



ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

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ABOUT RCPI

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) is a postgraduate medical training college dedicated to ensuring that doctors have the skills to provide patients with the best possible care.

Founded in 1654, our college supports doctors to enhance their skills, competencies, and professionalism throughout their working lives; delivered through structured postgraduate medical training in hospitals across Ireland, examinations, educational programmes, and continuous professional development opportunities to a network of over 13,000 doctors from 90 countries.

RCPI POSTGRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES

RCPI Postgraduate Training is a pathway for non-consultant doctors to become consultants in a specialty. A Trainee must complete Basic Specialist Training (BST), gaining general training across medical specialties in diverse settings, to enter Higher Specialist Training (HST) where a more specific path is selected. On successful completion of HST, it is expected that a Trainee will become a consultant in that chosen specialty.

Basic Specialist Training is a hospital-based training programme (2-3 years) completed in Senior House

Officer (SHO) posts. It prepares doctors for Higher Specialist Training, which is the final stage of training. RCPI offers BST programmes in four different specialties – General Internal Medicine, General Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, and Histopathology. Each programme has its own curriculum which is reviewed on an annual basis. Basic Specialist Training programmes are 2 years in duration, except for Obstetrics & Gynaecology programme which is 3 years in duration.

Higher Specialist Training (HST) is the final crucial step on the path to specialisation in medicine. It is a four- to six-year training programme completed in Specialist Registrar (SpR) posts, with programmes available in 29 specialties. Each programme has its own curriculum which is reviewed on an annual basis. Some internal medicine specialties have developed Dual Training, enabling Trainees to complete HST in their main specialty and in general internal medicine.

On satisfactory completion of HST, physicians receive a Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of Specialist Training (CSCST) which allows them to enter the Specialist Division of the Register with the Medical Council. Completing HST is an essential step on the journey to becoming a consultant.



ABOUT RCPI

RCPI houses six postgraduate training bodies who deliver these core training programmes, as well as continuous professional development opportunities throughout a doctor's career:

- **Faculty of Occupational Medicine** oversees development and delivery of HST training programmes in Occupational Medicine
- **Faculty of Paediatrics** oversees development and delivery of training programmes in Paediatrics specialties in both BST and HST
- **Faculty of Pathology** oversees development and delivery of training programmes in Pathology specialties in both BST and HST
- **Faculty of Public Health Medicine** oversees development and delivery of HST training programme in Public Health Medicine
- **Institute of Medicine** oversees development and delivery of training programmes in Internal Medicine specialties in both BST and HST
- **Institute of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists** oversees development and delivery of training programmes in Obstetrics & Gynaecology in both BST and HST

We also have two joint faculties – Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine of Ireland, a joint Faculty with the College of Anaesthesiologists of Ireland and the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland; and the Faculty of Sports and Exercise Medicine, a joint Faculty with the Royal College of Surgeons.

Post-CSCST Fellowships are designed for doctors who need to acquire additional training or experience that was not available on their Higher Specialist Training programme, and that may be required for a consultant post (for example, stroke medicine).

RCPI INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

- **RCPI's International Residency Training Programme (IRTP)** has been developed in conjunction with overseas partners to provide core Internal Medicine and Paediatrics training for international doctors in Ireland. The IRTP is a three-year training programme, fully delivered in Ireland, certified by RCPI and recognised for registration purposes by our partners. It has been designed to train doctors in the secondary care and prevention of adult disease and illness.



ABOUT RCPI

- **RCPI's International Clinical Fellowship Programme (ICFP)** offers clinical training to international doctors who are sponsored by their government, hospital, or national training body. The International Clinical Fellowship Programme is completed under the guidance of leading consultant trainers in accredited hospitals across Ireland in six specialties: General Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Occupational Medicine, Paediatrics, Pathology, and Public Health Medicine. The programme is offered over two to three years of clinical training, after which participants are required to return to your country of origin.

