









WELCOME TO THE PPI IGNITE NETWORK@ UCC SEPTEMBER 2024 IMPACT REPORT!

WHAT IS PPI?

Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) can be described as research carried out 'with' or 'by' members of the public rather than 'to', 'about' or 'for' them. PPI is a mechanism for people to actively contribute to the research process.

WHAT IS PPI IGNITE NETWORK@ UCC?

We are a member of the National PPI Ignite Network which was established in 2021 to promote excellence and inspire innovation in PPI. Funded by the Health Research Board (HRB) and Irish Research Council with co-funding from across the four colleges in UCC, our aim is to build capacity for high-quality Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) within UCC and amongst wider society and embed PPI within institutional policies and practices. To do this, we work in partnership with our local partner organisations, individual PPI contributors, our UCC Advisory Committee and PPI champions across the University.

WHY ARE WE PUBLISHING THIS IMPACT REPORT?

We are proud to reflect on a very successful 3 years for PPI Ignite Network@ UCC. Since our establishment in July 2021, we have seen an enormous culture shift across the University where researchers and students are increasingly embracing the idea of involving people with lived experience in making decisions about their research. This impact report highlights some of our key achievements to date.





PROFESSOR PATRICIA KEARNEY, Co-lead. PPI Ignite Network@ UCC.



DR CAROL KELLEHER, Co-lead. PPI Ignite Network@ UCC.

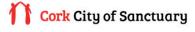


DR EMMY RACINE. Programme Manage PPI Ignite Network@ UCC.

OUR LOCAL PARTNER ORGANISATIONS



















IMPACT AT A GLANCE



INCLUDING:







ACADEMIC

RESEARCHERS

POST AND

UNDERGRADUATE ORGANISATIONS STUDENTS AND INDIVIDUALS

TRAINING AND EDUCATION EVENTS ORGANISED WITH 3579 ATTENDEES

INCLUDING:







SEMINARS/ **WEBINARS ORGANISED WITH** 1102 ATTENDEES

SHARED LEARNING GROUP SESSIONS WITH 426 ATTENDEES

PPI WORKSHOPS WITH 1289 ATTENDEES

HOURS OF ACCREDITED WORKSHOPS/MODULES

DELIVERED TO 304 ATTENDEES

GRANT APPLICATIONS SUPPORTED

DISTRIBUTED IN PPI SEED **FUNDING**

SHARED LEARNING GROUP MEMBERS

PPI IGNITE NETWORK@ UCC MAILING LIST MEMBERS

85

HOURS UNACCREDITED TRAINING DELIVERED TO 133 ATTENDEES

TWITTER FOLLOWERS **RECORDED SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS HAVE BEEN VIEWED**

FUNDED

PPI SUMMER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

PUBLISHED FIRST

ON THE PAYMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT OF PUBLIC AND PATIENT INVOLVEMENT (PPI) **CONTRIBUTORS**

LED THE CO-DEVELOPMENT, **CO-DELIVERY AND**

OF A NATIONAL, 5 ECTS, INTRODUCTION TO PPI **MODULE FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS**

HIGHLIGHTS

FUNDING SUCCESSES

Since the establishment of PPI Ignite Network@ UCC in July 2021, we have provided direct support to 94 funding applications.

WE HAVE PROVIDED PPI ADVICE AND SUPPORT TO APPLICANTS OF LOCAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FUNDING SCHEMES, INCLUDING:

UCC FUNDING SCHEMES

- APC Engaged Research Bursary
- UCC Academic Health Sciences Seed Funding

NATIONAL FUNDING SCHEMES

- HRB Applied Partnership Awards
- HRB Applying Research into Practice and Practice
- HRB/ Department of Health
 - Evidence for Policy Programme
- HRB Definitive Intervention and Feasibility Awards
- HRB Emerging Clinician Scientist Awards
- HRB Emerging Investigator Awards
- HRB/ HRCI Joint Funding Scheme
- HRB Investigator Led Projects
- HEA North-South Research Programme
- IRC Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme
- IRC Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship Programme
- Irish Cancer Society PPI Awards
- Irish Cancer Society- PhD Scholarships
- SFI Discover Funding Programme

