



**INSTITUTE OF
OBSTETRICIANS &
GYNAECOLOGISTS**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

January 2022 -December 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

The Institute of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists was established in 1968, and in 1976 became an integral part of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. It draws its membership, at present numbering 243 from the whole of Ireland. Many of these are in current practice as consultants in the public sector in the Republic of Ireland. There are four categories of full membership: Honorary, ad Eundem, by election and by examination. Practitioners who have passed the RCPI examination in Obstetrics and Gynaecology or an equivalent and who are on the Institute Higher Specialist Training programme can apply for Associate Membership.

The objectives of the Institute are to represent Obstetrical and Gynaecological opinion in Ireland in a professional, advisory and administrative capacity. It aims to act as the advisory body in Ireland in matters relating to education, training, research and administration in the specialty of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, as well as to Governmental and statutory bodies in all matters pertaining to Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Training and Education is a vital part of the Institute's role. It takes responsibility for setting and maintaining examination standards related to Obstetrics and Gynaecology. It assists in the maintenance of professional standards for doctors with regard to Professional Competence in the specialty of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, including the delivery of vibrant educational events.

The Institute is a dynamic and fast paced organisation. Our members are actively involved not just in the running of the Institute, but also many of its members have extensive experience in planning and organising international scientific and corporate events. Over the years the Institute has formed many constructive links as well as having an active involvement with other Medical Societies and Colleges, nationally and internationally.

Mission:

Our mission is to promote excellence in the areas of patient care, professional standards, education and research in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

KEY PERSONNEL

Key administrators in RCPI who conduct work on behalf of the Institute include:

Institute Coordinator	Darragh Whelan	01 4853461 iog@rcpi.ie
Basic & Higher Specialist Training	Rhona Fitzpatrick	01 8639 761 rhonafitzpatrick@rcpi.ie
Training Manager	Maria Golden	01 8639 711 mariagolden@rcpi.ie
Examinations	Virginia Cid Fuentes	01 8639 707 examinations@rcpi.ie
Professional Competence Scheme (PCS)	Deirdre Donegan	01 8639 703 professionalcompetence@rcpi.ie
Applications to the Specialist Division of the Register	Siobhan Kearns	01 8639 720 siobhankearns@rcpi.ie
Training Site Accreditation and Trainer applications	Hollie Forde	01 4853460 hollieforde@RCPI.IE

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Prof Sam Coulter-Smith, Chair of the Institute

It has been an honour and a privilege to take up the role of Chair of the Institute at our AGM in March 2022. I am thankful to the Immediate Past Chair Dr Cliona Murphy for her tenure as Chair and support since I took on the role.

The Institute completed a governance review in the past year, led by a subcommittee of the Institute Board chaired by Prof Sharon Sheehan. The newly adopted structure will continue to support excellent specialist training, as well as providing a focus for professional affairs. This is a substantial piece of work, which dovetails with RCPI's award winning governance review, will serve current and future Members of the Institute and I thank Prof Sheehan and the Working Group for their efforts as well as our Institute Members for your support throughout the process.

It is an exciting time to take on the role of Chair of the Institute, and I am honoured to have the opportunity to build on the achievements of the outgoing Chair, and her predecessors. The Institute has a team of dedicated Members on the Board, many subcommittees, and who work with the RCPI team to deliver excellent training, on-going education, as well as leadership and advocacy. It is a privilege to work with you, and all Members of the Institute, as we move forward to the post-pandemic era in the near future.

Educational Meetings:

Spring Conference, 04 March 2022:

The Institute Spring Conference took place on Friday 04 March 2022. At the Conference, Dr Jeanne Conry, President of the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) became an Honorary Fellow of the Institute. Dr Conry also presented during the Spring Conference as a guest speaker. Other guest speakers included: Prof Sally Collins, Oxford speaking on "Diagnosis of Placenta Accreta Spectrum", Prof John Moriarty, Mater Dublin speaking on "The role of vascular interventional radiology in O&G", Prof Joan Lalor speaking on "Patients' experience of placenta accreta in Ireland" and Dr Peter McKenna speaking on "Rapid review process".

The Institute AGM took place on the same day, Prof Keelin O'Donoghue presented on Education and Training, Dr Richard Steeven's fellowships and Aspire fellowships. Prof O'Donoghue highlighted that the CSCST headcount had increased due to expansion in HST over the last number of years. An exams update was provided by Prof Mary Higgins, Chair of O&G Exams Board confirming that 210 have passed the SBA and now awaiting progression to next part. 140 of these were based in Dublin & Dubai with 70 from Abu Dhabi.

The immediate past Chair, Dr Cliona Murphy presented the Institute Governance review. Under any other business it was proposed and agreed by all to donate 10% of IOG reserve to the relief efforts in Ukraine, the college subsequently made a significant donation on behalf of the Institute to relief efforts.

At the end of the AGM the Institute Chain of Office was passed from Dr Murphy to myself.

The Institute annual ceremony took place the evening of Friday 04 March. At the ceremony, Dr Anca Trulea and Dr James Beirne became Members of the Institute and Dr Ciara Nolan became an Associate Member. The Rory O'Connor medal was presented to both Dr Maeve White and Dr Doireann Roche for their exam performances. CSCST certificates were also presented to 10 recipients. The event concluded with a gala dinner. We are thankful to all who attended and contributed the Spring Conference this past year.

Partnership with East Central and Southern Africa College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology:

A hybrid meeting was held between the IOG and East Central and Southern Africa College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology on 10 March 2022 regarding a potential partnership between our organisations. We are delighted that a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the two organisations in November 2022. I would like to thank Dr Méabh Ní Bhuinneáin for her efforts with this partnership and for travelling with her team to Kenya/Zimbabwe to meet with ECSACOG and sign the MoU at their AGM.

International Women's Day Masterclass 08 March:

A hybrid Masterclass took place on Friday 08 March 2022 to mark International Women's Day. The masterclass was co-chaired by Prof Mary Higgins, RCPI Vice President, and Dr Sinéad Murphy, Chair of the Academic Board and Director of Education and Academic Programmes, RCPI.

Clinical guidance

The National Clinical Practice Guidelines have been updated throughout 2022 and were published at the time of drafting this report. These guidelines offer up-to-date, evidence-based, clinical recommendations for care of women in maternity and gynaecology services and promote a standardised approach to care across the country. Each new Guideline is accompanied by a Summary Document to support healthcare professionals with an easy reference guide, and a Plain Language Summary. The Institute would like to thank Prof Keelin O'Donoghue and all involved for their efforts with the guidelines this past year.