TRAINING SITES

All programmes are structured so that Trainees rotate to a different hospital post every three, six or twelve months to provide critical experience in different subspecialties and clinical teams. RCPI endeavours to provide Trainees their allocation assignment for their first two years in the scheme. Following that, allocations are assigned based on training requirements and Trainee's preference. Trainees must also attend study days scheduled throughout the year on topics related to the respective specialty curriculum.

Trainees use an online learning environment to manage their content and activities, and an electronic logbook to record essential information about training, education and evaluation activities, which must be completed to achieve successful completion of their training programme.

RCPI Trainers

Trainers play a crucial role in the delivery of training. The primary focus of the RCPI Trainer is to oversee RCPI Trainees' development and education at all training levels, through their involvement in teaching, training, evaluation, and supervision. All BST and HST Trainees are assigned a Trainer.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAMINATIONS

RCPI examinations run independently of courses and training programmes.

Membership Examinations

Most RCPI exams are membership exams. These are multi-part exam sequences leading to membership of RCPI (MRCPI), membership of the Faculty of Public Health Medicine (MFPHMI) or the Faculty of Occupational Medicine

(MFOM) or Licentiate membership of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine (LFOM).

Membership exams are typically included in the list of requirements to complete one or more training programme, but most candidates in each exam are non-trainees who are not enrolled in any other RCPI programme or course.

Membership exams are structured with multiple parts, which are applied for separately. Typically, there are 2- 3 parts of an exam in a sequence, which must be taken and passed, before proceeding to the next part.

External Examinations

RCPI also works closely with partners to deliver external examinations which provide doctors with the opportunity to gain recognition for their clinical expertise. This year, RCPI collaborated with the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE) and the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS) to develop and deliver the European Board Examination in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism (EBEEDM) for candidates to gain internationally standardised recognition of their clinical expertise.

ABOUT RCPI

OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

RCPI is a professional membership body. Doctors at all stages of their career are part of our community from Trainees beginning their specialist training to Fellows who are highly experienced specialists and leaders of health services around the world. Achieving Membership and Fellowship of RCPI is a significant milestone in a medical career - one that is recognised around the world. Our Members and Fellows lead initiatives and discussions that inform and influence government policy on public health.

LIFELONG LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our educational programmes and continuous professional development opportunities support doctors and healthcare professionals to gain and further develop the skills and expertise needed to meet the growing complexities of patient needs and multifaceted healthcare systems. RCPI offers a wide range of courses, CPD events and hospital-based quality improvement programmes, as well as the Continuous Professional Development Support Scheme.

Many physicians also join our Professional Competence Scheme, a formal way of recording your lifelong learning as a doctor and your dedication to developing and maintaining key skills and competencies throughout a medical career. Doctors must be enrolled on a professional competence scheme and be registered with the Irish Medical Council to practice in Ireland.

MAKING HEALTHCARE SAFER AND BETTER

We are committed to developing and updating the policies and procedures required to make sure that the delivery of diagnostics and patient care is of the same high quality wherever you are in Ireland. We lead 21 ground-breaking National Clinical Programmes in conjunction with the HSE. These programmes are led by senior clinicians and are helping to transform healthcare in Ireland.

The college is an independent authority on specialist medicine. We advocate in the best interest of patients and those who care for patients, and we advocate for healthy populations. In consultation with our Trainees, Members and Fellows, we have identified four advocacy priorities for RCPI; Patient safety and

dignity, Health equity, Prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and Climate change and healthcare.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Professor Mary Horgan

President

Welcome to the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland's Annual Report 2022/2023, a deep dive into the delivery of postgraduate specialist medical training, education and healthcare advocacy over the past year. We continue to innovate and adapt to ensure we maintain best practice standards across the growing activities of the college in Ireland and internationally.

Over the past few years, we have witnessed the agility, resilience and dedication of our Trainees, Learners, Members and Fellows. You have engaged strongly with the college for continuous professional development and knowledge sharing opportunities, as well as education development and wider consultations, while continuing to meet the increasing clinical demands of a growing and ageing population. Because of you, we have been able to create real and positive change in a number of areas.

