

# Employment-based PhD Scholarships for Health Science Professionals 2025



Graduate Studies  
College of Medicine and Health



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

**Awardee:** Sally-Ann Lovejoy - National Nurse Lead for the National Clinical Programme for Self-Harm and Suicide-related Ideation (NCPSHI), Assistant Director of Nursing

**Project Title:** Understanding self-harm and suicide-related ideation in women in mid-life

**Supervisory Team:** Prof. Ella Arensmen, Dr Eve Griffin, Dr Monica O'Mullane

**Employment Mentor:** Dr Shane McInerney (Consultant Psychiatrist and National Clinical Lead for the National Clinical Programme for Self-harm and Suicidal-related Ideation (NCPSHI))

**Awardee:** Rachel Tobin – Programme Support Officer (HSE National Research and Development)

**Project Title:** Patient and Public Involvement in Research in the Irish Health Service: Exploring Institutional Barriers and Co-Designing Solutions to Improve PPI within the HSE

**Supervisory Team:** Prof. Patricia Kearney, Dr Emmy Racine, Dr Carol Kelleher

**Employment Mentor:** Dr Maria Quinlan (General Manager, HSE Research and Development)

**Awardee:** Anna O'Driscoll – Senior Upper GI Dietitian

**Project Title:** Patient and Public Involvement in Research in the Irish Health Service: Exploring Institutional Barriers and Co-Designing Solutions to Improve PPI within the HSE

**Supervisory Team:** Mr Thomas Murphy, Dr Samantha Cushen, Dr Ashling Kennedy

**Employment Mentor:** Ms Miriam Abbott (Dietetic Manager Mercy University Hospital)

# Employment-based MD Scholarships 2025



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**Awardee:** Dr Pooja Moolchandani (Gastroenterology Registrar – Bon Secours Hospital Cork)

**Project Title:** Characterising the landscape of bile acid dysmetabolism in inflammatory bowel disease

**Supervisory Team:** Dr Aonghus Lavelle, Dr Lucina Jackson, Dr Clodagh Murphy



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**Awardee:** Dr Matthew Blair (Medical Registrar)

**Project Title:** Analysis of MALDI-TOF signatures of biofilm-associated protein expression in prosthetic joint infection

**Supervisory Team:** Prof. Ruth Massey, Dr Oisin O'Connell, Prof. Corinna Sadler, Dr Karen Fitzmaurice, Prof. James Harty, Dr Deirdre O'Brien, Prof. Patrick Stapleton



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