EU AND INTERNATIONAL FUNDING SCHEMES

- Horizon Europe
- MCSA COFUND
- MCSA Doctoral Networks
- Wellcome

I have found the PPI Ignite Network to be very approachable and responsive. They gave me very helpful advice for my HRB Fellowship application last year and I have continued to benefit from their expertise since then. My research has a strong focus on knowledge translation, and PPI is essential to ensure that my research findings are relevant to patients, the general public, and to wider health service stakeholders. The PPI Ignite Network in UCC

have helped me to prioritise meaningful PPI throughout my research and I believe this will maximise its potential for societal impact.

Dr Peter Barrett.

Consultant in Public Health Medicine and HRB Clinician Scientist Research Fellow, UCC.

As part of my PhD I applied for a PPI research grant earlier this year. In preparing my

submission I sought advice from the PPI Ignite Network @UCC. From the outset, the guidance provided was invaluable. The team arranged a team's call to discuss my proposal and helped me clarify aspects of the application process. Their expertise in patient and public involvement was evident as they assisted me in refining my approach through reviewing draft documents and providing me with resources on budgeting and PPI planning. The support extended beyond mere advice; the team was approachable, prompt in their responses and always ready to provide practical solutions to any challenges faced. Their encouragement and constructive feedback were instrumental in boosting my confidence and improving the quality of my proposal. Thanks to their help, my research proposal was significantly improved, increasing its chances of success. I highly recommend their services to anyone seeking to develop a strong PPI research proposal.

Theresa O' Donovan.

Lecturer, MSc Radiation Therapy, UCC.

Emmy was such a source of support on my first PPI project as a postdoctoral researcher at UCC. I could always count on Emmy to get back to me straight away and she made the process of recruiting and setting up my first PPI meeting so much easier. I also attended a few PPI Ignite

Network monthly calls in the early days of my project, which were so helpful in providing an overview of the PPI work and answering any questions I had about the process. Would be lost

without them!

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Melissa Kellv.

Postdoctoral Researcher. INFANT Research Centre.

DIGITAL BADGE IN PUBLIC AND PATIENT INVOLVEMENT IN RESEARCH

The UCC Digital Badge in Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) in Research is a free, validated micro-credential awarded to learners in an online format. The course is open to researchers at all career stages from within and outside UCC. Participants can take the course in their own time, at their own pace. It is a flexible resource, completing the full PPI Digital Badge, including the assignments, is optional, ensuring that the Digital Badge can deepen the knowledge of learners already familiar with PPI, as well as serving as an introduction to beginners.

Led by Dr Emmy Racine, the badge highlights the collaborative nature of the PPI Ignite Network as it includes content from powerful PPI contributors and experienced academics from the University of Limerick, the University of Galway, Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin and Dublin City University- all fellow members of the National PPI Ignite Network.

The Digital Badge was launched in 2022 by Professor Helen Whelton, Head of the College of Medicine and Health, UCC at an event attended by over 80 people during the national PPI festival.

Since its launch, the content has been accessed by over 300 individuals and 47 have been awarded an official Digital Badge from the Centre of Digital Education, UCC.

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The PPI Digital Badge has hugely impacted how I approach research and the way I think about "involvement". I have already found myself highlighting the need for PPI in the ideation phase of research projects and working groups. I am very excited to see how PPI can shape our future research projects.

Tamara Vagg, Postdoctoral Researcher, UCC 66

For me, I have found the Digital Badge brilliant, when I encounter people new to PPI in my support clinics, I give them a link to the UCC digital badge and advise them that it is an ideal place to begin their PPI journey.

Edel Murphy,

National Programme Manager, PPI Ignite Network

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Completing the PPI in Research Digital Badge has helped me to understand the importance and benefit that meaningful PPI contributions can have on research and the research process. It has helped me in terms of providing me with practical guidance on how to incorporate PPI into my own research projects in ways to ensure that is not tokenistic and that the PPI contributions will help make my research more relevant to patients and the public.