A new Basic Specialist Training (BST) taught programme was launched for year one Trainees in July 2023. This follows the college's review of mandatory training for BST which resulted in the redesign of BST teaching to a more structured programme of learning. The new programme will ensure an appropriate level of teaching at the appropriate stage of training, with new online content released quarterly throughout the programme.

The Institute of Medicine committed to undertake a review of General Internal Medicine training in Ireland in 2022 which has made significant progress in the last year. The project, OPTIMISE, led by Prof Anthony O'Connor, aims to investigate the effectiveness of Internal Medicine training to meet the dynamic and continuously evolving needs of the medical workforce and the population they serve. International standards for Internal Medicine training have shifted to be more structured. Following extensive consultation with our Members, RCPI is committed to delivering a more structured training programme across Basic Specialist Training (BST) and Higher Specialist Training (HST) to better support physicians in dealing with the ever-growing complexities of general internal medicine. An interim report will be delivered in 2023 outlining initial findings, recommendations and an implementation plan.

Following in-person and online consultations with our Trainees, Learners, Members and Fellows, the college has determined our advocacy priorities, which we are committed to working on with you over the coming months and years. We are extremely well positioned to draw on the expertise of our faculties and institutes to address the issues that matter most to our Membership. We also acknowledge that we will all need to dig deep if we are to have real influence in addressing some of the most pressing challenges of our time.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The college will outline the priorities over the coming year. I encourage you to get involved, unite and live that famous mantra 'be the change you wish to see'.

We continue to see high numbers of very strong applications for our mandatory training programmes, international programmes, and our education courses. Simultaneously, we have experienced unprecedented growth in registrations for our CPD events. Our doctors are committed to continually develop and implement best practice patient care. The college



Prof Horgan welcoming Prof Jane Macnaughton from Derham University as an Honorary Fellow of RCPI

is committed to continuing to meet that demand with an education offering that is accessible and flexible to meet the needs of the busy practitioner.

Demand for RCPI examinations continues to grow globally and the college now has over 20 exam centres in five countries, Ireland, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, and Oman.

Newly established international partnerships and new examination centres in strategic locations facilitated those on waiting lists to sit the exams and move on to the next stage of their training and careers.

As I come to the end of my time as President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, I can honestly say I can look back with immense pride in what we have collectively achieved.

When I was elected by my peers in 2017, my vision for RCPI was to enable our Trainees, Members and Fellows, to deliver world-class care in supportive work environments where patients and clinicians feel respected and valued. I outlined four key focus areas which I have been committed to developing within the college during my tenure: Retention and Engagement, CPD and Life-Long Learning, Profession and Professionalism, and Innovation.



Prof Mary Horgan with Prof Trevor Duffy and Prof Cathy McHugh at RCPI roadshow in Sligo General Hospital

I believe our focus on continuous development in training and education, as well as on-site quality improvement, has made tremendous strides in empowering our Trainees and Learners with world-class education, career, and research opportunities. Our commitment to innovation, and continually reviewing and benchmarking what we do, ensures our relevance and sustainability so that we can continue to meet the needs of our doctors and our patients. We have created new opportunities, from the QI Scholars in Residence and the recent Management Consulting Fellowships, facilitating skills development in the key areas required to practice modern-day Medicine.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have found new ways to engage our senior Membership in the college so that they can share their knowledge and enhance the learning experience of others in meaningful ways; from becoming a Trainer, to lecturing on an education course, assessing, examining and interviewing, speaking at a CPD event, or more recently becoming a member of the RCPI academy for retired doctors.

During my Presidency, my passion for growing and enhancing our heritage centre has not wavered. Under the leadership of our Keeper of Collections, Ms Harriet Wheelock, we have built on the strength of our medical library to establish the first and only accredited Medical Museum in Ireland. As our collection grows, so too does the story of the college and of Irish medical history. I am so very proud of the hard work and innovation which has gone into making the collection more accessible through digitisation and our public exhibition programme. I look forward to watching our Medical Museum growing in size, breadth, and engagement with its own identity as an Irish Museum.

I am so grateful for the support I have received over the past 6 years from so many people who have helped me to maintain momentum even in the tougher



Prof Horgan welcomes participants at Heritage Day during the RCPI Annual Symposium - St Luke's

times. All that we achieve, we achieve together, and I have been privileged to lead this wonderful college and its people for the past six years.

