



Issue 117,
October 2026

PRACTICE LINKS



Practice Links is a free publication from the School of Applied Social Studies (social work) at University College Cork, Ireland. It helps practitioners, community groups, students, and policy-makers to keep up-to-date with new publications, online resources, developments in AI, social media, conferences, and CPD opportunities.

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Editor: Dr Kenneth Burns

Editorial note

Practice Links no longer links to or promotes accounts on X (formerly Twitter). The platform has become less useful for sharing professional content, and hosts a growing volume of materials that we would not stand over. This includes the generation by its AI tool, Grok, of non-consensual sexualised images of women and children, conduct now under investigation by regulators.

In solidarity with the people of Palestine, Palestinian social work scholars, academics and practitioners, *Practice Links* will not feature research, resources, or events from or associated with Israeli institutions until further notice.

ISSN: 2009-776X



@UCCSOCIALWORK WEBINARS

@UCCsocialwork free webinar series #18

Findings of CORU Fitness To Practise Research

Claire O'Cleary, CEO, CORU

16th October 1-2 pm. Free webinar. All welcome. [Click here to register](#)

In this webinar, Claire O'Cleary will talk about trends in Fitness to Practise complaints. This presentation reviews trends in Fitness to Practise (FtP) complaints received by CORU, based on an analysis of 151 cases closed between 2022 and 2024, including cases concluded at both Preliminary Proceedings Committee (PPC) and Committee of Inquiry (COI) stages. The research explored complaint sources, professional groups involved, themes, outcomes, and opportunities for learning and prevention. Most complaints reviewed at PPC stage originated from service users, while employer-led complaints were more common in cases progressing to a COI. The most frequently identified themes were personal and professional behaviour, communication, care and treatment, safeguarding, record keeping, and professional boundaries. Findings indicate that many complaints arise from concerns about communication, professional judgement, service delivery, or unmet expectations, with only a minority requiring regulatory intervention. The analysis highlights opportunities to improve public protection, support professional practice, enhance understanding of the FtP process, and promote measures aimed at preventing harm.

@UCCsocialwork free webinar series #19

The Cloud and the Ground: Digital Literacy for the Social Work Profession

Dr Michael Wallengren Lynch, Malmö University, Sweden

3rd November 1-2 pm. Free webinar. All welcome. [Click here to register](#)

Artificial intelligence is increasingly entering social work practice, education and welfare systems. Yet, as social work increasingly engages with decolonisation and the enduring legacies of colonialism, are we sufficiently attentive to how similar logics of extraction, appropriation and concentrated power may be taking new forms around us? This presentation moves beyond the AI interface to examine, through the lens of coloniality, the material and political systems that make AI possible: data, land, energy, infrastructure, corporate ownership and knowledge. Drawing on developments in northern Sweden and Ireland, it explores how the supposedly immaterial "cloud" is grounded in particular places, resources and relationships of power. Growing grassroots resistance to data centres around the world further raises questions about who decides how local resources are used, who benefits, and who bears the costs. The presentation considers how these processes return to social work through material inequalities, welfare needs and digitally mediated political discourse. It argues that digital literacy must include critical infrastructural literacy: the capacity to recognise and critically examine the material, political and historical systems operating "under the hood" of AI.





@UCCSOCIALWORK WEBINARS

Missed our Recent @UCCsocialwork Webinars?

Watch back for free! Click on the images below or visit
<https://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/community/uccsocialworkwebinars/>

Webinar #17: Gaining knowledge, growing confidence: Building tools for queer and trans affirming social work practice



Friday 18th September 2026, 1-2 pm (Irish time, same time as London, Lisbon). Click on the **read more** button to find out more about this free webinar. Presenter: Dr Rachel Gartner. Image copyright: Dr Rachel Gartner

[Watch the webinar »](#)

[Read more →](#)

Happening On
18/09/2026

Webinar #16: Safe Staffing in Children's Services



Thursday 11th June 2026, 1-2 pm (Irish time, same time as London, Lisbon). Click on the **read more** button to find out more about this free webinar. Presenter: Professor Paula McFadden. Image copyright: P. McFadden

[Watch the webinar »](#)

[Read more →](#)

Happening On
11/06/2026

Webinar #15: Making Child Protection Work



Tuesday 28th April 2026, 1-2 pm (Irish time, same time as London, Lisbon). Click on the **read more** button to find out more about this free webinar. Presenter: Professor Harry Ferguson. Image copyright: Policy Press