Included in the Guidelines recently published are:

- Assessment and Management of Postmenopausal Bleeding
- Assessment and Management of Stress Urinary Incontinence in Women
- Diagnosis and Management of Placenta Accreta Spectrum
- Diagnosis and Management of Mesh Complications
- Recurrent Miscarriage

Review of Finances:

A MoU between the Faculties and Institutes of RCPI has been signed with the College. Each party will commit to achieving a balanced budget moving forward. The expectation would be that all parties would achieve this by the end of June 2024 (Financial Year 2023/2024). A monthly report will be produced showing the income and expenditure across the College, Faculties and Institutes. One Balance Sheet will be produced for the College, Faculties and Institutes. We will provide our Members with an update on this at our Institute AGM.

Genuine Urinary Incontinence Surgery:

The Institute is working with NWIHP and linking with RCSI to move forward address unmet need in relation to Genuine Urinary Incontinence Surgery. We will provide information to our Members as updates are received.

GOVERNANCE

The Institute is governed by a Board, previously named Executive Council. The Board, alongside its sub-committees and joint committees of the Institute, acts as a vital source of information for those interested in obstetric & gynaecological issues in Ireland.

There were four meetings of the Board held between January 2022-December 2023. The dates were: 14th January 2022, 4th March 2022, 27th May 2022, 23rd September 2022, 2nd December 2022.

Executive Council January 2022-December 2022:

OFFICERS	
Chair of the Institute. Institute Representative on the Forum of PGME Training Bodies, RCPI Executive Board, RCPI Advisory Committee.	Prof Sam Coulter-Smith
Immediate Past Chair of the Institute. Institute Representative on the Forum of PGME Training Bodies, RCPI Advisory Committee, RCPI Fellowship Governance Working Group, RCPI CPD Focus Group, RCPI Recruitment & Retention Working Group, and interval cancer audit steering group	Dr Clíona Murphy
Director of Training	Dr Suzanne O'Sullivan
Honorary Treasurer; Institute Representative on NPEC Governance Committee; also sits on the Institute	Dr Sharon Cooley
Dublin Maternity Hospitals	
Rotunda Hospital rep	Prof Fergal Malone
Institute rep on RCPI Annual Verification Process Subcommittee; Institute Adverse Incidents Panel; Medical Council's TOP Ethics Group; Prof Daly is also a Co-NSD (HST) & co-Chair of the STC	Prof Sean Daly
Chair of Institute Governance Working Group	Dr Sharon Sheehan
NMH rep; and sits on Institute Governance Working Group	Dr Declan Keane
Regional Hospital Groups	
Hospital Rep for Drogheda / Cavan	Dr Etop Akpan
Hospital Rep for Mullingar/ Portlaoise	Prof Michael Gannon
Hospital Rep for Kilkenny/Wexford / Waterford	Dr John Stratton
Hospital Rep for CUMH / Kerry / South Tipp; Institute Rep on NPEC Perinatal Mortality Group	Prof Keelin O'Donoghue
Hospital Rep for CUMH / Kerry / South Tipp, Consultants Appointment Committee	Dr Nóirín Russell
Hospital Rep for UCHG / Portlincula / Mayo	Dr Nikhil Purandare
Hospital Rep for Sligo / Letterkenny	Dr Vimla Sharma
Northern Ireland Rep	Dr Richard De Courcay-Wheeler
Private Hospitals Rep	Dr Mona Joyce
Associate Members Rep; IOG Rep on RCPI Traffic Medicine Working Group	Dr Brendan McDonnell

International Fellowships	Prof Michael O'Connell Dr Suzanne O'Sullivan
Chair of the RCPI O&G Exams Board, Vice Chair of the Institute	Prof Mary Higgins
Irish Rep on RCOG Council; IOG rep on NPEC Perinatal Mortality Working Group	Dr Michael Geary
Institute Lead on Training Site Accreditation; sits on the Institute Governance Working Group	Dr Paul Hughes
Trainee Advocacy Officer (2019-); IOG rep on RCPI Professional Policy Group for GDPR	Dr Venita Broderick
Convenor of Meetings	Prof Donal Brennan
JOGS representative	Dr Eibhlin Healy
Co-NSD (HST) & co-Chair of the STC; Clinical Lead for O&G clinical guidelines	Prof Keelin O'Donoghue
Co-NSD (BST)	Dr Azriny Khalid
Co-NSD (BST); IOG rep on Joint Forum / HSE NDTP Protected Training Time Working Group	Dr Etaoin Kent
President, RCPI	Prof Mary Horgan
Registrar, RCPI	Prof Michael Keane

Other Institute Representation:

Contact the Institute Coordinator at iog@rcpi.ie to ensure our records are kept up to date.

RCPI Trainees Committee	Drs Sorca O'Brien & Daniel Kane for Forum; BST O&G Representative Dr Valerie Julius
Forum Professional Competence	Prof Hilary Hoey (for all RCPI training bodies)
Forum Quality & Risk Subcommittee	Vacant
European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG)	Dr Mike Robson & Prof Fionnuala McAuliffe
The National Obstetric Haemorrhage Group	Dr Cliona Murphy, Dr Carmen Regan and Dr Bridgette Byrne
NPEC Maternal Morbidity Group	Dr Bridgette Byrne, Prof Mary Higgins, Dr C Murphy
NCCP National Advisor in Oncofertility	Dr Edgar Mocanu
ICGP Reproductive & Sexual Health Committee	Dr Maeve Eogan
National Incident Management Team (NIMT)	Dr Peter McKenna
FIGO Clinical Guidelines on Placenta Accreta	Prof Donal Brennan
National Obesity Programme	Prof Fionnuala McAuliffe & Dr Jennifer Walsh
FIGO Executive Board	Prof Fionnuala McAuliffe
Massive Operative Haemorrhage working group and NOCA	Dr Naomie Burke
IOG Rep on NPEC Maternal Morbidity Group	Dr G. Méabh Ní Bhuinneáin

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

By Dr Sharon Cooley and Mr Barry Quinlan

A surplus of €17,058 was generated for the 12 months to end June 2022. This is €35,551 lower than last year's surplus of €52,609.

Income

Total income (excluding investments) generated for the year ended 30 June 2022 was €121,658. This has decreased by €31,051 (20%) on last year mainly due to a decrease in HSE Grant Income.

Income is classed under the following headings which are discussed in more detail below:

- Subscriptions and Admission Fees
- Event & Study Day Fee Income & Sponsorship Income
- HSE SLA Grant Income
- Other Income (Termination of Pregnancy Funding)

Subscriptions & Admission Fees

Subscriptions Income totalled €46,938 for the year ended 30 June 2022. This is in line with the 2021 equivalent of €45,688.

In 2021/2022, 72% of Members paid their subscriptions, compared to 89% in the previous year.

Admission Ceremonies were held online in 2021/2022, leading to income of €720; €670 in 2020/2021.