I am confident as I hand over the mantle to our new President, Dr Diarmuid O'Shea, that RCPI is in safe and capable hands. Diarmuid has demonstrated unwavering commitment to the college for many decades and, I have no doubt will do so for decades to come.

Dr O'Shea is a highly respected clinician and leader in the field of geriatric medicine. His appointment is testament to his dedication to medical training and advancing healthcare in Ireland. He established the successful RCPI Masterclass series in 2007 and ensured the success of the initiative in his hands on role as Masterclass Series Convenor. He also made significant contributions to continuous professional development as Vice-President of Education and Professional Development, and played a leading role in promoting the college's work to improve patient care, medical practice and the health of the population, during his seven years as RCPI Registrar. I welcome Dr O'Shea to the role of President of RCPI and wish him and the college the very best into the future.

Professor Mary Horgan
President, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT DESIGNATE



Prof Diarmuid O'Shea

President Designate

I am honoured to be asked by the Fellows of RCPI to be your President for the coming three years. I would like to start by thanking our outgoing President, Professor Mary Horgan, on your behalf. We have been very fortunate to have her dedicated, inspiring and committed leadership, in particular during the COVID Pandemic.

We are a community of doctors connecting professionally and socially, nationally and internationally. Harnessing this potential and these networks empowers us and everyone we work with. Each of you are our ambassadors. As you write new chapters in your career you contribute to the fabric of the college, improve the quality of care delivered to patients and improve their outcomes.

Our college covers the span of life long training and education across our career trajectories. Being collaborative, inclusive, and collegial with each other and those we work with sets the standard. Training, working and learning together, empowers us all to deliver the best patient care. This is real leadership in the workplace.

Our college has proven time and again that we can provide leadership and adapt to the evolving needs of our doctors and of the healthcare system. Change and increasing demand and expectations will be a constant in our professional lives. The environment in which we train and work must

catch up and keep pace with the 21st century.

The environment that some perceive as a “blame game culture” in which we practice medicine must change. In addition to the work RCPI continues to do, society, our regulators and policy makers must play their part. This must be a collaborative and collective effort. Together, we will meet these challenges head on.

Collaboration will be central in delivering our shared vision, with a consistent and strong focus on; recruitment and retention of doctors and healthcare leaders; innovation, adaption and improvement in training and practice; creating safe and productive environments in which to work and learn. With this in mind we will continue to build our connections and collaborate with the HSE, The Department of Health, the Irish Medical Council, Patient Advocate Groups and the many other National bodies.

The recruitment and retention of a skilled, expert and motivated medical workforce is central to addressing the significant challenges across our health and social care system. The international reach and networks of our college are impressive. Recognising this and harnessing the opportunity of connecting with and supporting our Members in the work they do around the world has great potential on many levels. It will also be important to encourage and accommodate travel abroad for the

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT DESIGNATE

next generation of doctors and healthcare leaders.

Safe and productive environments are the foundations of an effective healthcare system. They also play a critical part in personal wellbeing. The demands on doctors in the workplace are placing them under increasing pressure. We have a shared responsibility to acknowledge and address this through many mechanisms including our curricula, training, training sites and learning opportunities. This means considering:

- Re-structuring to provide training and life-long learning in our modern and ever-changing world
- Collaborating to improve the environment in which we work and train
- Prioritising clinical leadership in the workplace and
- Innovating and advocating to improve the quality and safety of patient care

Throughout our working lives, we support people through health crises and influence their outcomes. As a community of doctors we have a pivotal role to play in the health and wellbeing of the people we meet every day. While we focus on the health and

wellbeing of others, we must also pay close attention to our own. Our college must help to safeguard the wellbeing of our doctors as each of you continue to strive for the best possible outcomes for your patients.

