

# **Health Research Symposium 2017**

## ***"Building Partnerships to Advance Healthcare Research and Practice"***

**Clinical, Education and Research Centre (CERC),  
University Hospital Limerick**

**Friday 17th November 2017**

On behalf of the Organising Committee, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the ***2017 Health Research Symposium at University Hospital Limerick.***

The event will take place at our new Clinical, Education and Research Centre (CERC) located on the hospital campus on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

A primary focus for this year's symposium is on ***"Building Partnerships to Advance Healthcare Research and Practice"*** and we plan to showcase the breadth and depth of cutting-edge medical research that continues across the clinical and academic landscape at UL hospitals, the University of Limerick and their associated partners. The programme will demonstrate the remarkable growth in research capability and scientific outputs.

The Scientific Committee has taken great care this year in preparing a high-quality and diverse programme that will feature innovations in health science and translational health research. We have had a wonderful enthusiastic response from the research community with over 170 scientific abstracts including 18 oral presentations. Awards for the overall best oral and poster presentations have maintained the competitive edge to this year's symposium.

We are delighted to host an exciting line up of distinguished national and international speakers - ***Professor Richard McManus, (Oxford, UK); Dr Leonard O' Sullivan (UL, IRE); Professor Harry Hemingway (London, UK) and Professor Martin O' Donnell (NUIG, IRE)*** - along with a welcoming address from ***Professor Colette Cowan, CEO UL Hospitals Group and Professor Des Leddin, Head of Graduate Medical School, University of Limerick.***

We are very grateful to our very generous sponsors whose continued support has made this meeting possible. We hope that you enjoy the occasion and look forward to meeting you on the day!



**Professor Austin Stack,  
Chair Organising Committee**

## **Prof Harry Hemmingway**

NIHR Senior Investigator, Professor of Clinical Epidemiology, Director of The Farr Institute, London, Director of the UCL Institute of Health Informatics, Director, Healthcare Informatics, Genomics/omics, Data Science (HiGODS, Cross-cutting Theme), NIHR Biomedical Research Centre, University College London Hospital



Harry is a clinical academic having trained in medicine and public health in Cambridge and London. He is Director of the Farr Institute of Health Informatics Research in London, part of a

wider national Research Institute innovating improvements in health and healthcare using rapidly emerging data opportunities from electronic health records, imaging, omics and wearables. He is principal investigator of the CALIBER programme which is exploiting linked rich, lifelong patient records in primary care and hospital care to better understand health and disease from cradle to grave. Harry leads the UK Biobank Cardiac Outcomes working group and was a Member of the NICE Guidelines committee on chest pain whose recommendations transformed the investigation of suspected stable angina. He has contributed to the governance and sharing of national registries for research which has directly informed clinical policy.

## **Dr Leonard O’Sullivan,**

Senior Lecturer in Human Factors in Design, School of Design & Health Research Institute, University of Limerick



Dr Leonard O’Sullivan is a senior lecturer in design and human factors in the School of Design at the University of Limerick and design innovation lead in the Health Research Institute. He obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Limerick on work-related upper limb musculoskeletal disorders. He is Fellow and past chairman of the Irish Ergonomics Society and Chartered Ergonomist with the Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (UK).

In the University he leads the Design Factors Research group and lectures Product Design on design methodologies. His research interests are user-centred design and participatory design innovation methodologies for health. At the University, he currently directs two EU research projects, one on exoskeleton design for older adults to aid with mobility, and another to develop a soft robotics lower limb exoskeleton for post stroke and incomplete spinal cord injury patients. He is the Irish expert representative on an ISO committee on wearable robotics. His nationally funded research projects specifically target development of novel medical devices, which have high clinical impact and rapid commercialisation potential. He has applied this formula to several clinical specialisms to date including urology, gastroenterology, respiratory medicine, nephrology, occupational and physio-therapy and palliative care.

## **Prof Richard McManus**

Professor of Primary Care Research, Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Services, University of Oxford



Richard McManus is Professor of Primary Care Research at the University of Oxford and a part time GP in Oxford. His research interests lie mainly in the prevention of cardiovascular disease with particular emphasis on blood pressure measurement and the management of hypertension in primary care where his work has influenced National and International Clinical

Guidelines. He holds an NIHR Professorship and is Chief Investigator on NIHR Programme Grants around Self-Monitoring in Hypertension and Pregnancy as well as leading the Self-Management theme of the Oxford NIHR Collaboration for Leadership in Applied Health Research and Care. He supervises PhD students undertaking projects around self-monitoring in hypertension and pregnancy and teaches clinical students at Green Templeton College where he is a Fellow. He chairs the Blood Pressure Monitoring Working Party of the British Hypertension Society and is a Chair of the NIHR Doctoral Fellowship Panel. He is Guardian of the RCGP Cardiovascular Curriculum and provides expert advice to NICE (member of 2011 & 2019 Hypertension Guideline Development Groups), and the European Society of Cardiology/European Society of Hypertension (member of 2018 Guideline Development Group)

## **Prof Martin O'Donnell**

Professor of Translational Medicine at NUI Galway and Associate Director of the HRB Clinical Research Facility Galway



Prof O'Donnell is Professor of Translational Medicine at NUI Galway and Associate Director of the HRB Clinical Research Facility Galway. After graduating from University College Cork, he trained in Geriatric and Stroke medicine in Ireland, McMaster University (Canada) and Stanford University (US). He holds a PhD from the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and

Biostatistics, McMaster University. He is Director of an MSc in Clinical Research at NUIG, being run in collaboration with McMaster University. Prof. O'Donnell's research focus includes epidemiology of stroke, clinical trials in vascular medicine, composite outcomes and clinical prediction rules. He is a Principal Investigator on a number of large research grants, including the INTERSTROKE study which is a large international case-control study of risk factors for stroke, conducted in 32 countries. He has published over 100 peer-review papers, including clinical studies, in high-impact journals, including NEJM, JAMA and Lancet. Prof. O'Donnell also has experience in leading multi-centred international research studies – the INTERSTROKE recruited over 26,000 participants from 32 countries in Asia, Europe, North America, Africa and South America.