Event & Study Day Fee Income & Sponsorship Income

Event fee income for 2021/2022 was €4,350 relating to the Winter Conference. There was no income in 2020/2021.

Covid 19 lead to the cancellation of most Events in the year ended 30 June 2022. €1,000 was earned from sponsorship in 2021/2022; none in 2020/2021.

HSE SLA Grant Income

This relates to the SLA with the HSE to deliver training.

The amount of €68,650 SLA funding is the proportion of the grant relating to the Institute to cover the cost of overheads and administration costs. This has decreased by €2,601 when compared to 2020/2021. The overhead recharge from the College is €48,143, an increase of €10,514 from 2020/2021.

Historically, the loss for the Institute has been capped at €6,800 and the College absorbed the remainder of the overhead. The charging of overheads is being reviewed by an external consultant as part of the Faculties and Institutes reserves.

Other Income (Termination of Pregnancy funding)

No income was released to the Profit & Loss (P&L) in 2021/2022 relating to Termination of Pregnancy funding received from the HSE. Last year, €35,100 income was released to the P&L to cover provider costs.

Total funding received for this project was €350,000. We have deferred the balance of €309,050 to the Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2022. As spending occurs these monies will be released to the P&L.

Investments

Investments held by the College at the end of June 2022 were €8,623,753 of which €95,981 were apportioned to the Institute. IOG Investments decreased by 4% from €99,951 last year.

Costs

Direct Expenditure totalled €52,487 in 2021/2022, a decrease of €20,127 on last year. This is mainly attributable to provider costs being Nil in 2021/2022 (€27,000 in 2020/2021) offset by an increase in wages & salaries of €3,293.

An overhead recharge of €48,143 has been charged to the IOG accounts for 2021/2022. This constitutes 0.05% of the total College overhead. The overhead recharge covers rent, insurance, light heat etc., and also covers the provision of the services of Finance, ICT, HR etc.

Profit & Loss Account

July 2021 -
June 2022



	June 2022 Actuals	June 2022 Budget	Full Yr Variance	June 2021 Actuals	Variance to Prior Yr
Income					
Fee Income					
Fee Income	4,350	7,000	(2,650)	-	4,350
	4,350	7,000	(2,650)	-	4,350
Membership Income					
Subscriptions Income	46,938	25,520	21,418	45,688	1,250
Admissions/Conferring Income	720	4,000	(3,280)	670	50
	47,658	29,520	18,138	46,358	1,300
Sponsorship Donations & Fundraising					
Sponsorship Income	1,000	13,000	(12,000)	-	1,000
	1,000	13,000	(12,000)	-	1,000
Funding Income					
HSE Main SLA Funding	68,650	121,564	(52,914)	71,251	(2,601)
Project Funding - HSE	-	-	-	35,100	(35,100)
	68,650	121,564	(52,914)	106,351	(37,701)
TOTAL: Income	121,658	171,084	(49,426)	152,709	(31,051)
Direct Expenditure					
Event Costs					
Room Hire and Catering	361	13,500	13,139	-	(361)
	361	13,500	13,139	-	(361)
Staff Costs					
Wages & Salaries	31,742	31,173	(569)	34,619	2,876
PRSI	3,502	3,445	(57)	3,826	323
Pension	1,885	1,892	7	1,977	93
	37,129	36,510	(619)	40,422	3,293
Other Staff Costs					
Employee Benefits	183	-	(183)	-	(183)
Office Catering	6,958	500	(6,458)	-	(6,958)
	7,141	500	(6,641)	-	(7,141)
People Costs (Non-Staff)					
Provider Costs	-	-	-	27,000	27,000
	-	-	-	27,000	27,000
Professional Fees					
Professional Fees	4,537	-	(4,537)	-	(4,537)
	4,537	-	(4,537)	-	(4,537)
Subsistence					
Accommodation	382	6,300	5,918	-	(382)
Travel - Taxis	142	-	(142)	-	(142)
Travel - Flights	260	-	(260)	-	(260)
Travel - Other	-	6,300	6,300	-	-
Subsistence	-	600	600	-	-
	784	13,200	12,416	-	(784)
Administration Costs					
Bank Charges	-	-	0	65	65
Stationery	-	320	320	(250)	(250)
Photography	492	-	(492)	-	(492)
Presentations, Gifts, Medals	628	1,600	972	68	(560)
	1,120	1,920	800	(117)	(1,237)
IT Costs					
IT Managed Service	1,379	-	(1,379)	-	(1,379)
	1,379	-	(1,379)	-	(1,379)
Miscellaneous Costs					
Subscriptions	-	4,889	4,889	3,042	3,042
Miscellaneous Costs	36	11,000	10,964	2,267	2,231
	36	15,889	15,853	5,309	5,273
TOTAL: Direct Expenditure	52,487	81,519	29,032	72,614	20,127
Earnings before Investments & Overheads	69,170	89,564	(20,394)	80,094	(10,924)
Investment Income & Bank Interest Received					
Unrealised Gain/(Loss) on Valuation of Investments	(3,970)	-	(3,970)	10,143	(14,113)
	(3,970)	-	(3,970)	10,143	(14,113)
Overhead Allocation					
Overhead Cost	48,143	37,629	(10,514)	37,629	(10,514)
	48,143	37,629	(10,514)	37,629	(10,514)
NET INCOME(LOSS)	17,058	51,935	(34,878)	52,609	(35,551)

Balance Sheet

Financial Year Ending:

Jun-22



INSTITUTE OF
OBSTETRICIANS &
GYNAECOLOGISTS
ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

June 2022 €

June 2021 €

Fixed Assets

Investments at Cost

Investment Fund	95,981	99,951
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TOTAL: Fixed Assets

95,981

99,951

Current Assets

Bank & Cash

IOG Current Account	945,122	494,414
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Debtors & Prepayments

Accrued Income	68,650	71,251
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Intercompany - Assets

Intercompany - Amounts Owed from College	36,894	463,550
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TOTAL: Current Assets

1,050,666

1,029,214

Current Liabilities

Creditors & Accruals

Creditors Control Account - Trade	(24)	0
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Accruals	(33,597)	(40,347)
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Deferred Income

Deferred Income	(316,250)	(309,100)
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TOTAL: Current Liabilities

(349,871)

(349,447)

Total Net Assets

796,776

779,718

Surplus & Reserves

Reserves

Retained Reserves B/F	779,718	727,110
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TOTAL: Surplus & Reserves

779,718

727,110

- Profit & Loss Account

17,058

52,609

TOTAL:

17,058

52,609

Equities and Reserves

796,776

779,718

CONVENOR'S REPORT

Prof Donal Brennan

Educational meetings continued to take place throughout 2022 with webinars coinciding with hybrid meetings throughout the college.