Innovation, Adaptation and Improvement in Training and Practice. RCPI has a vital role to play in shaping and delivering training and public health advocacy, as well as healthcare policy and strategy. We need to be at the forefront of innovation throughout our careers and across the spectrum of our training and life-long learning. Our ability to deliver education and training in cutting edge medical treatments and patient care require the college to apply that same level of innovation and agility in all that we do.

TEAMWORK

As I start my three-year term, with a strong and motivated team around me, I would like to thank you for your contribution to the college and I invite you to become more active in your college. Make suggestions of how we can improve, and feel welcome to attend the in person events and meetings we organise.

As you read this, I hope you appreciate that you are the lifeblood of our college and the custodians of our profession. You are our ambassadors and flagbearers. I look forward to working with the team in the college on your behalf and to meeting you over the course of my term in office as I visit your local hospitals or when you are attending a college meeting, event or conferring ceremony.

Thank you for entrusting me with this role.

Go raibh mile maith agat.

Professor Diarmuid O'Shea
President Designate, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Audrey Houlihan

CEO

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland is an incredibly diverse, and innovative organisation, continually striving to improve on what has been achieved before. It is my great pleasure to lead this organisation into the next phase of growth and development in collaboration with our Trainees, Members, Fellows and Learners.

I am honoured to be entrusted with this role and have spent the first few months of my appointment since June 2023, getting to know the college and its key stakeholders, many of whom I had the pleasure of working with in my previous role.



Audrey Houlihan welcomes newest Members of RCPI at No. 6

Over the past year, we continued to make significant progress on the strategic initiatives outlined in our 2021 – 2024 strategic plan to deliver our vision for a globally connected community of doctors improving people’s health.

We know that improving the experience and outcomes for our patients and making a difference to the health of our growing population, starts with the doctors who serve them. Supporting the wellbeing of our physicians while simultaneously delivering best practice, highest standard education opportunities over the course of their careers, remains a core focus for the college.

SPECIALIST TRAINING

Assessment of our Basic Specialist Training (BST) and Higher Specialist Training (HST) is underway. The redeveloped taught programme for BST was implemented for Year 1 Trainees commencing in July 2023. The review of Internal Medicine Training for both BST and HST is also well underway, with the OPTIMISE interim report and initial recommendations advanced. The project initiates our journey to transform Internal Medicine Training bringing fresh thinking and new approaches to optimise the training experience and produce the appropriate physician workforce to address future healthcare needs.

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

A new curriculum for the Irish Clinician Educator Track (ICET) has been developed. This National Training Track for SpRs is designed to enhance the quality of Clinical Education in Ireland. To date, nine HST programmes have moved to an outcomes-based curriculum, meaning Trainees commencing HST schemes in 2023 will continue on a pathway firmly aligned to the BST.

To continually refine and improve, 1,760 Trainee evaluations were conducted in the past year and the RCPI hospital site Quality Improvement process has reached its midway point of the first cycle of visits. This rigorous process enables the college of better support Trainees, Trainers, and hospital sites to ensure optimal outcomes are achieved.

EDUCATION, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LIFELONG LEARNING

We were delighted to add to our professionally accredited education offering in 2023. RCPI's Certificate in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and our Certificate in Cancer Genetics and Genomics were validated by Quality Qualifications Ireland (QQI) as Level 9 Postgraduate Certificates. The Certificate in Cancer Genetics and



Genomics also received an AMEE ASPIRE to Excellence Certificate of Merit for 'Inspirational Approaches'.

Engagement with our Professional Competence Schemes continues to grow year on year, with increasing numbers successfully meeting their PCS requirements.

We were thrilled to launch our new event platform just before our annual conference – St Luke's 2022, which

saw record levels of interest for all events over the week-long symposium. The new platform has allowed us to substantially increase capacity at our events, enabling our membership to join easily from anywhere in the world. Our vibrant CPD event series engaged almost 10,000 participants live and via playback over the past year, many of whom have shared positive feedback about the new platform, event speakers, and content.

HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

The college remains a trusted, independent voice on healthcare policy. NIAC continues to provide recommendations on immunology and vaccine related issued to the Department of Health. We bid farewell to some of our valued committee members this year, Karina Butler, Kevin Connolly, and Brenda Corcoran. We thank them for their incredible service over the years, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic which they navigated with care and unwavering commitment to help protect our nation against an unknown virus as it unfolded globally. The newly appointed committee will be supported to continue this important work.