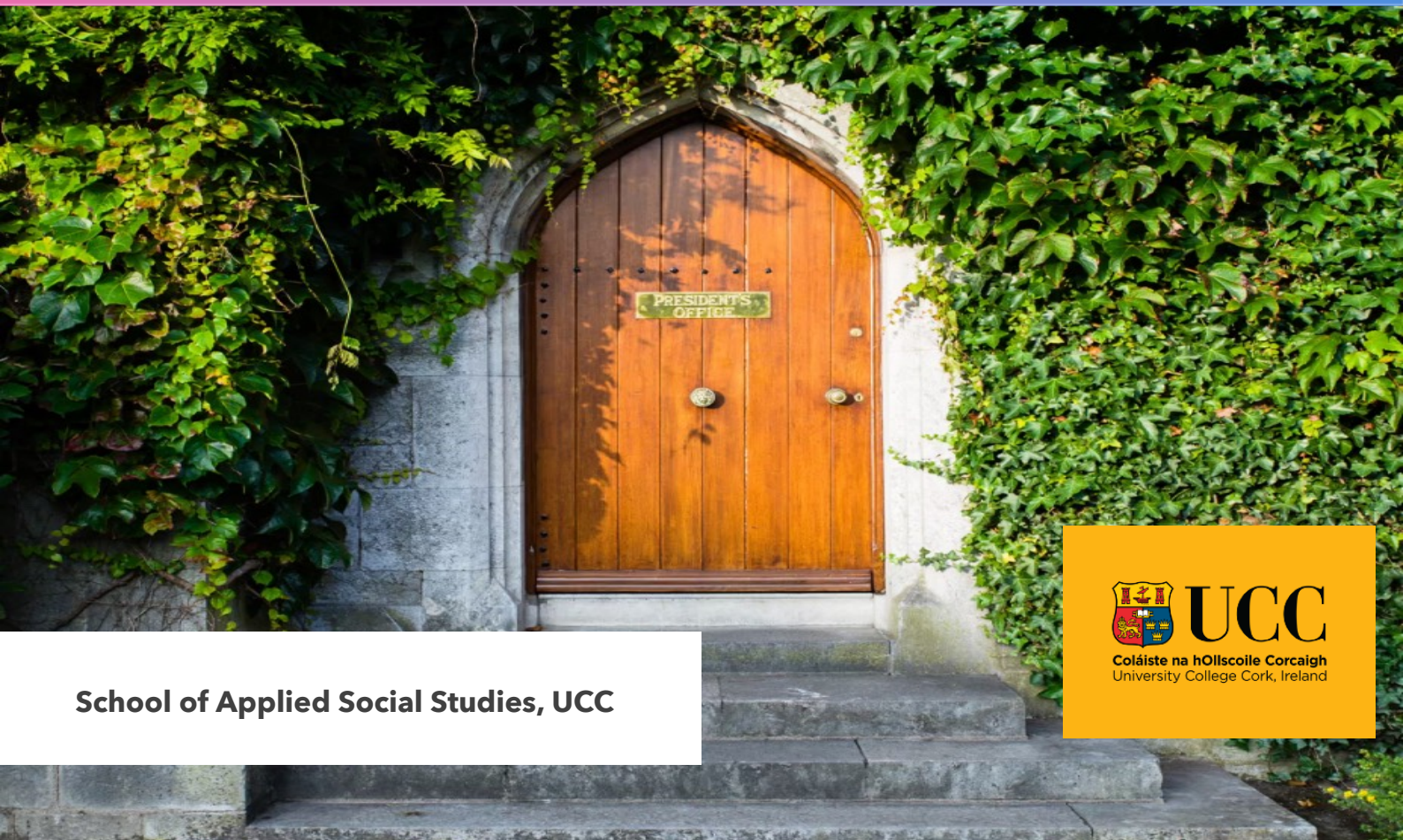
[Watch the webinar »](#)

[Read more →](#)

Happening On
28/04/2026



SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE TEACHING @UCC



School of Applied Social Studies, UCC



Social Work Practice Teaching

Practice Teaching is a dynamic CPD learning experience hear what practice teachers have to say about their experiences supervising UCC social work students on placement...

"Student was open and engaging, unafraid of the many challenges".

"Quickly became a valued and productive member of the MDT".

Social workers who engage in practice teaching have continually informed us of the benefits in terms of their own continuing professional development and we have lots to offer [What is Practice Teaching?](#)

UCC would like to hear from CORU registered social workers who are interested in supervising a student on placement during 2026/27 - placement cycles are usually from January - April, Summer, and September - December.

UCC pays a placement fee. For further information, please contact swfieldwork@ucc.ie



CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

FINDING OUR OWN SOLUTIONS: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES AND RESPONSES TO HUMAN DISTRESS

Thursday 12 & Friday 13 November 2026

SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL STUDIES, COLLECTIVE SOCIAL FUTURES/ ISS21, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
CORK, IRELAND AND CRITICAL VOICES NETWORK IRELAND

Registration for in-person attendance: Email Harry Gijbels at h.gijbels@ucc.ie indicating which day you wish to attend: both days, or either Thursday 12 November or Friday 13 November. You'll receive a return email confirmation. Booking will be confirmed by return email.

Registration for online attendance (Keynotes only): [here](#)

CONFERENCE THEME

In the context of ongoing concerns about how mental health systems engage with people in distress, the 18th annual CVNI conference aims to explore diverse approaches grounded in meaning, values, connection and relationships. Following on from last year's conference on safe spaces, we aim to explore and discuss:

- the significance of challenging the coercive nature of current practices
- the contribution of practices focused on meaning and dialogue
- the importance of connection and peer support

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Lisa Archibald, Director, Intentional Peer Support, Scotland; Jennifer Hough, Human rights law researcher and Mad in Ireland editor, Ireland; Liam Mac Gabhann, Community Activist & Mental Health Practitioner. Dublin North, North East Recovery College & Dublin City University, Ireland; Maura O'Donovan and Aidan O'Mahony, Home Focus, West Cork: Community-based mental health recovery and support team, Ireland; Kellie Stastny, proud voice hearer, critical social worker, and Chair of the Intervoice Board, Australia; Iseult Twamley, human, parent, psychologist, open dialogue trainer & Director of the International Institute of Dialogic and CoCreative Practice (INDICO), Ireland.