The titles of the Institute webinar series in 2022 are:

- 1) 19 January 2022 - "Endometriosis Surgery - How We Do It".
- 2) 04 March 2022 – "Institute Spring Conference"
- 3) 04 May 2022 - "Laparoscopic Hysterectomy & BSO: How I Do It"
- 4) 07 September 2022 - "How I Do It - Invasive Procedures in Fetal Medicine."
- 5) 05 October 2022 – "Gestational Trophoblastic Disease"
- 6) 25 November 2022 - Junior O&G Society Annual Meeting

19 January 2022 "Endometriosis Surgery - How We Do It" – Speakers:

- Dr Niamh Fee, "Pre-operative Surgical Planning Pearls" - Year 4 SpR, Tallaght University Hospital
- Dr Fiona Reidy, "Surgical Management of Stage 1-2 Endometriosis" - Endometriosis Fellow, Tallaght University Hospital
- Dr Aoife O' Neill, "Surgical Management of Stage 3-4 Endometriosis", Lead Gynaecologist Endometriosis Service, Tallaght University Hospital
- There were 116 people registered for the webinar

04 March 2022 Institute Spring Conference:

- Prof Sally Collins, Oxford – "Diagnosis of Placenta Accreta Spectrum"
- Prof John Moriarty, Mater Dublin – "The role of vascular interventional radiology in O&G"
- Prof Joan Lalor – "Patients' experience of placenta accreta in Ireland"
- Dr Peter McKenna – "Rapid review process"

04 May 2022 "Laparoscopic Hysterectomy & BSO: How I Do It"

- Dr Zara Fonseca Kelly - "Laparoscopic Bilateral Salping-oophorectomy"
- Dr Simon Craven "Laparoscopic Hysterectomy"
- Prof Donal Brennan "Management of intra-operative complications at laparoscopy".
- There were 81 people registered for the webinar with positive feedback received after the event.

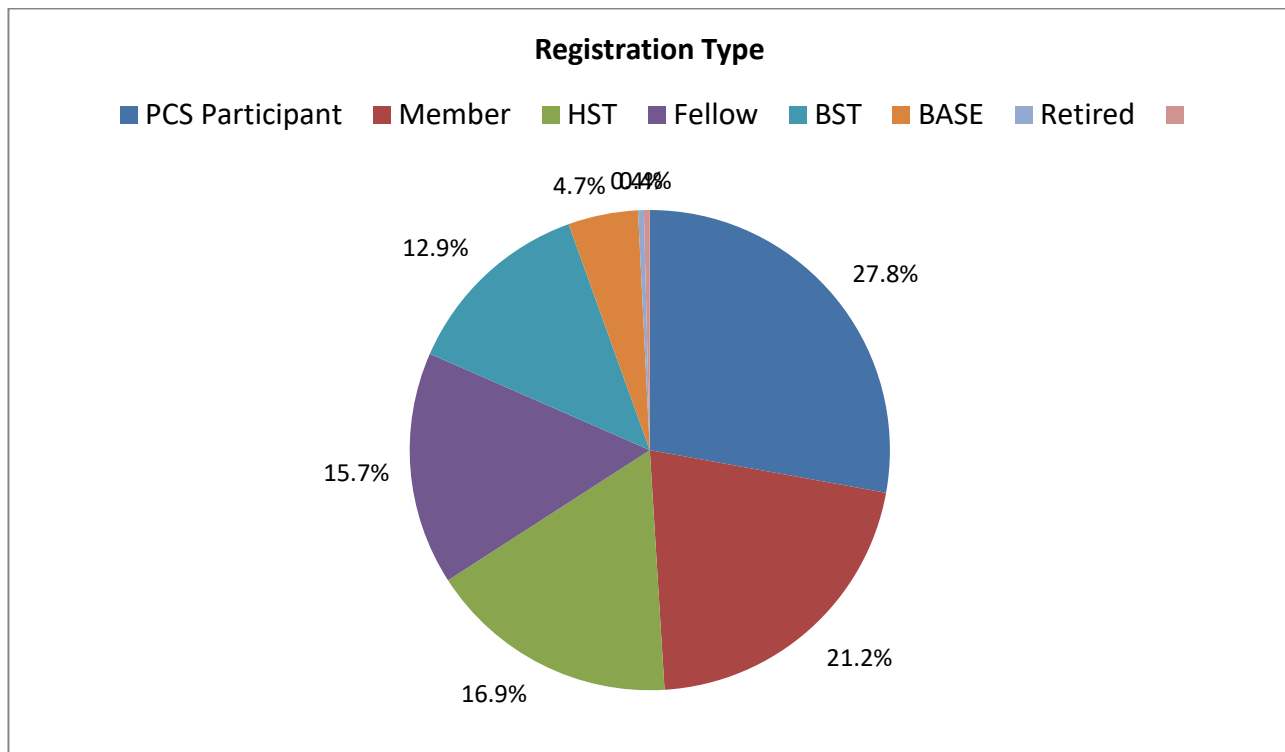
05 October 2022 "Gestational Trophoblastic Disease"

- Dr Rebecca Hunter, "Complete Molar Pregnancy Case Presentation"
- Prof John Coulter "Initial Investigation and Management of Molar Pregnancy"
- Mary Kate O'Neil "Role of the CNS in the National GTD Centre"
- Dr Caroline Joyce "National Survey of Women on the National GTD Registry"

The JOGS Annual Scientific Meeting was held on 25 November 2022 and included presentations on:

- Dr Abdul Sultan - International Perspective on incidence and management of OASI
- Dr Myra Fitzpatrick - Irish perspective of OASI from a dedicated perineal clinic
- Dr Ann Brannigan - Pros and cons of sacral nerve stimulators
- Dr Raneer Thakar - Prevention of OASI

Webinar Registration and Attendance:



NATIONAL SPECIALTY DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director of Training and Education

Dr Suzanne O'Sullivan

National Specialty Directors HST:

Prof Sean Daly and Prof Keelin O'Donoghue

National Specialty Directors BST:

Dr Etaoin Kent and Dr Azriny Khalid

Specialty Training Committee Members:

Dr Cliona Murphy, Dr Suzanne O'Sullivan, Prof Sean Daly, Prof Keelin O'Donoghue, Dr Etaoin Kent, Dr Azriny Khalid, Prof Shane Higgins, Dr Liz Dunn, Dr Hassan Rajab, Dr Nadine Farah, Prof Mary Higgins, Dr Michael O'Leary, Dr Tasneem Tashendar, Dr Paul Hughes, Dr Gillian Ryan (trainee representative)

HST July 2022 – 2023

	1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	4 th Year	5 th Year	Total
Trainees in Clinical Posts in Ireland	13	20	11	12	9	65
Clinical Out of Programme in Ireland	0	0	6	4	8	18
Flexible Training/LTFT Training	0	0	0	2	0	2
Leave of Absence/Withdrawn	2	2	1	0	4	9
Total	15	22	18	18	21	94

*73 active posts with some posts having 2 HST trainees in 1 year

- 94 trainees on scheme including OCPE
- 36 (%) Dublin, 43 (%) outside Dublin
- 20/73 of active posts (%) in small/medium units (excluding Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick)
- 5 in Gynae only units
- 16 male and 78 female trainees on scheme (16% and 84 %)

Trainees on OCPE

1 st year on OCPE	2 nd year on OCPE	3 rd year on OCPE
7	9	4

Evaluation review

EYE	PYE	FYE	Total
78	12	4	94

All SpRs passed all assessments, with 1 interim assessment required.

