered by existing datasets. A recent Trendspotter



study was conducted in Ireland to determine trends in the prevalence of non-prescribed medication use and markets and harms related to street tablet use. This project was a collaboration between the EMCDDA, the School of Public Health UCC, the HRB and Ana Liffey Drug Project (ALDP) based in Dublin. On the 16th and 17th of September 2019, an Expert Meeting co-ordinated by Dr Seán Millar and members of the ALDP was held in Dublin which involved General Practitioners, representatives of Irish drug harm-reduction organisations, the Health Product Regulatory Authority and An Garda Síochána. The meeting provided an excellent example of how various agencies in Ireland may work together, combine talents and share data in order to better understand the complex issues related to drug use and to which preventative/legislative measures are more likely to have a positive impact within an Irish context.

NATIONAL SUICIDE RESEARCH FOUNDATION (NSRF) NEWS

Visit to Department of Health and Human Services in Melbourne, Australia

In June, Professor Ella Arensman presented findings from the National Self-Harm Registry Ireland at a seminar on 'Surveillance of Suicide Attempts and Self-Harm' at the Department of Health and Human Services in Melbourne, Australia.

The session was attended by representatives from the Coroner Service, Mental Health Commission, Orygen, AISRAP and others. Read Ella's slides here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3thyzwl>

Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention World Suicide Prevention Day Forum

Prof Arensman presented at the Australian Institute for Suicide Research and Prevention's World Suicide Prevention Day Forum in Brisbane on September 10th.



Read Ella's presentation entitled 'Identifying subgroups of self-harm: Implications for assessment and treatment' here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y4kan59u>

4th National Congress of Psychology and International Symposium on Psychological Prevention

Also in July, Dr Paul Corcoran and Professor Ella Arensman presented at the 4th National Congress of Psychology and the International Symposium on Psychological Prevention in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain. Read slides from both presentations here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y4lc9r7y>

Mental Health Promotion and Intervention in Occupational Settings (MINDUP) awarded funding

In August, Prof Ella Arensman, Dr Birgit Greiner and colleagues were awarded funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 fund for the Mental Health Promotion and Intervention in Occupational Settings (MINDUP) study.

Congratulations to Ella and the consortium on this innovative, unique, interdisciplinary proposal which will make a real difference in mental health promotion, intervention and suicide prevention in the workplace!

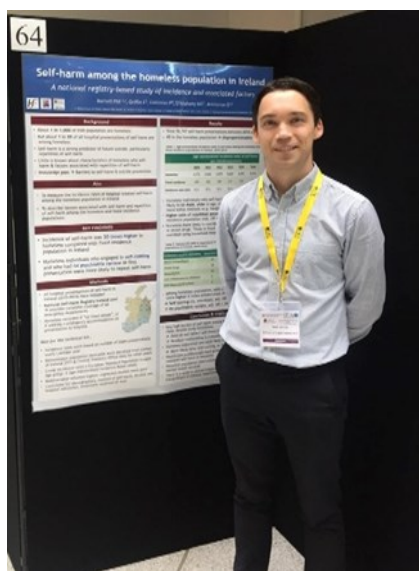
Joint annual scientific meeting of the Society for Social Medicine and Population Health and the International Epidemiological Association

In September, several NSRF researchers attended and presented at the joint annual scientific meeting of the Society for Social Medicine and Population Health and the International Epidemiological Association in University College Cork.

Evidence brief on 'The association between self-harm and area-level factors

Based on research findings from a number of key Irish studies, in July the NSRF prepared an evidence brief on the association between area-level factors and hospital-treated self-harm in Ireland.

Read the briefing here: <https://tinyurl.com/y5kdg8ah>



Left: Congratulations to Peter Barrett, winner of the pre-PhD prize for his work on self-harm among the homeless population in Ireland

Right: Congratulations to Dr Eve Griffin, winner of the highest scoring abstract for her research on increasing rates of self-harm among children, adolescents and young adults. University College Cork.



FOOD CHOICE NEWS

Visit from Mindful Eating Expert Dr Lillian Cheung

Dr Lillian Cheung from Harvard School of Public Health recently visited Cork to meet Dr Fiona Geaney and Professor Ivan Perry to discuss the possibility of developing a mindfulness intervention to promote healthy diet and health and wellbeing in the workplace setting.