KINSHIP CARE WEEK / LIFE STORY WORK

Kinship Care Week Events

There will be an in-person event in The Richmond Centre in Dublin 7 on Wednesday, 7th October, with registration from 10:00am. We hope you'll be able to join us at our main event as we mark **Kinship Care Week 2026** and celebrate the vital role that kinship care plays in so many lives. Click on the image for additional information on all events and activities you can do to support Kinship careers. Map to event: [The Richmond Centre - Google Maps](#)



What is Life Story Work?



Clarecare Family Support Service and Tusla have collaborated to develop a new Life Story Work Project in the Mid-West area. The focus is on working with children and families where adoption is part of their care plan. The work is based on the **Rose Model of Therapeutic Life Story Work**.

The Rose Model of Life Story Work is a structured approach designed to help children and young people understand and make sense of their life experiences. A core part of the model is facilitating sessions with the children and young people and their foster parents to create a Life Story Book. All sessions are recorded on a wallpaper. Click on the image above or visit the **Clare Care website** for further information.



CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

An Embodied Approach to Working With Trauma With Brendan McKiernan

Sunday 8 November 2026

Clayton Hotel Silver Springs | Cork | T23 E244

8:30am – 5:30pm

The **Ginkgo Collective** are delighted to welcome back Brendan McKiernan with an experiential workshop focusing on introducing clinicians to the need for and techniques used in an embodied approach to trauma.

A significant body of evidence now shows that the majority of individuals seeking mental health and addiction treatment are primarily dealing with the impact of psychological trauma both complex and specific (PTSD). Neurobiology evidence shows that trauma impacts sub-cortical areas of the brain, making them inaccessible through cognition alone. Consequently, there is a growing awareness of the need for clinicians to have therapeutic skills that support clients in regulating their nervous systems.

This workshop will provide an understanding of the need for these skills and an introduction to them in practice.





IASW CONFERENCE

National Social Work Conference

New Times, New Responses:
Social Work in a Changing World



Lara Groves | Use of AI Transcription Tools in Social Work

Deirdre Hyland | Supporting Responsible and Safe Use of AI

Sinéad Whiting | AI and Social work: What should we question?

Register at iasw.ie/events/upcoming



Thursday 22 October



Carmelite Community Centre
56 Aungier Street, Dublin 2

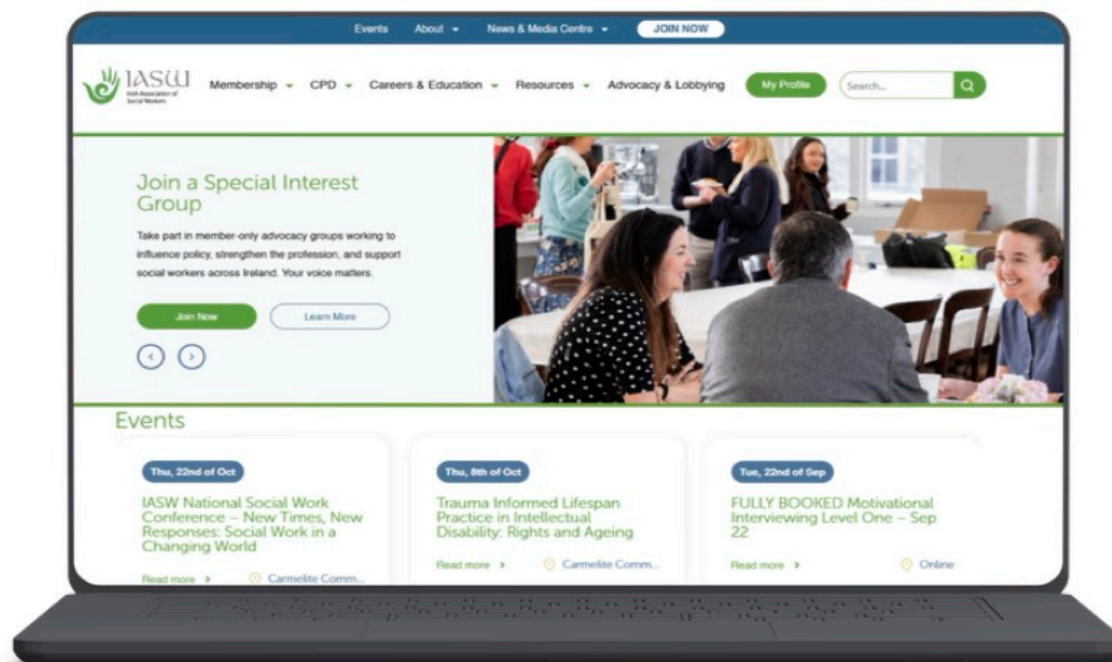


9am - 10am Registration
10am - 4.15pm Conference



€50 IASW members
€120 non-members

We're putting the finishing touches on the
brand new iasw.ie to launch soon!





CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Irish Criminal Justice Agencies Conference 2026

The 12th Irish Criminal Justice Agencies (ICJA) Conference, on the Human Cost of Deception: Economic Crime as a Public Harm in Ireland, takes place in the Revenue Commissioners Building, An Lár, O'Connell Street, Dublin October 2026. Attendance is free but registration online is essential.

For more information and registration [visit the website](https://www.acjrd.ie)



2026 IRISH CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCIES (ICJA) CONFERENCE

THE HUMAN COST OF DECEPTION: ECONOMIC CRIME AS A PUBLIC HARM IN IRELAND

Friday, 9 October 2026

9.30am-4.30pm

An Ionad, Revenue Building, O'Connell Street, Dublin



www.acjrd.ie

Refer a New Member & Win €100

Help us reach our milestone of 2,000 IASW members.

For September & October, every successful new member referral will enter you into a **weekly draw to win a €100** gift voucher of your choice.

The new member only needs to include your name in the Referrer field when they apply for membership.

Win **1-year of free membership** for you and your referee if you refer the 2000th member!



IASW
Irish Association of
Social Workers



CALL FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

Are you a Social Worker registered to practice in Ireland?

Would you be interested in participating in a research study?



Exploring Social Work's Relationships With Social Justice Through the Lens of Power in Irish Social Work

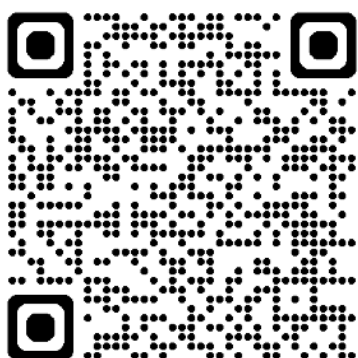
Understanding how a profession holds the authority and capacity to make decisions about another person's life, or to wilfully try to change someone's life through their influence is an important understanding. Social workers constantly negotiate matters of individual freedoms and choices on the one hand, with collective responsibilities and external constraints, on the other (Smith, 2008). Despite this, social workers often describe a lack of power, and an ethical tension between care and control. For these reasons and many others, asking social workers about their understanding and use of power in their profession and in their practice, is an important area of research not only for the profession but also to contribute to our understanding of the governance of public services.

Using a novel 'written interview' approach to data collection, you will answer 11 interview questions in your own time and at your own pace. You will be asked to participate as though you have been invited to write a letter to the researcher in response to the questions asked.

You will be provided with all of the questions in advance, and you can either write up your answers offline and cut and paste them into the online data collection tool (SurveyMonkey), or you can type directly into the platform. You are asked to spend a minimum of 90 mins answering the questions, but you are welcome and encouraged to spend as much time as you need composing your responses.

This research project is a research study being undertaken for the Institute of Public Administration Doctorate in Governance programme. It has received ethics approval from the Institute of Public Administration ethics committee.

If you are interested in participating, please click the first [click here for information about the study](#), about how your data will be treated, and about how to participate in this study.



When you have read the participant information leaflet and written interview questions, you can use [this link](#) **or** the QR code below to participate in the study. Please note you will be asked to confirm that you have read the participant information leaflet so do read that first!

Please note some exclusions. Only social workers registered in Ireland are eligible to participate and as part of the study is focused on practice, social workers in exclusively academic roles are not eligible to participate. Please share with colleagues who may be interested in participating. Last date for study participants to submit their written responses is the 16th of November 2026.



PRACTICE DEVELOPMENTS

Neurodivergence and Domestic Abuse Interventions

A practice guide developed by Dr. Nicole Renehan of Durham University and Dr. Vicky Butterby, in collaboration with a number of service organisations, provides guidance to practitioners encountering neurodivergent men in domestic abuse perpetrator programmes and is [**available on this website**](#)

Global Network on Probation and Parole Launched

The Global Network on Probation and Parole was launched at the World Congress on Probation and Parole in April 2026, with the aim of bringing together government agencies, civil society, academia, multi-lateral organisations, donors, practitioners and people with lived experience, to learn and generate knowledge and promote collaboration across borders. [**More information at this website**](#)



Four New Academic Insights on Research and Development in the Probation Evidence Base Published

Four Academic Insights reports have been published by HM Inspectorate of Probation, on human learning systems and probation practice, why leadership quality matters in youth justice, the use of AI in probation practice and compassion fatigue in probation practice. All reports are [**available on this website**](#)



HM Inspectorate
of Probation

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CARE EXPERIENCES PUBLICATIONS

Study on the Career and Education Journeys of Care-Experienced Young Adults

In July 2026, the Care Experiences Programme published two new empirical research reports relating to the alternative care sector in Ireland.

The Care Experiences Programme is a research and data initiative examining the lives of children and young people in care, and adults who were in care as children. Further information about the Programme's activities and research outputs can be found on its [website](#).