Location of Trainees:

Location	Number	Location	Number
Rotunda	10	Our Lady of Lourdes Drogheda	5
NMH	11	Mullingar	1
CWUHU	10	Mayo	2
CUMH/SIVUH	10	Portlaoise	1
Galway	6	Mater	1
Limerick	5	Tallaght	2
Wexford	4	St James	1
Waterford	4	St Vincent's	1
Portiuncula	1	Sligo	1

BST July 2022 – 2023

1 st year	2 nd year	3 rd year	Total
28	22	31	84

The NSDs coordinate recruitment, assessment, curriculum development and remediation for all BST trainees. The BST programme works with Hub Coordinators, where hub assignments are managed centrally. The Hub Coordinator works on behalf of the Hub and not the hospital in which they are located. Actual postings are coordinated by five Hub coordinators:

- Dr Nadine Farrah: Coombe Hub (Coombe Women and Infants Maternity Hospital, St James's Hospital, Tallaght University Hospital, Midwest Regional Hospital Portlaoise, Midwest Regional Hospital Mullingar)
- Dr Hassan Rajab: Rotunda Hub (Rotunda Hospital, Our Lady of Lourdes Drogheda Hospital, Beaumont Hospital, Cavan General Hospital)
- Dr Michael O'Leary: West Hub (University Hospital Galway, University Maternity Hospital Limerick, Letterkenny University Hospital, Mayo University Hospital, Portiuncula Hospital, Sligo General Hospital)
- Prof Shane Higgins: NMH Hub (National Maternity Hospital, St. Luke's Hospital Kilkenny, Wexford General Hospital, Mater Misericordiae)
- Dr Azriny Khalid: CUMH Hub (Cork University Maternity Hospital, University Hospital Waterford, University Hospital Kerry, Limerick Hospital, South Tipperary General Hospital)

From July 2020 year 3 of the programme has become national and is not allocated by hub.

Training Breakdown	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Total
Evaluations	26	20	28	74
Interim Evaluations	0	0	1	1
Extra time on scheme	0	1	0	1
Withdrawn	1	2	0	3
Leave of absence	1	0	1	2

Location of Trainees:

Location	Number	Location	Number
Portiuncula	1	Mater	1
Cavan	0	NMH	11
Beaumont	1	Our Lady of Lourdes Drogheda	6
CWIUH	10	Portlaoise	2
Connolly	1	Rotunda	10
CUMH	12	St James	2
Galway	4	Sligo	1
Kilkenny	2	South Tipperary	1
Limerick	4	Tallaght	1
Letterkenny	0	Waterford	2
Mayo	1	Wexford	2
Mullingar	3		

CSCSTs Awarded

Name
Dr Kate Glennon
Dr Zahrah Elsafty
Dr Niamh Joyce
Dr Aenne Helps
Dr Maria Farren
Dr Ikechukwa Uzochukwu
Dr Sie Ong Ting
Dr Brendan McDonnell
Dr Rebecca Moore
Dr Maebh Horan
Dr Ann McHugh
Dr Cathy Monteith

We wish to congratulate Dr Breffni Anglim in her recent appointment to a permanent consultant post in Urogynaecology in the Coombe. Dr Niamh Murphy & Dr Patrick Maguire have taken up temporary consultant posts in Dublin.

Recruitment and Selection July 2023**BST**

No. applicants	No. eligible	No. ineligible	No. shortlisted	No. interviewed	No. appointed	No. on reserve list
75	58	17	0	58		

HST

No. applicants	No. eligible	No. ineligible	No. shortlisted	No. interviewed	No. appointed	No. on reserve list
25	23	2	0	23		

Fellowships and Awards

Name of Fellowship	Location	Supervisor	Fellow
Severe maternal morbidity fellowship	Coombe Women and Infants University Hospital	Dr Bridgette Byrne and Dr Terry Tan	Dr Cathy Monteith
Fellowship in Perinatal Genomics	The National Maternity Hospital	Dr Samantha Doyle	Dr Tara Rigney
Advanced Medical Education	The National Maternity Hospital	Prof Mary Higgins	Dr Maria Farren
Fellowship in Benign Gynaecology Management	Tallaght University Hospital	Dr Aoife O'Neill	Dr Anna Durand O'Connor
Fellowship in Obstetric Risk Management	Cork University Hospital	Prof Richard Greene	Dr Aenne Helps
Fellowship in Maternal Medicine	Rotunda Hospital	Dr Jennifer Donnelly	Dr Jasmeet Kumari

Hospital Accreditation

O&G 2022 (all in person):

- UHK – September – new site approval
- CUH – October, Site QI Visit
- STGH – October, new site approval
- Cavan – October, new site approval
- Connolly – November, Site QI Visit

SDR Process

Number of applications received	Recommended	Not Recommended	In progress
15	1	14	0

A workshop was held in October 2022 for all NCHDs and Trainers providing Guidance on making an application for entry to the IMC Specialist Register. In addition, information and guidance is available on the RCPI new website.

Study days

BST/HST:

Date	Topic(s)	Location
4 th February 2022	IOG Spring Conference	RCPI
11 th March 2022	Medications in Pregnancy/Lactation study day	Virtually
25 th March 2022	Cervical health study day	Virtually
29 th April 2022	Termination of Pregnancy Study Day	Virtually
27 th May 2022	Recurrent Miscarriage Study Day	Virtually
25 th November 2022	JOGS Study Day	Hybrid, online and RCPI

MDE IRELAND

Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists/HSE Joint Working Group

The Joint Working Group was set up in July 2007, and MDE Ireland, based at the National Perinatal Epidemiology Centre in Cork, commenced formal maternal death data collection for Ireland in January 2009 in collaboration with the long-established UK Confidential Enquiry. The project is funded by the HSE.