Dr. Lillian Cheung is Lecturer and Director of Health Promotion & Communication at the Harvard School of Public Health's Department of Nutrition. Her work focuses on the translation of science-based recommendations into public health communications and programs, to promote healthy lifestyles for chronic disease prevention and control.



Her latest book *Savor: Mindful Eating, Mindful Life* (2010, 2011) co-authored with Zen master, Thich Nhat Hanh, has been acquired for translation in 17 countries.



DeCare Dental Wellness that Works Breakfast Seminar - 26th September

Dr Fiona Geaney, Founder and CEO of Food Choice spoke at the recent Wellness that Works seminar in Dublin. The event, hosted by DeCare Dental brought together experts in the area of workplace wellness to share approaches, experiences and practical tools for health promotion in the workplace. Dr Geaney spoke about using an evidence-based approach to improve employee health and diet in the workplace.

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS



AFFINITY National Falls and Bone Health Symposium 2019

The AFFINITY National Falls and Bone Health Symposium for 2019 was held on September 18th in Chartered Accountants House, Dublin. Attendees had the opportunity to learn from approaches taken to improve and scale up falls and bone health services in Ireland and abroad. Ms Rebecca Dennehy, School of Public Health (SPH), was in attendance and presented a poster depicting findings from an evaluation of the implementation of the Cork Integrated Falls and Fractures Prevention Pathway. This work was conducted by SPH researchers, Dr Sheena McHugh and Ms Emmy

Racine. Funded by a Health Research Board Applied Partnership Award, Dr McHugh is currently leading the next stage of the project in which researchers are working together with health professionals to establish an agreeable way to increase the service’s capacity to prevent falls and to identify any gaps or delays in the provision of treatment. This information will be used to improve the current service and to plan new services to meet the needs of older people.



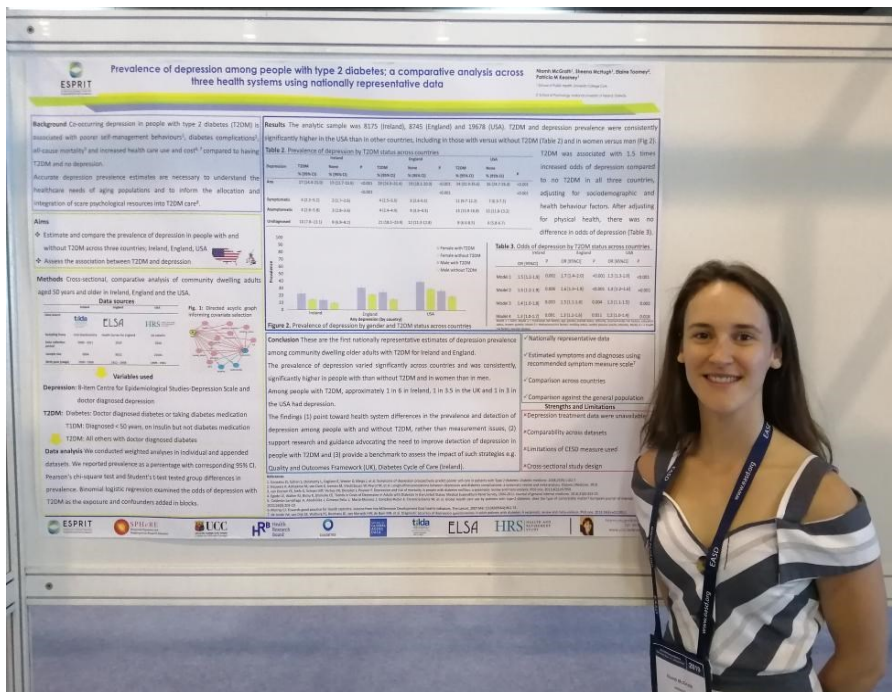
World Anti-Bullying Forum

Rebecca Dennehy also attended the World Anti-Bullying Forum hosted by the Anti-Bullying Centre at Dublin City University from June 4th-6th. Close to 1,000 participants attended the three-day conference during which experts, researchers, educators, parents, and policy-makers discussed and shared ideas on the best methods to tackle bullying, cyberbullying and online safety. Rebecca gave two oral presentations entitled “Young people’s perceptions of the nature of