Digital Badge Recipient, Munster Technological University



TO ENROL IN THE DIGITAL BADGE COURSE



PPI SHARED LEARNING GROUP FOR PHD RESEARCHERS

In recent years, there has been a growing awareness of and appetite for PPI amongst postgraduate scholars and their supervisors. Despite this growing emphasis, there were very few opportunities for PhD researchers to seek PPI support and advice.

In Feb 2021, the PPI Shared Learning Group for PhD Researchers was established and has gone from strength to strength ever since. Now with over 150 mailing list members, the group meets online once per month. The group is open to PhD researchers at all stages of their PhD journey and provides an informal opportunity to keep up to date with the latest PPI research and best-practice approaches. It also provides a forum for members to discuss their own PPI plans and experiences, if they wish to do so.

The Shared Learning Group has planted the seed for so many additional PPI events and activities including an *Ignite Insight: PPI in PhD Research Seminar Series* during the National PPI Festival 2023 and an in-person *Ignite Insight: PPI in PhD Research Symposium* at the National PPI Festival 2024.

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The Shared Learning Group has been such a lifeline during my PhD so far. It is a safe space to go for advice, guidance and general discussion about all things PPI - from the 'how to do good PPI?' to the 'what even is PPI (and what is not PPI)?' to 'where do I start?'. No question or discussion is off limits. It's also wonderful to meet (albeit virtually) like-minded people and hear about their projects and processes. Sometimes the PhD journey can be a lonely one and the Shared Learning Group helps a little bit with making it less lonely. I would definitely recommend attending the group no matter what stage of your PhD or PPI journey you are at.

Shared Learning Group Member

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THESE SESSIONS, SIGN-UP TO THE MAILING LIST







UCC PPI SEED FUNDING SCHEME

In 2024, PPI Ignite Network@ UCC awarded €11,000 to fund six early-stage PPI initiatives. This funding has given researchers an opportunity to significantly enhance PPI activities conducted across the University and amongst wider society. The wide variety of projects funded all address foundation work in PPI and focus on establishing and developing PPI relationships with different communities, including people living with Intellectual Disability, Dementia, Aphasia and Cystic Fibrosis.

The funding represents an important opportunity for researchers to build connections and relationships with individuals with lived

a Co-design World Café Event

experience of the topics they research. It can be difficult to gain funding for these early-stage PPI activities from traditional research funding schemes.

Speaking about the scheme, successful applicant Dr Anne-Marie Martin said-

Medicine and Health.

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It is so important that the voices of people with severe/profound intellectual disability and those who communicate in alternative ways are heard in research. This will really support making this happen.

Dr Anne-Marie Martin, successful applicant

SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES AND LEAD APPLICANTS ARE AS FOLLOWING:

PPI POWER (Planning Our Work with Equity and Respect) Identifying and documenting the positive and challenging Dr Anne- Marie Martin, School of Nursing and Midwifery. issues of PPI with people with intellectual disabilities while working together to prepare a HRB grant application. Establishing a PPI panel to embed PPI in the learning, teaching and research agenda of the School of Clinical John Hastings, School of Clinical Therapies. Therapies (SCT). Video Initiative for Supporting Informed Outreach and Networking- Dementia Engagement and Advocacy in Dr Ann Doherty, Department of General Practice Research (VISION-DEAR) The Development of Accessible Medication Information for Dr Helen Kelly, School of Clinical Therapies People with Aphasia Let's Talk CF: Establishing a Public Patient Involvement Panel Dr Tamara Vagg. Cork Centre for Cystic Fibrosis (3CF) within the Cork Centre for Cystic Fibrosis. Mary Cronin, Inclusion Health Research Group, College of Establishment of an Inclusion Health Network in Cork through



SUMMER STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

PPI Ignite Network@ UCC has funded a total of seven undergraduate summer student scholarships so far. These scholarships have provided an important opportunity for students to complete a paid, six-week research project on a topic relating to PPI. The aim of the studentships is to cultivate an interest in PPI and become familiar with PPI research approaches. Many of the funded projects have been carried out in partnership with some of our local partner organisations including the All-Island Institute for Hospice and Palliative Care, Family Carers Ireland and Cork Healthy Cities.



