

**Executive Director of Nursing,  
Midwifery and AHPs**

**Inspiring Excellence**

*Research & Development Conference*

*Overview of Presentations*



**Linda Kelly:** *Inspiring Excellence Through the Nursing, Midwifery and AHP Workforce*

On behalf of the Nursing, Midwifery and AHP Directorate, the Deputy CNO will offer thanks to all our workforce for their dedication and professionalism during this extremely challenging pandemic and acknowledge the important role nurses, midwives and AHPs play in leading innovation and improvement through activities of research and development

**Professor Hugh McKenna:** *The Pursuit of Excellence in Research Within Nursing: Challenges and Opportunities in the Next Decade*

This presentation focuses upon the current status and future challenges for nursing research. It will show what nursing must do to meet its social responsibility of enhancing nursing's evidence base and skilful practice through the discovery, application and evaluation of knowledge. However, to achieve this nursing research faces considerable challenges

**Dr Jenny Preston:** *The Pursuit of Excellence in Research Within Nursing: Challenges and Opportunities in the Next Decade*

This presentation will explore the responsibilities of clinicians, managers, academics and commissioners and challenge their individual roles in creating the ideal conditions to allow research and development to flourish. This will be considered within a framework examining aspects of: culture, capacity, collaboration, commissioning, circulation and consequences.

**Dr Sharon McCloskey:** *'Dying differently' learning from bereaved relatives during Covid-19*

This talk presents key findings from a retrospective record review of discussions with bereaved people whose loved one died in hospital during the pandemic, the learning to inform our practice and the implications for us, as humans, who may be grieving or supporting others who are bereaved.

**Gillen Morrow:** *Continuity of Midwifery Carer (CoMC) – Transformation of Maternity Services*

Presentation of the evidence, strategic context and local drivers for implementation of a Continuity of Midwifery Carer (CoMC) model and transformation of Maternity Services in Northern Ireland. Summary of midwifery continuity past, present and future including an overview of the regional CoMC project plan and phased outcomes based accountability approach.

**Daniel Harte:** *Snowball Effect: The Virtuous Circle of Research*

I was never an outstanding student but early in my career I was actively encouraged to undertake a Masters in Clinical Research. This has had a profound impact on my thinking, how I approach my work and it directly impacts on patient care for the better. This cycle continues. Every day I continue to learn.

**Claire Hannity; Linda Mulgrew; Christine Oliver; Melanie Sheenan; Dawn Ferguson, Carmel Harney:** *Reflections on Nightingale Challenge Global Leadership and Emerging Leadership Programmes*

This session provides an opportunity for you to hear from Nurses and AHPs who have taken part in the Global Leadership/ Emerging Leadership Programmes. You will learn about their opportunities and challenges including what they have learned from their experience- both personally and professionally.

**Paula Murray; Emma Fraser:** *The Planned Home Birth Experience*

The story of a planned home birth and services available from a midwife's perspective. Women's experiences of planning homebirth in NI a presentation of responses to the following questions:

- What positive support did they have when planning for homebirth?
- What challenges did they face?
- What was the most memorable thing said to you by a midwife or doctor?
- What was it like 'on the day'?

**Dr Peter Sharpe:** *Overview of Research in the Southern HSC Trust*

Dr Sharpe will present details of the priority accorded to supporting Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professional research since the establishment of Research & Development in the Trust; specific achievements; the input of staff to ten Priority COVID-19 Studies; and the key priorities for the year ahead.

**Dr Julie McCarroll:** *Research Funding Opportunities in Northern Ireland*

This presentation will describe how the health and social care R&D budget is distributed. It will provide examples of funding opportunities, describe the support provided for researchers applying for funding, and provide examples of where NI researchers have been involved in and led teams in successful funding applications.

**Denise Cosgrove, Denise McFarland, Fiona Thompson:** *Covid-19 Clinical Trials in the Southern HSC Trust*

Over 1400 participants have been enrolled in COVID clinical trials in the SHSCT since the start of the pandemic. This presentation will cover four of these trials (SIRENS, GenOMICCs, RECOVERY and HEAL-COVID) and the findings which have influenced public health guidance and clinical practice.

**Louise Campbell:** *Drinking & Swallowing Assessment (Tele-EDS) SHSCTTele-Eating*

Tele-EDS represents a new model of service delivery developed in partnership with SHSCT clinicians, nursing home staff and clients with swallowing difficulties, allowing clinical consultation from a distance; improved access to specialist SLT assessment; increased productivity for clinicians; reduced travel time; increased cost efficiencies and professional support for staff managing people with swallowing difficulties. The Tele-EDS Pilot is truly transformational and has the potential to revolutionise the way swallowing assessment is carried out in Northern Ireland.

**Diane McMahon:** *Research in Practice - Patient experience of a joint physiotherapy – podiatry biomechanical assessment for plantar fasciitis.*

Research in Practice; this presentation will cover the aims of the project, the methods employed to answer the research question and the study results including their impact on patient care. The presentation will also address key challenges faced during the process and a reflection on the learning achieved.

**Nina Foster:** *Development of Courtyard Project*

My presentation will deliver a brief overview of the patient journey through addictions services and how the courtyard project has been developed to provide an extension of the therapeutic treatment able to be offered to our service users.

**Dermot Gavan:** *Development of virtual group program in Addictions in light of challenges from COVID*

This presentation focuses on the development within community addictions team of a virtual group programme during the COVID period and the challenges faced in setting this up and experience of this platform as a therapeutic tool. The presentation will focus on the fundamentality of group treatments in addictions and also give an overview of the group topics and the feedback received from service users to date.

**Andrea Judge:** *Opiate Substitution Service– Delivery of service during COVID-19  
Pandemic*

Covid-19 has had a massive impact on all of us since early 2020. Many of us and our service users have had to isolate to protect ourselves, our families and our NHS. As the opiate substitution team is an essential service, we developed a plan to ensure the safe and effective delivery of care. From daily multidisciplinary meetings to implementing telephone reviews, every effort was made to maintain continuity and provide high quality and individualised care.

**Colm Darby:** *Vaccine Hesitancy- Promoting Conversations about Vaccine Safety*

Vaccine hesitancy has been rated as one the top ten threats to global health. A group of healthcare champions amongst the paediatric team in Craigavon Area Hospital came together to discover the prevalence, reduce hesitancy and improve healthcare professional's confidence in having conversations about vaccines with hesitant parents.

**Dr Patricia Gillen:** *HSC Staff Wellbeing & Coping during COVID-19*

This presentation will share the findings from a study which explored the impact of working in health and social care during COVID-19 on the psychological health and wellbeing of nurses, midwives, AHPs, Social Care Workers and Social workers. In particular, mental wellbeing, the levels of burnout, quality of professional and working life will be addressed.

**Jacqueline Morton:** *Quality Improvement: Making It Real!*

This session will focus on

- The barriers to Quality Improvement and how these may be overcome.
- It will provide an introduction to Human Factors in Healthcare with attendees exploring the twelve contributing factors that can set you up to make an error no matter what your occupation.

**Hannah Shields:** *Limits Exist only in Our Minds*

I will be talking about the many challenges that I have had to overcome to live my life. Some have had successful outcomes and some, like the present time, have tested my patience and resilience.

I have worked to stay in a positive mind-set to deal with all these challenges and have learnt that I have had to put as much time and effort into looking after my mental health as well as my physical health.