cyberbullying: A meta-ethnography” and “Communication is the Root Issue”: Informing the Development of Cyberbullying Interventions”. The presentations described Rebecca’s PhD research, which was supervised by Professor Ella Arensman of the National Suicide Research Foundation. The project involved a collaboration with Transition Year students from four schools. These students were provided with training in public health and qualitative research methods before working with Rebecca in the design, conduct and interpretation of a study to explore cyberbullying in post-primary school students. Findings from the study will inform the development intervention and prevention strategies that are grounded in young people’s experiences and need with regard to cyber victimisation.

European Association for the Study of Diabetes Conference

In September, Ms Niamh McGrath (SPHeR Programme PhD Student) presented findings from her PhD at the Joint Annual Scientific Meeting of the Society for Social Medicine and Population Health and the International Epidemiological Association Conference in Cork (oral presentation) and at the 55th Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes Conference in Barcelona (poster presentation). The title of Niamh’s presentations was “Prevalence of depression among people with type 2 diabetes: a comparative analysis across three health systems using nationally representative data



Safe Patient Care – Bugs and Drugs Conference - Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, University College Cork- 6th September 2019

The School of Public Health, UCC, in association with the Cork / Kerry Infection Prevention and Control Committee, Department of Public Health HSE South were delighted to host the Safe Patient Care – Bugs and Drugs conference on Friday the 6th of September 2019 in Brookfield Health Sciences Complex, University College Cork.

The aim of the conference was to provide education on and raise awareness of antimicrobial resistance and management of multidrug resistant organisms amongst healthcare workers in the clinical setting.

There was a large variety of multidisciplinary attendees including doctors, nurses, pharmacists and infection prevention and control professionals. An audience of 123 professionals supported the interactive question and answer sessions and interesting networking during the breaks.

We were delighted to welcome Professor Martin Cormican, National Lead for Healthcare-associated Infection and Antimicrobial Resistance. Professor Cormican provided a stimulating and interactive session on how best healthcare can move forward nationally to address the issues posed by antimicrobial resistance. A key point of his presentation explained that antimicrobial stewardship is actually about “protecting patients from antibiotics”. Professor Cormican also made the pertinent point that while some patients will acquire an infection or colonisation with multidrug resistant organisms while in hospital, tens of thousands will not and this is due to effective delivery of infection prevention and control services.

We were also delighted to welcome Dr Sinead Flanagan the reigning Rose of Tralee to the conference. Dr Flanagan has an interest in microbiology and antimicrobial resistance and is registered to study for her Master of Public Health here in the School of Public Health in the 2019 / 2020 college year. We were fortunate to have a large number of well-known Antimicrobial Resistance Stewardship Champions in attendance which led to plenty of interesting discussion and brainstorming.

A huge thank you to all our speakers: Ms Shirley Keane, Programme Manager, Antimicrobial Resistance in Infection Control Team; Ms Denise McCarthy, Infection Prevention and Control Manager, Bon Secours Hospital, Cork; Dr Deirdre O’ Brien, Consultant Microbiologist, Mercy University Hospital / South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital; Dr Dan Corcoran,

[Continued on next page](#)



Ms Margaret Ryan and Dr Sinead Flanagan



(L-R) Dr Nuala O’ Connor, Professor Martin Cormican, Dr Sinead Flanagan, Ms Shirley Keane, Dr Dan Corcoran, Dr Deirdre O’ Brien.



Dr Emer McCarthy and Dr Sinead Flanagan



(L-R), Dr Dan Corcoran, Ms Denise McCarthy, Dr Sinead Flanagan, Dr Marianne Fraher, Dr Deirdre O'Brien, Dr Nuala O'Connor.