The scholarship was a great networking opportunity. Through the planning of the PPI Event in October, I had the opportunity to meet with some other speech and language therapists and researchers. It was great to work with AllHPC and I feel as though my own interests were really embraced. PPI Ignite Network @ UCC were very forthcoming in terms of additional opportunities for my career progression and supported me to submit an abstract for the College of Medicine and Health Futures Research conference in September 2023 which was accepted and displayed as a poster at the conference.

Aisling O Neill,

2023 PPI Ignite Network @ UCC Summer Student 4th Year, BSc Speech and Language Therapy.



The scholarship has provided me with invaluable experience both in terms of my personal and career development. I worked closely with experienced researchers on a project to assess Understanding and Experience of PPI at University College Cork. A major advantage of this internship has been connecting with academics and researchers from all over Ireland. Given that it is a national network, I had the privilege of joining meetings with PPI experts from major universities in Ireland and to learn about the exciting PPI work that is ongoing across the country.

Ben Kavanagh,

2023 PPI Ignite Network @ UCC Summer Student 3rd Year, BA Applied Psychology



The scholarship has been an incredible experience of both personal and professional growth. I have now developed a much better appreciation for the power of PPI and how it can not only improve research practice but also us as researchers, forcing us to step outside of our experiences and return to the main reason why we study, the patient. It reminds me of why I set out on a career in medicine and very much affirmed my reasons and ideals which I hope to bring to patients as I progress through my training.

Padraig Cronin,

2024 PPI Ignite Network@ UCC Summer Student 3rd Year, Medicine (Graduate Entry)



One of the highlights of my studentship was experiencing the collaborative effort of PPI. I witnessed directly how important a range of viewpoints in the research and planning process between researchers, patients, and public representatives is. In addition to improving the quality and relevance of the research, this cooperative approach gives all participants a sense of involvement and inclusiveness. I have gained priceless experience that has helped me advance both personally and professionally.

Annie Morris.

2024 PPI Ignite Network@ UCC Summer Student 4th Year, BSc Medical Health Sciences

PG7400- A NEW 5 ECTS INTRODUCTION TO PPI MODULE FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

Although, it is widely accepted that training and education is essential for postgraduate students to enhance both their understanding of and skills to conduct meaningful PPI, incorporation of PPI training as a formal component of postgraduate education is still in its relative infancy.

In 2022, PPI Ignite Network@ UCC led the codevelopment, co-delivery and co-evaluation of a new 5 ECTs Introduction to PPI module for postgraduate students. As part of this work, four subgroups were established with 42 research and teaching staff, representatives from charity, voluntary and local organizations, individual PPI contributors and postgraduate students across the PPI Ignite Network.

The module was piloted with 28 postgraduate students in University College Cork (UCC) and Royal College of Surgeons Ireland (RCSI) in April 2023. Workshops were delivered in-person and online by facilitators with expertise in PPI and experience of workshop facilitation. Guest presentations were delivered by six individual PPI contributors and two charity organization representatives. Results from the pilot evaluation showed that the co-delivery model adopted for the pilot was hugely successful.

The module will be delivered in UCC in Semester 2 in 2024-2025. For more information, please contact module coordinator Emmy Racine (emmy.racine@ucc.ie).







HIGHLIGHTS

SNAPSHOT OF SOME OF OUR EVENTS







The co-construction of a reading assessment measure with adults

with Down syndrome: reflecting on our experiences together
Pauline Frizelle, Ross O'Neill, Michelle Whelehan, Nicola Hart

PPINETWORK



National Suicide
Research Foundation

Save the date

MAY 20TH, 2024

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER:

PUBLIC AND PATIENT INVOLVEMENT (PPI) IN MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH



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29th November, 2023





































PPI Ignite Network@ UCC would like to invite you to the following Webinar

Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) in Dementia Research: A European and Irish Perspective.