## Friday, 17th November 2017

- 08:00 - 08:45      **Registration, Poster & Stand Set-up, Tea/ Coffee**  
Venue CERC Foyer
- 08:45 - 08:50      **Opening Address - Prof Austin Stack, GEMS UL and UHL**  
Venue CERC Auditorium
- 08:50 - 09:00      **Welcome Address - Prof Colette Cowan, CEO ULHG and Prof Des Leddin, Head of School, GEMS, UL**  
Venue CERC Auditorium  
Chair: Professor Austin Stack
- 09:00 - 09:45      **Keynote: "Emerging research opportunities in large scale electronic health records"**  
**Prof Harry Hemmingway FFPH, FRCP**, NIHR Senior Investigator, Professor of Clinical Epidemiology, Director of The Farr Institute, London  
Venue CERC Auditorium
- 09:50 - 10:50      **Session 1 Health Services & Population Health Research**  
Chairs: Dr Rose Galvin and Dr Damien Ryan  
Venue CERC Auditorium
1. **Assessing the facilitators and barriers of interdisciplinary team working in primary care using normalisation process theory: An integrative review**  
*Pauline O'Reilly*
  2. **Association of Serum uric acid with Death in the Irish Health System**  
*Leonard Browne*
  3. **Communication between Primary and Secondary Care Physicians: An Evaluation of Referral and Discharge Letters**  
*Elsa Dinsdale*
  4. **Groundwater as a source and pathway for antibiotic-resistant infection in the Republic of Ireland**  
*Jean O'Dwyer*
  5. **Maternal antenatal body mass index BMI and degree of glucose intolerance in pregnancies affected by gestational diabetes mellitus**  
*Alexandra Cremona*
  6. **Sleep and Physical Activity: A Nationwide Survey among people with Inflammatory Arthritis**  
*Sean McKenna*
- 10:50 - 11:10      **COFFEE BREAK** Venue CERC FOYER  
Chair: Mr Brian Lenehan
- 11:10 - 11:55      **Keynote: "Participatory design of novel medical devices addressing high clinical impact opportunities"**  
**Dr Leonard O'Sullivan Ph.D., M.Tech, B.Tech**, Senior Lecturer in Human Factors in Design, School of Design & Health Research Institute, University of Limerick  
Venue CERC Auditorium
- 12:00 - 13:00      **NETWORKING LUNCH & POSTER VIEWING**  
Venue CERC FOYER

## **Session 2 Lifestyle, Technology and Health**

13:00 - 14:00 Chairs: Dr John-Paul Doran and Prof Fiona Murphy  
Venue CERC Auditorium

1. **A pre-trial call for a clinical research partnership to advance the treatment of newly diagnosed women with osteopenia**  
*Phil Jakeman*
2. **Pain and Injury in Elite Adolescent Irish Dancers: A Cross-Sectional Study**  
*Roisin Cahalan*
3. **Activity Matters: A Web-based resource to enable people with Multiple Sclerosis to become more active**  
*Blathin Casey*
4. **A comparison follow-up study on the geometric, hemodynamic and biomechanical changes in a patient-specific arteriovenous fistula**  
*Nicolas Aristokleous*
5. **Dependency of meniscus mechanical properties on glycosaminoglycan content and its regional variation**  
*Caroline Murphy*
6. **The Effect of a Mediterranean and Low Fat Diet on Intrahepatic Lipids, Liver Stiffness Measure and Insulin Resistance in Non Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease**  
*Audrey Tierney*

Chair: Dr Damien Ryan

### **Keynote "Patient self-monitoring and patient self-management in hypertension"**

14:05 - 14:55 **Prof Richard McManus**, Prof of Primary Care Research, Nuffield Dept of Primary Care Health Services, University of Oxford  
Venue CERC Auditorium

14:55 - 15:10 **COFFEE BREAK** Venue CERC FOYER

## **Session 3 Clinical Research**

15:10 - 16:10 Chairs: Dr Denis O'Keeffe and Prof Liam Glynn  
Venue CERC Auditorium

1. **Platelet VWF provides novel insights into the biology underlying quantitative Von Willebrand Disease**  
*Niall Dalton*
2. **The effectiveness and safety of platelet rich plasma intra-articular injections in the treatment of knee osteoarthritis: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials**  
*Alaa Mustafa*
3. **The findings of transoesophageal echocardiogram before scheduled cardioversion in properly anticoagulated patients with persistent non-valvular atrial fibrillation**  
*Aiste Zebrauskaite*
4. **Prevalence and correlates of vascular access use among haemodialysis patients in the Irish health system**  
*Gasim Ahmed*
5. **Dancing for Parkinson's: a randomized trial of Irish set dancing compared to usual care**  
*Joanne Shanahan*
6. **Identifying a Gene Classifier between normal and Breast Cancer from information available within Publically Available Gene Expression repositories**  
*Mary McCumiskey*

Chair: Dr Wael Hussein

### **Keynote: "The Evolving Landscape of Clinical Research in Ireland"**

16:15 - 17:00 **Prof Martin O'Donnell**, Prof of Translational Medicine and Associate Director NUI Galway and HRB Clinical Research Facility, Galway  
Venue CERC Auditorium

17:00 - 17:30 **Prize Presentations** Venue CERC Auditorium



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