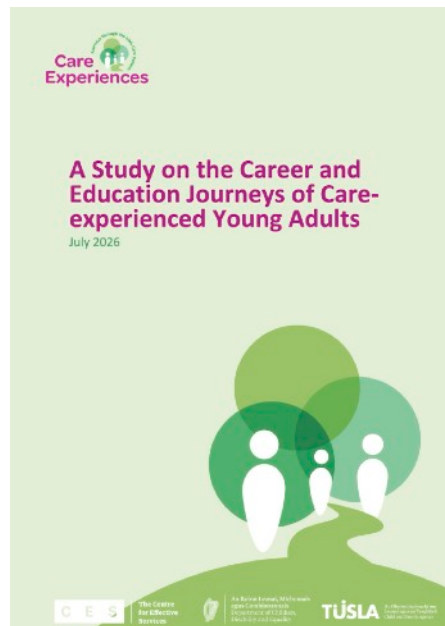
A Study on the Career and Education Journeys of Care-Experienced Young Adults conducted by the Centre of Effective Services examines the educational, employment and training experiences of young adults aged 18 to 24 with care experience.

Key findings:

- Educational, employment and training outcomes are shaped by earlier experiences, including placement stability, school engagement and supportive relationships.
- Pathways into education, employment and training are often complex and can be disrupted by challenges such as housing instability, financial difficulties, mental health challenges, placement changes, additional support needs and immigration-related barriers.
- Stable housing is a critical factor in enabling participation and progress in education, employment and training.
- Financial supports are important to successful outcomes; however, abrupt changes to entitlements can create difficulties for young people navigating education and employment pathways.

Care-experienced young adults frequently demonstrate resilience and re-engage with education, training or employment when supported by stable relationships, practical assistance and flexible routes back into learning

Further information on both reports, including downloadable copies and webinar recordings, can be found [here](#) on the Care Experiences Programme's web pages.





CARE EXPERIENCES PUBLICATIONS

Factors Associated With Foster Carer Retention and Attrition in Ireland

A Study of Factors Associated with Foster Carer Retention and Attrition in Ireland, conducted by Childhood Matters examines what supports Tusla foster carers to remain in the role and the challenges they face.

Key findings:

- Foster carers report high levels of satisfaction, particularly through their relationships with the children and young people in their care.
- Motivations for becoming a foster carer include empathy, social responsibility, personal experiences of fostering and family-building aspirations.
- Most carers complete mandatory and additional training, although some felt they were not fully prepared for the realities of fostering.
- Many carers support children with additional and complex needs, which is associated with higher levels of stress, burnout and thoughts of leaving the role.
- Key challenges include limited support, communication difficulties, social worker turnover, emotional strain, grief and managing relationships with birth families.
- Despite these challenges, many foster carers intend to continue fostering into the future.

Further information on both reports, including downloadable copies and webinar recordings, can be found [here](#) on the Care Experiences Programme's web pages.





VIDEOS

How far can your empathy go?

Occupational Therapist Jenny Okolo explores empathy, neurodiversity and how professionals perceive people, including individuals who have committed serious crimes. Useful for reflective practice, OT and person-centred care.



Not just Deaf – Joanne Chester

Joanne is Deaf and an Irish Sign Language user. She is a Community Worker and Youth Worker with a passion for social justice who campaigns for Access to Work in Ireland and for Deaf people to be included as equal citizens.



WEBINARS

AI and children's social care: emerging insights



CEL CIS's 2026 series looks at AI, children's experiences, online sexual abuse risks, AI transcription, decision-making and the role of professional judgement. The recordings provide useful prompts for team reflection and policy development, even for practitioners working outside children's services.

[Browse the webinar recordings](#)

Making Child Protection Work

This University College Cork webinar with **Professor Harry Ferguson**

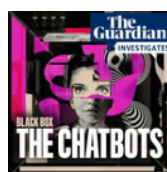


explores relationship-based practice, working with infants, hostile relationships, staff support and supervision. It is particularly relevant to frontline child and family services.

[Watch the UCC webinar](#)

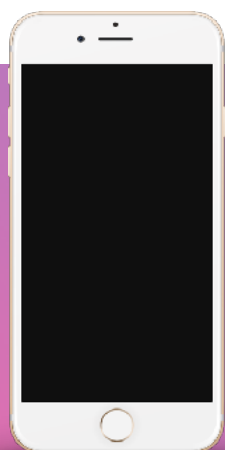
PODCAST

Guardian - Black Box: The Chatbots



Across the world, hundreds of people have come to believe they have made extraordinary scientific discoveries with AI chatbots such as ChatGPT, Claude and Gemini. Others say their AI has 'awakened', or is leading them to a higher spiritual realm. The Guardian journalist Michael Safi begins investigating a phenomenon labelled 'AI psychosis'.

[Black Box: The Chatbots Podcast](#)



APPS, AI, & SOCIAL MEDIA



APPS for Productivity



Canva

Create posters, presentations, information leaflets and social media graphics for community services, awareness campaigns and training.

[Canva for Android](#)

[Canva for iOS](#)

Microsoft To Do

Manage daily tasks, reminders and follow-ups. Useful for organising workloads, meetings and personal action lists.



[MS To Do for Android](#)

[MS To Do for iOS](#)



Adobe Scan

Scan paper documents and convert them into PDFs. Useful for general paperwork and non-confidential documents.

Check organisational approval before scanning any sensitive information.

[Adobe Scan for Android](#)

[Adobe Scan for iOS](#)

LinkedIn in

[Age Action Ireland](#)

Advocacy organisation supporting equality, dignity, participation and independence for older people in Ireland.