Under the umbrella of NPEU/MBRRACE-UK based at the University of Oxford, statistics for UK and Ireland are published annually, on a rolling basis. Topic-specific chapters, however, continue to appear every three years.

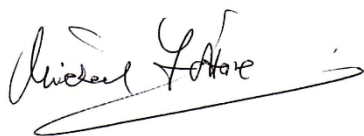
The most recent report containing UK and Ireland maternal mortality data for 2018-2020 was launched at a virtual scientific meeting in November 2022. To coincide with this publication, MDE Ireland published Data Brief No. 6. Members of the Institute are strongly urged to bring this and previous reports to the attention of their trainees. All reports to date relating to this project are available on the MDE Ireland website.

A meeting of the Joint Working Group was held in May 2022 by Zoom. Following a new UK re-commissioning process, the contract for the MBRRACE-UK programme in the UK has been extended for a further 5 years.

Following the retirement of Mary Doyle as Midwifery Assessor at the end of 2021, we appointed two new Irish midwifery assessors in 2022 - Bernadette Toolan, Limerick and Emma Mullins, Portlaoise.

Thanks are due to all members of the Institute who have contributed in any way to the success of this project.

MDE Ireland looks forward to a continuing association with the UK Confidential Enquiry and NPEU/MBRRACE-UK.



Michael F O'Hare MD, FRCPI, FRCOG
Chairman

February 2023

REFERENCE

O'Hare MF, Manning E, Corcoran P, Greene RA on behalf of MDE Ireland. Confidential Maternal Death Enquiry in Ireland, Data Brief No 6. Cork: MDE Ireland, November 2022.

EDUCATION

Ms Ann O'Shaughnessy, Head of Education RCPI

Education Projects:

OBE

The pilot outcome-based curriculum for basic specialist training was introduced in July 2022. This revises the goal of training at BST level and provides detailed learning outcomes to trainers to review trainee performance as they progress through the programme. The development was led by Dr Azy Khalid. Feedback on the curriculum and ePortfolio is being monitored. Planning for a review of the HST programme has been initiated. The Institute is actively engaged with this college-wide project.

Mandatory Teaching

Dr Diarmuid O'Shea was appointed as the Clinical Lead for a cross college review of mandatory teaching. The first phase was to review the content and alignment of all taught content in the training programmes. In 2021/22 an 'as is' review of the content was completed, benchmarking took place and a new delivery model was proposed. Engagement on finalising specific content and implementation of the programme will take place in 23/24.

Simulation Strategy

Prof Dara Byrne has been appointed as the Clinical Lead to develop a Simulation Strategy for RCPI. The project will engage with the Faculties and Institutes on the development of a governance structure for simulation within training programmes. The project team will carry out a number of site visits to look at the future implementation of a hub and spoke model in line with the National Strategy.

Assessment Strategy

A cross faculty assessment strategy is under development. Principles of best practice have been applied throughout RCPI, the strategy will address standardisation and sustainability in examination, workplace assessments and panel assessments.

Fellowships and other programmes

Working with the Institute, five new clinical fellowships were developed

- Severe maternal morbidity
- Minimally Invasive Gynaecology Surgery including robotic assisted surgery for benign gynaecology
- Perinatal Genomics
- Obstetric Risk Management
- Advanced Medical Education

Education Programmes - Development and Delivery

Intrapartum Simulated Obstetrics Training (ISOT)

A new course for incoming registrars Intrapartum Simulated Obstetrics Training (ISOT) led by Dr Cathy Monteith was developed. This course focuses on the consolidation of skills required for beginning a role as an obstetric registrar. It was piloted and refined based on trainee feedback and will be fully implemented within the next year.

AMEE Aspire Award:

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland was awarded an AMEE ASPIRE to Excellence Certificate of Merit in the area of 'Inspirational Approaches.' The ASPIRE award programme was established to identify, recognise, and reward world-class excellence in education. It also aims to highlight, showcase, and exemplify best-practice

in healthcare professions education, improving the education process and outcomes of other institutions around the world.

RCPI was recognised for its Certificate in Cancer Genetics and Genomics. The course is aimed at all healthcare professionals/scientists working in cancer care and allows participants to:

- Learn how to use genomic testing to inform treatment decisions and optimise patient outcomes
- Understand how to make more informed screening recommendations for higher risk individuals.
- Gain the skills to correctly interpret genomic test results to inform patient management
- Understand the ethical and legal considerations when using genomic technology

QQI submissions:

The Postgraduate Certificate in Obstetrics and Gynaecology was put before a QQI validation panel in November 2022. RCPI received a commendation for the quality of our application, documentation, and user experience of the online programme. The programme was validated in principle for accreditation at Level 9 (30ECTS). QQI meet in February 2023 where this programme is due to receive its official validation, subject to certain conditions being achieved.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Cancer Genetics and Genomics has been submitted for validation, with a QQI panel meeting scheduled for early 2023.

iheed

RCPI in partnership with iheed ran three programmes in 21-22.

- Professional Diploma in Paediatrics
- Professional Diploma in Women's Health
- Professional Diploma in Dermatology

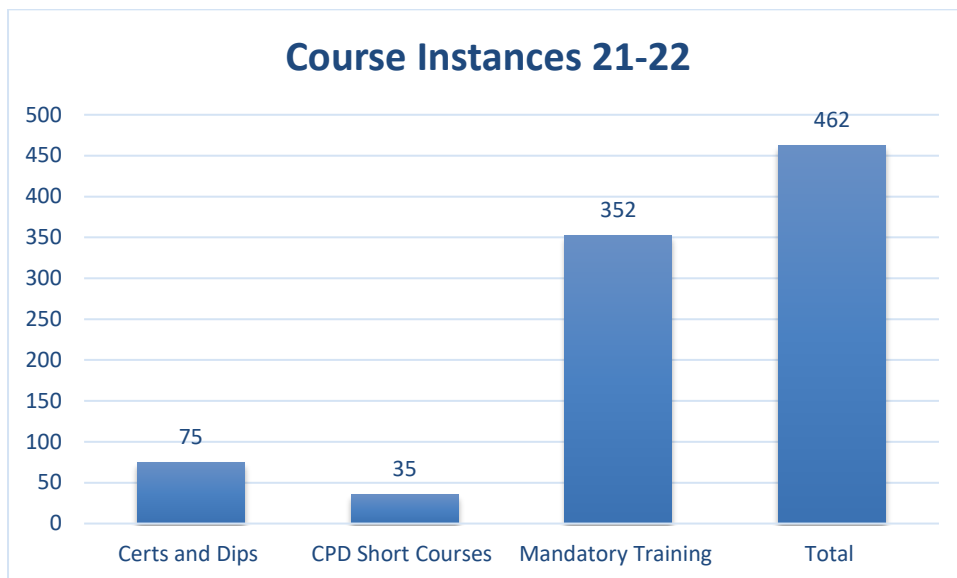
To date a total of 2372 learners have completed or are currently registered on an iheed/RCPI collaborative programme. Of these 929 were Irish and 1365 were international learners.