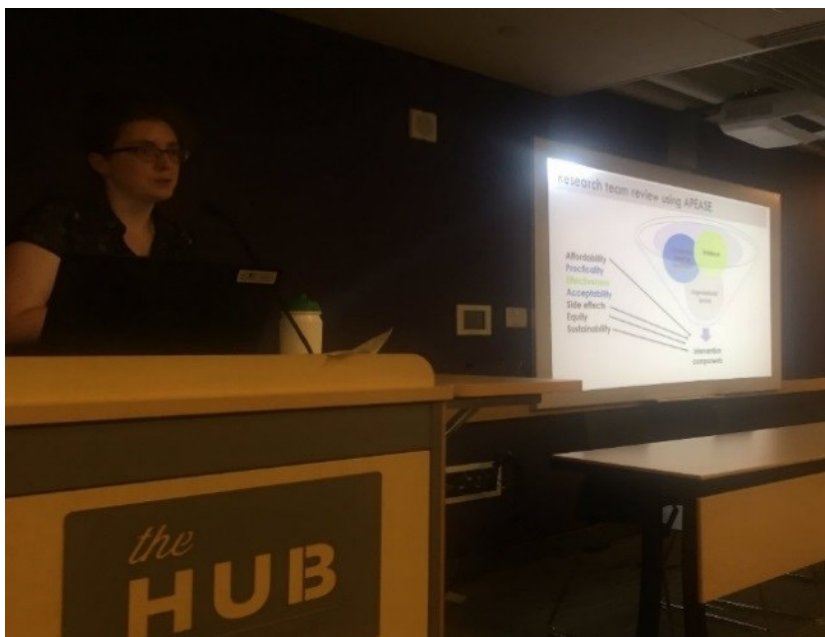
Consultant Microbiologist, Cork University Hospital, Professor Martin Cormican; Dr Arthur Jackson, Infectious Diseases Consultant, Mercy University Hospital / Cork University Hospital and Dr Nuala O'Connor, Irish College of General Practitioners General Practitioner Lead Advisor on Antimicrobial Resistance.

Also a huge thank you to all the attendees who made this an exciting and interesting day which focussed on the most important aspect of antimicrobial resistance, patient safety and wellbeing.

Congratulations to Dr Emer McCarthy and Ms Margaret Ryan on winning some lovely spot prizes for completion of the conference evaluation form. The prizes were kindly donated by the Mater Private Hospital in Cork.

Additional information on the conference is available at: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/publichealth/news/conference/>

Dr Maura Smiddy, Ms Fiona Barry.



Society for Implementation Research Collaboration

Fiona Riordan presented on the IDEAs (Improving Diabetes Eye Screening Attendance) study at the Society for Implementation Research Collaboration (SIRC) in Seattle which took place 12-14th September. Fiona presented on the development of an intervention to improve attendance at diabetic retinopathy screening. The pilot trial of the intervention is currently underway in general practices across Ireland. Recent estimates suggest uptake of the Irish national screening programme. More information on the study is available [here](#).

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



SPHeRE Network

6th Annual Conference Data to Policy

Tuesday, 25th February 2020 in RCSI, Dublin

The SPHeRE Network 6th Annual Conference will take place on **Tuesday, 25th February 2020** in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Dublin.

The confirmed keynote speakers are below:

- ◆ [Professor Mary Dixon-Woods](#), Director of THIS Institute/The Health Foundation Professor of Healthcare Improvement Studies in the Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Cambridge
- ◆ [Dr Lorelei Jones](#), Lecturer in Healthcare Sciences (Healthcare Improvement), School of Health Sciences, Bangor University
- ◆ [Professor Cathal Walsh](#), HRB Research Leader in Health Decision Science, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Limerick

Delegates, who would like to present their work at the SPHeRE Network 6th Annual Conference, either orally or as a poster, are invited to submit an abstract for consideration by the Scientific Committee. **Abstract submission will close on Friday, 8th November 2019 at 5pm.** For more information and the abstract submission guidelines, please [click here](#).

The [ESPRIT](#) (Evidence to Support Prevention Implementation and Translation) Research Group based in the School of Public Health are delighted to be hosting a 2-day introductory training course 'Developing and Evaluating Complex Primary Care Interventions' on the 4th and 5th of November 2019. This course is being coordinated by Fiona Riordan ([IDEAs study](#)) and Niamh McGrath (SPHeRE). The course will be delivered by [DECIPHer](#) (Development and Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement) who are experts in the development and evaluation of multi-level, complex public health interventions. The course is €150 for non-students and €100 for students.