[Addiction Counsellors of Ireland](#)



Irish accreditation body for addiction professionals, with updates on professional standards, education and addiction-related issues.

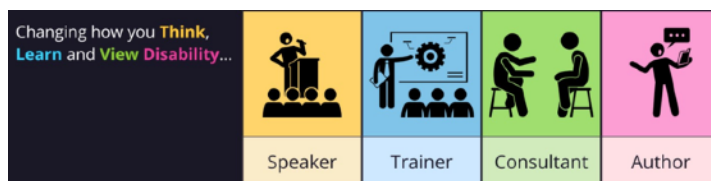
[Probation Institute](#)



A professional development organisation supporting probation practitioners and leaders across public, voluntary and independent organisations. Shares research, professional events and practice-related discussions.

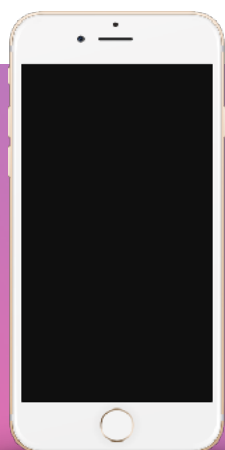
[Jamie Shields – Disabled by Society](#)

Northern Ireland / UK



Disability advocacy

Shares perspectives on disability, autism, ADHD, accessibility and inclusion, drawing on lived experience and professional training work.



YouTube



APPS, AI, & SOCIAL MEDIA



Multidimensional Family Therapy (MDFT) for Young People in Treatment for Non-opioid Drug Abuse: An Updated Systematic Review

TRINE FILGES, MALENE WALLACH KILDEMOES, AND ELIZABETH BENGTSSEN

The review in brief

The evidence indicates that MDFT may reduce the severity of drug abuse among youth compared to other drug use services at least up to 12 months post-intake. The evidence also suggests that there may be a reduction in the frequency of drug abuse and that retention may be positively affected by structured MDFT treatment compared to other less-structured control conditions.

What is this review about?

Youth drug abuse is a severe problem worldwide and recent reports describe ominous trends of youth drug abuse and a lack of effective treatment. This review is concerned with drug abuse that is severe enough to warrant treatment. It focuses on young people who are receiving MDFT specifically for non-opioid drug abuse.

What is the aim of this review?

We examine the effects of MDFT on drug abuse reduction for young people (aged 11-21 years) in treatment for non-opioid drug abuse.

What are the main findings of this review?

What studies are included? We identified 21 studies, reporting on seven trials. Six trials were from the USA and one was conducted in five European countries: Germany, France, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Switzerland. The timespan of trials was 12 years, from 1998 to 2010. All studies were randomised controlled trials, with the number of participants ranging from 83 to 450. *What is the effect of MDFT on drug*

abuse reduction for young people (aged 11-21 years) in treatment for non-opioid drug abuse? Our results indicate that MDFT may reduce the severity of drug abuse problems among youth compared to other drug use services at least up to 12 months post-intake and it may reduce the frequency of drug abuse at least up to 6 months post-intake. There is also evidence to suggest that retention may be positively affected by structured MDFT treatment compared to other less-structured services (mainly CBT). Considerably fewer studies reported on other secondary outcomes. The available evidence does not suggest that MDFT has an effect on the secondary outcomes' family functioning, school grades and risk behavior. However, given the relatively few effect sizes included in each meta-analysis on secondary outcomes other than retention, some caution is needed in assuming that MDFT does not have an effect on these outcomes. We could not investigate plausible moderators of drug abuse reduction effects, and whether MDFT works better for particular types of participants.

What do the findings of this review mean?

We believe the average effects favoring MDFT in comparison to other treatments on drug abuse reduction found in the short term are, although small, of a meaningful magnitude. Considerably fewer studies reported on the long-term effects; thus, the evidence is inconclusive beyond 12 months post-intake. This suggests that there is a need to continuously evaluate the sustainability of treatment results and further, emphasizes the need for future research to plan for



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How up-to-date is this review?

We searched for studies up to July 2025.

Read the full review [**here**](#).



Strategies to improve recruitment to randomised trials

ADWOA PARKER, GLORIA MONGELLI, CAMILA PICCOLO-LAWRANCE, ELIZABETH COLEMAN, ATHANASIOS GKEKAS, HAN-I WANG, SHOBA DAWSON, HEIDI GREEN, ROSALIND WAY, ARTI RAIHANNE BRUHN, FRANK SULLIVAN, CHERISH BOXALL, MARKUS CHAN, PAUL MANSON, CATHERINE HEWITT, CAROLINE FAIRHURST, MIKE CLARKE, SHAUN TREWEEK

How can researchers get people to join their trial?

Key messages

Telling people what treatment they will receive – rather than them not being told – improves recruitment.

Telephoning people who don't respond to an initial postal invitation to join a trial improves recruitment when the initial recruitment rate is low.

Tailored, user-tested information leaflets, sending letters about the importance of research, or providing a link to videos make little or no difference to recruitment.

What are research trials?

Research trials compare different approaches, such as treatments, programmes, or ways of delivering services. In health care, trials are essential to test new medicines and devices on human volunteers ('trial participants') to make sure they are safe and effective. However, finding and keeping trial participants is challenging. About half of all trials fail to recruit the number of people they need on time. Strategies to boost recruitment include changing trial methods and improving information for potential participants and how they are invited to take part.