1491 Paediatrics 581 Irish 832 International	479 Women's Health 212 Irish 267 International	268 Dermatology 92 Irish 176 International	134 Medicine for Older Persons 44 Irish 90 International
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The Professional Diploma in Occupational Medicine and Professional Diploma in Infectious diseases are under development. All programmes will be submitted to QQI for accreditation at Postgraduate Certification level (30 ECTS) or above.

RCPI Programmes

A total of 462 iterations of workshops and tutorials were executed throughout the year growing from 276 iterations in 20-21.



Quality Improvement Programmes:

Postgraduate Certificate in Quality Improvement Leadership in Healthcare, funded by HSE National Quality and Patient Safety Directorate, has successfully recruited 20 three-person teams for two cohorts of the course which commences in September. Teams this year will focus their workplace projects on addressing common causes of harm as described in the HSE publication, Patient Safety Strategy 2019-2024

QI Scholars: Six RCPI QI Scholars completed the programme in 2021-22. The successful participants came from Geriatric and General Internal Medicine, Clinical Microbiology, Endocrinology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Radiology, Paediatric Neurodisability.

Situation Awareness For Everyone: The SAFE collaborative represents a highly successful partnership between RCPI and the Deteriorating Patient Improvement Programme with funding support from the Office of Nursing and Midwifery Services Director. A fourth cohort of 12 frontline healthcare teams graduated from SAFE in February 2022. 48 learners improved or implemented bespoke patient safety huddles in their setting. A fifth cohort recruited 14 teams from all over Ireland to start in September 2022. The teams will work for six months on implementing a bespoke patient safety huddle initiative in their setting.

Mandatory courses

The O&G BST and HST mandatory courses delivered during 2021-2022 include the following:

- BST Leadership in Clinical Practice
- BST Communication Skills
- BST Ethics, Transfusion, and Prescribing for Obstetrics & Gynaecology
- BST O&G Practical Scenarios Modules
- BST Basic Practical Skills Course
- BST Family Planning
- BST Thriving in BST
- HST An introduction to Health and Research methods
- HST Leadership in Clinical Practice
- HST Mastering Communications
- HST Performing Audit

- HST Wellness Matters
- HST Ethics Foundation
- HST OASIS – Perineal tear and episiotomy repair workshop
- HST Advanced Practical Skills
- Advanced Gynaecological Surgical Skills
- HST An approach to caring and coping
- HST Minimal Access Skills
- ISOT-Intrapartum Simulated Obstetrics Training

Other courses open to Trainees, Members or Fellows in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in 2021-2022 were:

- QI in Action
- Certificate in Essential Leadership for New Consultants
- Certificate in Cancer Genetics
- Physicians as Trainers – Essential Skills for Trainers
- Physicians as Trainers – Supervision and Performance Management
- Physicians as Trainers – Identifying and Managing Distressed Trainee

There are also a large number of standalone online courses available.

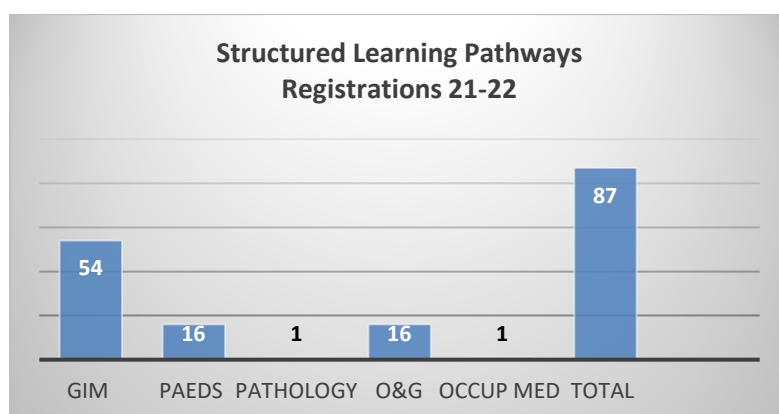
CPD-SS

The Continuous Professional Development Support Scheme (CPD-SS) is an educational programme open to those Non-Consultant Hospital Doctors (NCHDs) working in the public health service who have an NCHD contract and are enrolled on a Professional Competence Scheme. Once enrolled on the CPD-SS scheme, doctors get free access to educational activities worth up to 20 External CPD credits. A total of 607 signed up to the programme in September 2021. For the first time, the scheme opened for a second intake in January when an additional 128 NCHDs registered bringing the total number of participants to 735.

In 2021-2022, RCPI revised the CPD– SS offering two pathways that participants could choose between:

- Self-Directed Pathway (SDP) – Offers a choice of courses which participants can enrol on based on their own personal learning goals
- Structured Learning Pathway (SLP) - Provides participants with access to the HST mandatory courses specific to their specialty over three years. SLP is offered in five different specialties – GIM, O&G, Paediatrics, Pathology and Occ Med. A total of 87 participants signed up for the structured pathways





Mandatory Training project research

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) is currently working to implement a redesigned mandatory course programme for BST (in July 2023) and HST (July 2024).

The aims of this research project are to formally evaluate the redesigned RCPI mandatory course training programme, with respect to impact on a) trainees, b) faculty delivering the mandatory courses to trainees, c) trainers, and d) RCPI staff who administer the mandatory training courses. The project will commence with BST in 2023 and will follow with HST in 2024.

Trainees, faculty who deliver RCPI mandatory courses, trainers and RCPI staff who administer mandatory courses will be asked to complete a survey (see Appendices IV to VII) while they are still engaging with the current mandatory course programme (i.e. January-March 2023 for the BST programme and January-March 2024 for the HST programme) to obtain data about the current mandatory course programme. Following the introduction of the new mandatory course programme (July 2023 for BST and July 2024 for HST), trainees, faculty who deliver RCPI mandatory courses, trainers and RCPI staff who administer mandatory courses will be asked to complete a survey to that used to assess the new (and on-going) mandatory course programme in April-June of the following year, on an annual basis (one survey per year) to evaluate the redesigned mandatory course programme and to allow RCPI to respond to any findings which emerge from the data.

Healthcare Leadership

In November 2022, a series of focus groups were undertaken with new consultants to explore the needs, expectations and appetite for a mentoring project. This was held online, gathering the perspectives of newly-qualified consultants across the country in a variety of specialties. Data is currently in analysis and the report will be available in early February, but early findings show a very positive attitude and support for such a project. Additionally, a report giving an overview of previous research findings across the college to inform a market research strategy.