The Policy Group on Tobacco launched a policy

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

paper to increase the legal age to purchase tobacco products, generating significant public interest and support. Another key success was the Masterclass on Health Equity which drew unprecedented interest, demonstrating the importance of this topic for our physicians.

A senior delegation from the college met with RCPI membership in Sligo, Limerick and Waterford, and consulted with the wider membership via a virtual survey to define our advocacy priorities into the future. The outcome of this consultation will be shared in the second half of 2023.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

We were delighted to partner with other Irish training bodies to launch a postgraduate medical training website in Dubai. Representatives from Irish training colleges visited Dubai in February 2023 to engage in discussions about the training prospects available in Ireland for doctors from the Gulf region.

The college continues to see strong interest in our sponsored residency and clinical fellowship programmes, and currently have 51 international Trainees enrolled



Launch of postgraduate medical training website in Dubai.

with RCPI in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Limerick.

International collaboration remains strong with necessary visits and virtual dialogue ongoing across GCC countries to address their evolving needs. In partnership with the HSE, the college is dedicated to supporting training and supplying equipment to hospitals in Zambia via the EQUALS initiative. In August 2022, January 2023, and

February 2023 shipments of decommissioned medical equipment were tested and dispatched to Lusaka, Zambia. Along with access to online courses facilitated by RCPI, we delivered two Train the Trainer courses to the Zambia College of Medicine and Surgery (ZACOMS) to support continuous professional development in the region.

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

I am particularly inspired by the concerted commitment of the college to continual improvement in the areas of equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI). This past year, the college was awarded Diversity Silver accreditation, with the Irish Centre for Diversity. A staff-wide survey was completed to measure the key areas of strength in EDI and to identify where RCPI needs to place greater focus. Over 100 employees attended workshops in January 2023 to discuss: diverse and inclusive leadership; policy, practice and process; recruitment, retention and progression; and recording and monitoring EDI. RCPI staff policies were reviewed and updated during the year in line with best practice.

The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion staff working group divided into five sub networks with specific focus areas. They ran a series of staff events which were very well attended, including:

- Unconscious bias training, an International Women's Day event
- Mental Health Training for Managers and Mental Health Connect Café for International Men's Day
- Multicultural pot-luck event
- Pride event for staff with a speaker from BeLong to Youth Services
- Workshop hosted by Specialisterne Ireland on increasing understanding, acceptance and inclusion in the area of autism and neurodiversity in the workplace

I want to take the opportunity to thank Dr Terri McWade who, in his role as CEO, provided strategic direction and lay the foundations for the College of 2024. My thanks also to Sheila Gallagher for the leadership, support and vision, during her time as interim CEO, and for supporting me as I navigated the complexities of the College.

Together with the Senior Management Team, I am looking forward to a very busy 2023 and 2024 as we deliver on the remaining initiatives of the strategic plan. During this time, we will be focused on future growth and the achievement of high-quality performance throughout our activities as we define our strategy beyond 2024.