What did we want to find out?

We wanted to find out which strategies encouraged more people to join research trials, and whether they:

were good value for money (cost-effective); made any difference to whether people stayed in the trial until the end (retention); and had any effect on the diversity of the people and places involved.

What did we do?

We searched for studies that tested different recruitment strategies embedded within research trials. Potential participants were chosen by chance to receive different recruitment approaches, and the studies measured how many people joined the trial.

We compared and summarised the results of the studies and rated our confidence in the evidence, based on factors such as methods and the number of people participating.

What did we find?

We found 91 studies, each involving between 37 and 30,000 participants, mostly conducted in the UK (46 studies) and USA (23 studies). All were in healthcare trials. Nearly all (99%) were carried out in high-income countries. Most studies gave little information about the people they recruited.

The studies tested 65 different recruitment strategies ranging from changes to trial methods to how people were approached and informed about taking part. Participants had different health concerns (e.g. cancer, surgery).

We are confident in the evidence for only 5 of the 65 strategies investigated, and we focus on these below. Trial procedures

Potential participants are more likely to join an 'open-label' trial, where they know their treatment, than a 'blinded' trial, where they do not know which treatment they will receive (3 trials, 9004 participants).

For every 100 people invited, an open-label trial recruits 10 more participants.

The trials involved mostly women in the UK and Estonia.



Strategies to improve recruitment to randomised trials

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There was no information about cost-effectiveness and retention.

Telephone reminders

Telephoning people who have not responded to a postal invite improves recruitment (2 trials, 1450 people).

Six more people take part if 100 people are called.

Participants were aged 58 years on average and lived in Canada and Norway.

There was no information on cost-effectiveness or retention.

Letters about the importance of research

Sending letters about the importance of research before the trial invitation does not significantly improve recruitment (2 trials, 5376 participants).

One more person joins if 100 people are sent a letter.

This small gain was not good value, costing 2.08 pounds sterling (GBP) per additional participant recruited.

The trials involved mostly older white people in the UK and Ireland.

QR code or link to videos alongside printed information leaflets

Providing a QR code or link to videos alongside a printed information leaflet makes no difference to recruitment (7 trials, 11,612 participants) or retention (5 trials, 7403 participants).

There is zero change per 100 people.

This strategy was not cost-effective (GBP 0.78 more).

The trials involved people in the UK.

Information leaflets

Information leaflets developed with input from people similar to those being recruited make no difference compared to standard leaflets (6 trials, 27,805 participants).

Both types of leaflet result in 7 in 100 people joining the trial.

The trials involved people in the UK, mostly older women in one trial.

There was no information on cost-effectiveness or retention.

What are the limitations of the evidence?

Our confidence in all but the five strategies above is limited because they were tested in only one trial, the trials testing them had problems with their methods, or the results were very uncertain.

We found cost information for only 8 strategies, and retention information for only 15 trials.

Few trials reported information about participants' age, sex, gender, education level, and income level, so we are not sure how effective the strategies would be for different people.

Most trials (75%) were carried out in the UK or USA, so our findings may not apply to healthcare systems in other parts of the world. We screened all non-English studies, none were eligible.

How up to date is this evidence?

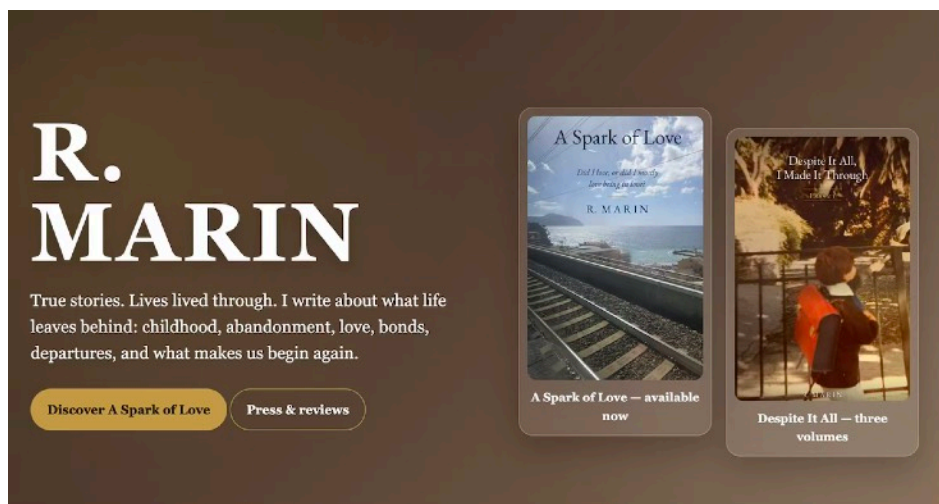
This review updates our 2018 review. The evidence is current to February 2023.

Read the full review [**here**](#).



Read full report [here](#).

Read full report [here](#).



Read this book series [here](#).

Read full report [here](#).

Read full report [here](#).