It is now fully booked but if you wish to be added to a waiting list please contact Fiona or Niamh.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to all the following for their hard work in delivering this year's Society of Social Medicine Annual Scientific Meeting:

Local Organising Committee

Kevin Balanda, Institute of Public Health
 Kerri Clough Gorr, National Cancer Registry / SPH
 Joe Eustace, Clinical Research Facility Cork
 Mairead Harding, UCC Dental School
 Elizabeth Keane, UCC School of Public Health
 Patricia Kearney, UCC School of Public Health/IEA
 Sheena McHugh, UCC School of Public Health
 Niall McTernan, National Suicide Research Foundation
 Sarah Meaney, National Perinatal Epidemiology Centre
 Augustine Pereira, Health Service Executive
 Ivan Perry, UCC School of Public Health
 Emmy Racine, UCC School of Public Health
 Declan Whelan-Curtin, UCC School of Public Health

Hg3 Conferences Ltd

Society for Social Medicine & Population Health Committee

Laia Becares, Newsletter Editor
 Carol Brayne, Chair of ASM 2020 LOC
 Dorina Cadar, Communications Officer
 Simon Capewell, Chair of ASM 2021 LOC
 Ruth Dundas, Chair of MCR Sub-committee
 Sarah Gibney, Secretary Elect
 Catherine Hayes, External Relations Officer
 Kate Hunt, President Elect
 Hazel Inskip, President and Mentoring Officer
 Rebecca Lacey, Deputy Mentoring Officer
 Alastair Leyland, EUPHA Liaison Officer
 Kate O'Neill, Chair Elect of the ECR Sub-Committee
 Anna Pearce, Honorary Treasurer
 Tarra Penney, Chair Elect of the ECR Sub-Committee
 Ivan Perry, Chair of ASM Local Organising Committee
 Kathryn Skivington, Chair of ECR Sub-Committee
 Peter Tennant, Honorary Secretary Elect
 Declan Whelan-Curtin, Vice-Chair of ASM LOC

International Epidemiology Association; European Congress

Patricia Kearney, President

Abstract reviewers

Mirjam Allik, University of Glasgow
 Janice Atkins, University of Exeter
 Janis Baird, University of Southampton
 Peter Barrett, University College Cork

Laia Becares, University of Manchester
 Carol Brayne, University of Cambridge
 John Browne, University College Cork
 Dorina Cadar, University College London
 Tarani Chandola, University of Manchester
 Aileen Clarke, University of Warwick
 Darren Dahly, University College Cork
 Amy Downing, University of Leeds
 Ruth Dundas, University of Glasgow
 Sarah Gibney, Dept. Health Ireland
 Mark Gilthorpe, University of Leeds
 Birgit Greiner, University College Cork
 Eve Griffin, University College Cork
 Mairead Harding, University College Cork
 Catherine Hayes, Trinity College Dublin
 Kate Hunt, University of Stirling
 Hazel Inskip, University of Southampton
 Zubair Kabir, University College Cork
 Patricia Kearney, University College Cork
 Emily Kelleher, Health Information and Quality Authority
 Ali Khashan, University College Cork
 Alastair Leyland, University of Glasgow
 Karen Matvienko-Sikar, University College Cork
 Niamh McGrath, University College Cork
 Sheena McHugh, University College Cork
 Elaine McMahan, University College Cork
 Naoimh McMahan, University of Central Lancashire
 Sarah Meaney, University College Cork
 GJ Melendez-Torres, University of Exeter
 Kate O'Neill, University College Cork
 Eilis O'Reilly, University College Cork
 Anna Pearce, University of Glasgow
 Tarra Penney, University of Cambridge
 Ivan Perry, University College Cork
 Emmy Raccine, University College Cork
 Kathryn Skivington, University of Glasgow
 Richard Shaw, University of Glasgow
 Peter Tennant, University of Leeds
 Jo Thompson Coon, University of Exeter
 Davis Walsh, Glasgow Centre for Population Health