RCPI SUPPORTING FUNCTIONS

Mr Colm Small, Head of Function

Purpose

The overall aim of the Postgraduate Training and Examinations Function is to pursue excellence in all that we do as we support doctors. Key parts to that include the delivery and supports for training, examinations, accreditation, quality assurance/ quality improvement, health and wellbeing and supports for RCPI's Faculties and Institutes.

The College and the PTE Function prides itself in being responsive and innovative.

Training and Faculties Office (TFO)

The purpose of the TFO is to support the key activities of the RCPI Training Bodies. It is responsible for providing high-quality administrative services to the Boards and various Committees of the six Faculties and Institutes.

The TFO is also responsible for the delivery of the RCPI postgraduate training programmes. The purpose of the office is to be a model for excellence and leadership in the development and delivery of postgraduate specialist training programmes, emphasising high quality service, efficiency, effectiveness and excellence in Trainer and Trainee engagement on behalf of the Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the other five Faculties and Institutes of the College: Faculty of Pathology, Faculty of Occupational Medicine, Faculty of Public Health Medicine, Faculty of Paediatrics and the Institute of Medicine.

The office supports approximately 1,750 trainees and 1,300 trainers in the administration of RCPI's 29 training programmes. In terms of the Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists this is the three-year BST programme and the five-year HST training scheme.

HST Completing Trainees

After another challenging year given the pandemic, for the training year 2021-22 (ending July 2022), we were confident that trainees receiving a CSCST in summer 2022 had met their curricular requirements.

BST Completing Trainees

Similarly, third year BST trainees met their curricular requirements for awarding of BST certification. End of year assessments were undertaken on time during May and June 2022 to allow for career progression. And Membership examinations which are required for BST, were successfully offered to all needing them over the last year – writtens and clinicals / OSCEs.

Examinations Department

The purpose of the department is to develop, manage, coordinate and deliver the College's Membership examinations both nationally and internationally. The College's Membership examinations have a global footprint. The department also develops and maintains the highest professional standards of examinations which have relevant excellence in medical care and are held at an appropriate time in a candidate's training.

As well as leading in the development of virtual platforms and classrooms for education and assessment, RCPI was the first training body in Ireland or the UK to introduce high stakes written examination by remote invigilation. Others followed our lead such as the Royal Colleges in the UK. We have continued to successfully run our examinations by remote invigilation over the last year - Parts I and II written, having ramped up to pre-pandemic examination candidate numbers from June 2020 onwards. The MRCPI O&G Part II written very much part of this and we are very much grateful to the Institute for the commitment to the examinations.

We are offering the same number of clinical / OSCE examination diets in Ireland as we would normally have, and we continue to support our BST trainees in their career progression. At the same time we are very much looking after all our international and other examination candidates and have increased our capacity for international candidates over the last year with new centres and increased numbers in the Gulf Region.

The Examinations Department would like to thank all our clinician colleagues involved in the Institute's examinations – clinicals and written. Serious work goes into these. In particular we would like to acknowledge the leadership of Professor Mary Higgins in these examinations over the past year.

Assessment and Programme Development

The Assessment and Programme Development Department has responsibility for the educational development of the College's postgraduate training programmes and the College's membership examinations as well as supporting their delivery. The work of the department includes the design and development of an extensive range of postgraduate medical educational programmes for doctors in training and for fully qualified specialists, the development of specialist training curricula and assessment methods, and the on-going evaluation of all programmes and curricula. In a re-structuring in the College in autumn 2021, this Department moved under the new unified Education Function and this will enhance all the supports delivered therein and to the Institute.

Accreditation and Quality Improvement Office

As part of an overall approach to improving quality in postgraduate medical education and training, RCPI and its constituent training bodies are committed to a programme of continuous quality improvement.

A key project with Dr. Maeve Doyle as Clinical Lead is the RCPI Trainer Programme. This important project started in 2021 and she Chairs a Working Group. A key deliverable is a Trainer Framework which is on track and has delivered much. Another positive development will be the inaugural RCPI Trainer Conference. This will take place in December 2022. In its current iteration the project has four Parts.

- Part 1: Trainer Refresher Course/ Trainer Hub – explanation of why/ rationale. This has been implemented.
- Part 2: Matrix of Activities (core and optional) in which Trainers should engage e.g. Recruitment & Selection, Participation in MRCPI Exams, Delivery of Local Teaching.
- Part 3: Professional Development for Trainers. Opportunity for Lead Trainer Roles; built in feedback for existing Trainers; Annual Trainer Conference.
- Part 4: Support/ Promote Trainer Role: Suite of rewards; CPD, certificate, awards. Ongoing promotion of Trainer roles within College.

These initiatives are achieved through driving and developing standards in the quality of postgraduate medical education and training, ensuring improved standards are maintained, and delivering robust processes that will assure and engage the medical profession and the public about the standards and quality of postgraduate medical education and training in Ireland.

These initiatives, along with the recommendations from the Imrie Report, continue to form part of the overall strategic plan for postgraduate medical education and training. A key priority for this office is the establishment of a system of overall Hospital Accreditation. The first in this new model of Hospital Accreditation (Site QI Model) was successfully completed in June of 2021 with UHG Galway (Saolta Group) and we have successfully rolled this out over the last year. The Site QI model works on a five-year timeline so for example, St. James's and Our Lady's Hospital Drogheda successfully went through this process along with Galway in 2021 and they will be visited formally again in 2026 with all the robust QA/QI in between. Cork University Maternity Hospital another example which was visited in autumn 2022. The Site QI visit is chaired by an extern from outside Ireland.

This office also supports the Medical Council accreditation of postgraduate training bodies and programmes as well as the assessment of applications to the Specialist Division of the Register.

Health and Wellbeing Department

Our health and wellbeing service is key for our trainees and the College takes this area very seriously. This Department has a Director and a Manager. Apart from supporting individual doctors, this office is very proactive with various initiatives and projects ongoing at any one time. It is also supporting a number of

trainers. We are reviewing the model at present as we look to the future to improve this and future proof it.

RCPI Regional Offices

The PTE Function manages the College's four Offices – Galway, Cork, Limerick and Dublin/Midlands. This is where we have an onsite presence. We are currently reviewing this model with a view to improvement and expansion is part of that.

Institute Membership

New enrolments into Membership of the Institute

Enrolment on 04 March 2022:

Membership:

Dr James Beirne
Dr Anca Trulea

Associate Membership:

Dr Ciara Nolan

Honorary Fellowship:

Dr Jeanne Conry

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 03 March 2023 - Spring Conference and AGM
- 24 November 2023, JOGS Annual Meeting
- 08 March 2024, IOG Spring Conference and AGM