Speakers include

- Dianne Gove, Director for Projects, Alzheimer Europe
- -Ana Diaz, Project Officer, Alzheimer Europe. -Ciara O'Reilly, Research Project Officer, Alzheimer Society of
- Kevin Quaid, Person living with dementia and PPI contributor in dementia research.

① 1:00-2:00pm



Register here: https://bit.ly/3TX65MN











Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) in HRB Funding Applications

Delivered by Dr Anne Cody, Health Research Board

Time: 1:00- 2:30pm Location: Room 4.05, Western Gateway Building, UCC.

Register here

The seminar will be followed by an official launch of the Digital Badge in PPI

by Professor Helen Whelton, Head of College of Medicine and Health, University College Cork.



Anne (2007 yrriu, inscisor a macrostration and the Health Research Board (HRB). She has novorking with the HRB in avariety of roles for 20 years. Anne has been driver behind the HRB's approach to Public, Patient and Carer olwement (PPI) and remains committed to this agenda. She has been the committed to the state of the state of











Official Launch: National PPI Festival 2024

Looking back, moving forwards- A future vision for the National PPI Ignite Network Professor Sean Dinneen, Lead, National PPI Ignite Network

10:15 Celebrating PPI progress in University College Cork
Professor Helen Whelton, Head of College of Medicine and Health and Chief
Academic Officer to the HSE South South-West Hospital Group

10:25 Panel Discussion: Connect. Collaborate. Celebrate. Exploring the Key ingredients of Successful PPI Partnerships
Speakers include:

- Bec kinaley, Indepedent PPI Consultant and Facilitator, Charities
Research Involvement Group (IVI)

- Maria Quinlan, General Manager, Research and Development, Health
Service Executive (ISE)

- Paldraig Carroli, Phi Oraduset and Programme Manager, PPI Ignite
Network@TCU

- Marian Or Mahony, PPI Contributor, Voices4Care PPI Group, All Island
Institute for Hospice and Pallative Care (AllHPC)

11:00 Launch of the National PPI Ignite Network-5 ECTS Introduction to PPI Module for Postgraduate Students

11:05 Spotlight on Festival Events

11:25 Closing Remarks
Dr Emmy Racine, Programme Manager, PPI Ignite Network@ UCC

11.30 Tea/Coffee and Festival Cake (and photoshoot!)







in Diabetes and Head & Neck Cancer FREE Public Event



60% people over 50 in Ireland suffer chronic ill health 190, 000 people in Ireland live with diabetes

Would you like to hear from people with lived experience of these conditions and help researchers prevent these conditions?

If you answered yes, come along to this FREE event.

Click <u>here</u> to register or call/ text Emmy (086) 0623851

Date/Time: Saturday 22nd October 11am- 1pm. Lunch will be provided

Western Gateway Building, Western Road, University College Cork. T12 XF62. Location:

ALL WELCOME











UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION:



www.ucc.ie/en/ppi-ignite

X @PPI Ignite UCC

SIGN-UP TO OUR **MAILING LIST**





1ST OCTOBER - Official Launch of National PPI Festival 2024

1ST OCTOBER - Ignite Insight: PPI in PhD Research Symposium

2ND OCTOBER- School of Pharmacy **PPI Event**

8TH OCTOBER - APC Event-Expecting the **Unexpected with PPI-Lessons Learned**

17TH OCTOBER - PPI Coffee Morning for **Undergraduate Students**

23RD OCTOBER - Introduction to PPI Workshop for UCC Researchers

25TH OCTOBER - Ignite Insight: Communicating your PhD Effectively- Developing a Lay Abstract

> **5TH NOVEMBER - PPI Support Clinics** (online)

22ND NOVEMBER - PPI Shared Learning Group for PhD Researchers

29TH NOVEMBER - PPI Workshop for SPHeRE PhD Scholars- Part 1

3RD DECEMBER - PPI Support Clinics (in-person)

6TH DECEMBER- PPI Workshop for SPHeRE PhD Scholars- Part 2

13TH DECEMBER - Introduction to PPI in **HRB Funding Applications Workshop**