Communications Working Group

Sarah Meaney, University College Cork
 Niall McTernan, National Suicide Research Foundation
 Michelle Syron, University College Cork
 Una McAuliffe, University College Cork
 Maura Smiddy, University College Cork
 Susan Calnan, University College Cork
 Claire Collins, University College Cork
 Greg Kelly, University College Cork

Conference Operations Working Group

Emily Lynch, University College Cork
 Brenda Lynch, University College Cork
 Gillian Maher, University College Cork
 Rebecca Dehenny, University College Cork
 Sukainah Al Khalaf, University College Cork
 Bobby Henderson, University College Cork
 Janas Harrington, University College Cork
 Niamh McGrath, University College Cork

Social Activities Working Group

Eilis O'Reilly, University College Cork
 Eunice Phillip, University College Cork
 Khawla Lamlum, University College Cork
 Caragh Flannery, University College Cork
 Samantha Dick, University College Cork
 Ber Madden, University College Cork
 Christina Dillon, University College Cork
 Christie Godsmark, University College Cork
 Kate O'Neill, University College Cork

Rapid Fire Presentations & Posters Working Group

Charlotte Griffin, University College Cork
 Ali Khashan, University College Cork
 Karen Matvienko-Sikar, University College Cork
 Sean Millar, University College Cork
 Vicky Murphy, University College Cork
 Emmy Racine, University College Cork

Special thanks to the admin team for supporting the conference and keeping School activities flowing during the event.

Special thanks also to staff outside of the School who contributed so much, in particular Nail and Sarah for their work promoting the conference.

Special thanks to the local ECR committee – Dr Kate O'Neil, Emmy Racine and Niamh McGrath

Acknowledging...

**Cork City Council,
 The Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Cork
 for hosting the Civic Reception**

**College of Medicine and Health,
 Prof Hellen Whelton, Head of College**

**University College Cork,
 Prof Patrick O'Shea, President**

**All Staff of the School of Public Health, University
 College Cork**



MEET....



Colette Cunningham

Colette has been a Lecturer in the School since August 2010, teaching on a number of our programmes such as, undergraduate, MPH and MSc Occ. Health. Colette is passionate about teaching on global health issues and her research interest is specifically in global health inequalities and humanitarian healthcare and justice for all in healthcare. A nurse by profession with an MPH and MA in Public Policy, she has vast and varied experience in Global Public Health especially in HIV and AIDS. To date she has worked in over 20 African countries, Central Asia, and India, which has given her extensive first-hand experience of public health in practice. She believes that education is a means to addressing health inequalities in low-income countries and she has been involved internationally in various health education programmes. Online education helps in this regard. Colette has been at the forefront with the Schools' Online programmes and in 2014 qualified with an MA in E Learning, Design and Development, which qualifies her as an Instructional Designer. Since then, she has been involved with

the Online MPH programme and in 2015, she was awarded the Wiley E Learning Fellowship Award for her work on the online MPH. Colette is the School's elected representative on the Executive Committee of the Centre for Global Development (CGD), UCC and she is a Committee Member of the sub-group Committee for Research Education and Teaching Evaluation - CREATE, that functions under CGD activities. Additionally, Colette is part of the ISS21 Research Cluster SHAPE (Society, Health, and Political, Economy), where she is the current Cluster Coordinator.

Did you know?

Colette, is multilingual with French, Spanish and Portuguese and has used these skills for translating much needed HIV and Palliative Care resources into French and Portuguese for use in Africa including the development of an e-learning course for children's palliative in all three languages.

UPCOMING TRAINING & EVENTS

2019

NOVEMBER

Joint Public Health Annual Conference 2019 "Innovation in Public Health",
November 27th, Titanic Belfast

DECEMBER

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland
Faculty of Public Health Winter
Scientific Meeting,
4th December 2019, RCPI, No. 6 Kildare
St, Dublin 2

NEW HORIZONS Research Conference,
Thursday 5th of December, Devere
Hall, UCC

2020

FEBRUARY

SPHeRE Network 6th Annual
Conference, Tuesday 25th February,
2020, RCSI, Dublin.

MARCH

4th International Conference for
Realist Research, Evaluation and
Synthesis, 24 – 25th March, Dublin
Castle

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