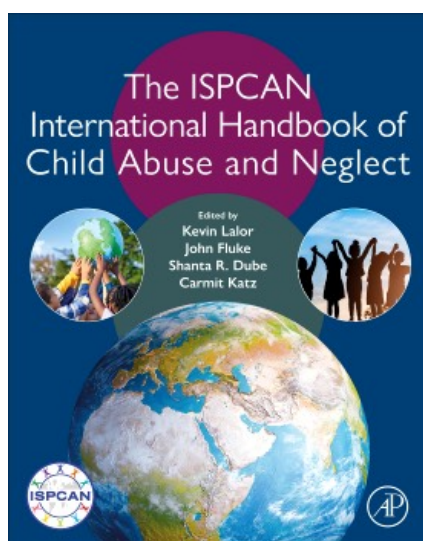
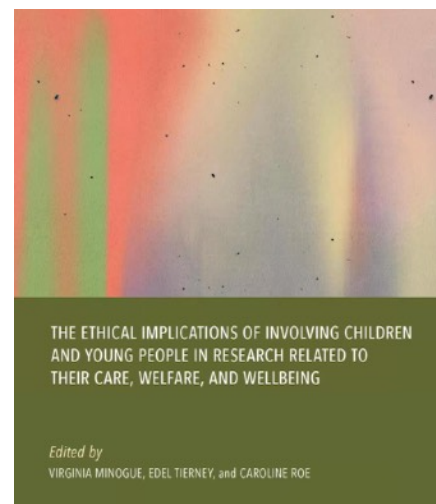




Edited by Virginia Minogue with Edel Tierney and Caroline Roe

The book explores the challenges and tensions in conducting ethical research with children and young people as partners and examines specific issues such as respect, diversity and inclusion, power relationships, participatory research, and the value of lived experience. It also explores a network approach to building capacity with children and young people. The book concludes by reviewing a rights based approach for effective ethical involvement.

It adds to the literature relating to the involvement of children and young people as partners in research that impacts them, their families and carers, and provides a reference point and guidance on ethical research. It asks the reader to consider the ethical aspects of involving children and young people as partners in health and social care research and provides an important reference point and guidance on ethical research. A number of the chapters have been written collaboratively with children and young people, and those with lived experience, to reflect that important perspective.



The forthcoming ISPCAN International Handbook of Child Abuse and Neglect (to be published by Elsevier/Academic Press on 1st October 2026), provides a comprehensive and international overview of child abuse and neglect. The Handbook contains 39 chapters and has 99 contributors based in 30 countries. It is edited by Kevin Lalor (Technological University Dublin), John Fluke (University of Denver), Shanta Dube (Wingate University) & Carmit Katz (Hebrew University of Jerusalem).

The Handbook is aimed at researchers, academics, students, practitioners, policymakers and professionals working in child protection and related fields. It brings together global perspectives on the nature, causes and consequences of child abuse and neglect, different forms of maltreatment, prevention and intervention strategies, regional and population-specific issues, research and ethics, and emerging challenges and innovative approaches. Drawing on multidisciplinary expertise and international evidence, the Handbook offers an authoritative resource for understanding and responding to child abuse and neglect in diverse cultural and social contexts. Available for pre-order at [the Elsevier website](#).



Practice signposts provide links to high-quality, research-informed databases and publications. Some of the databases at a quick glance may seem too medical/health orientated, but contain great resources to support social work and allied professionals' practice.

Open Access Research Databases:

Trinity Access Research Archive (TARA) - [click here](#)

Cork Open Research Archive (CORA) - [click here](#)

Galway Open Access Research Archive (ARAN) - [click here](#)

TU open access (Arrow) - [click here](#).

Research Data Archives:

Irish Qualitative Data Archive - [click here](#)

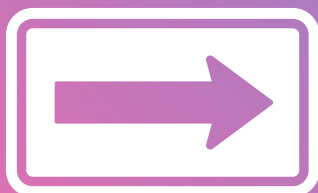
Irish Social Science Data Archive (ISSDA) - [click here](#)

Open Access (Free) Journals

Journal of Early and Intensive Behaviour Intervention; International Journal of Child and Adolescent Resilience (IJCAR; Journal of Global Social Work Practice; International Journal of High Risk Behaviours and Addictions; Journal of Indigenous Social Development; Critical Social Work; International Journal of Child, Youth & Family Studies; The Irish Journal of Applied Social Studies; Comparative Migration Studies; Irish Social Worker.

Systematic Review Databases:

Cochrane Collaboration Library - [click here](#)



Practice signposts: data sources to support your practice

Practice Guidance, Databases & Publications:

Addiction Technology Transfer Centre Network (USA) - [click here](#)

CES - Centre for Effective Services - [click here](#)

Child and Family Agency Publications and Reports - [click here](#)

Drug and Alcohol Information and Support (drugs.ie) - [click here](#)

Growing Up in Ireland - national longitudinal study of children. [Click here](#)

HSE Health Promotion Publications - [click here](#)

HSE Publications and Reports - [click here](#)

HRB National Drugs Library - [click here](#)

HUB na nÓg Young: Voices in Decision-Making - [click here](#)

NICE - National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (UK) - [click here](#)

Mindfulness Based Relapse Prevention Resources (free audio tracks) - [click here](#)

Probation Service Publications - [click here](#)

Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) - [click here](#)

PRACTICE LINKS



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