Audrey Houlihan

CEO, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland



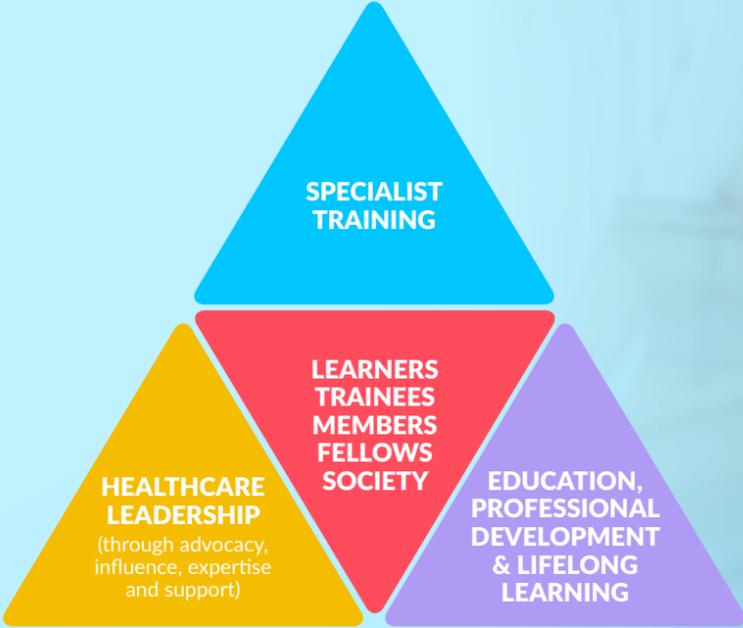
STRATEGY UPDATE

Our core values are as follows:

Welcoming	Supportive, inclusive, open, caring and diverse
Connecting	Engaged across faculties, with society, our partners and Members across the globe
Respectful	Mutual respect and how we behave internally with each other and with the public, Learners, Members, Fellows, Trainees and Trainers
Responsive	Innovative, progressive, agile and receptive to change
Challenging	Inquisitive, questioning, ambitious, brave and independent
Trustworthy	Trusted because of our heritage, professionalism, reputation and honesty

RCPI's three main areas of activity under the strategy are:

- Education, Professional Development and Lifelong Learning
- Specialist Training
- Healthcare Leadership, through advocacy, influence, expertise, and support



At the centre of what we do are our Learners, Trainees, Members, Fellows and society.

STRATEGY UPDATE

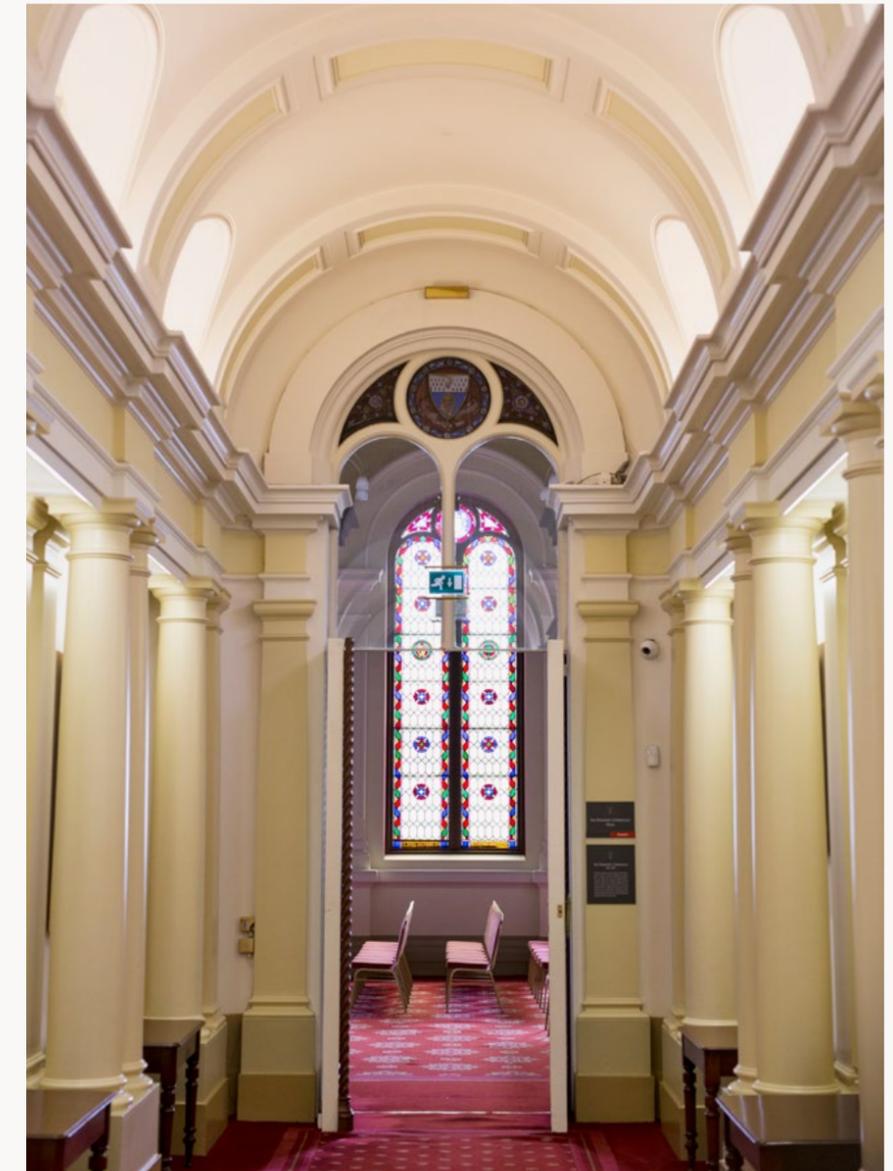
Ten strategic initiatives underpin the strategy:

Each of these have quantifiable measures of success and agreed deliverables to support their achievement.

- 1 To enhance the quality of our training programmes and supports offered to ensure they meet the needs of doctors
- 2 To develop our exam Membership offering to best meet the needs of doctors
- 3 To extend our global engagement and enhance our international training programme offering
- 4 To measure and improve core RCPI processes and use data to support evidence-based decision making
- 5 To promote excellence across the organisation to maximise performance and realise college goals
- 6 To offer lifelong learning opportunities
- 7 To be the voice of physicians, shaping and influencing healthcare policy, at a national level
- 8 To create a new Membership model and enhanced Membership engagement
- 9 To develop, preserve, catalogue, and make accessible RCPI's heritage collections
- 10 To champion equality, diversity, and inclusion in all college activity

We are continuing to make good progress with the completion of projects under the 10 strategic initiatives. During 2022/2023, over 20 projects under the college's strategic initiatives were completed including:

- Membership consultation on policy and advocacy priorities for the college
- Fellowship Steering Group and implementation of recommendations
- Delivery of a new RCPI website and a new website for the RCPI Heritage Centre
- Introduction of a new virtual/hybrid events platform
- Simulation Governance Project



A YEAR IN REVIEW



WORLD-CLASS SPECIALIST TRAINING

Our doctors are trained to meet current and future health needs.

Through our six training bodies, we are committed to supporting doctors to reach their full potential. RCPI training programmes are designed to equip doctors with the skills they need to become clinical leaders; agile in their approach to the rapidly evolving needs of society.

1,322

applications to training programmes across **6** faculties

1,700

Trainee evaluations

543

applicants interviewed

Current Trainees

1,760

doctors in training:

757 BST / **1,003** HST

1,482

Trainers across **80** sites

Exams in numbers

In total

4,543

candidates*

3,413

written exam candidates

1,103

candidates sat clinical exams

* Breakdown by specialty – General medicine (3,369), Paediatrics (423) Obstetrics and Gynaecology (607), Occupational Medicine (114), Public Health (30)



WORLD-CLASS SPECIALIST TRAINING

BST and HST Training Sites

University Hospital Galway

Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital,
Drogheda, Louth

St James' Hospital, Dublin

Cork University Maternity Hospital

Mercy University Hospital, Cork

South Infirmity Hospital, Cork

University Hospital Kerry

Bantry General Hospital, Cork

Mallow General Hospital, Cork

Cork University Hospital

Connolly Hospital, Dublin

Children's Health Ireland at
Crumlin Hospital, Dublin

Children's Health Ireland at
Temple St Hospital, Dublin

Letterkenny University Hospital, Donegal

Sligo University Hospital

Mayo University Hospital

Portiuncula Hospital, Galway

Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin

Tallaght University Hospital, Dublin

University Hospital Limerick

University Hospital Limerick Maternity

South Tipperary Hospital

Nenagh General Hospital, Tipperary

Ennis General Hospital, Clare

St John's General Hospital, Limerick

Cavan General Hospital

Our Lady's Hospital, Navan

Naas General Hospital, Kildare

Saint Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin

Saint Columcille's Hospital, Dublin

St Michael's Hospital, Drogheda, Dublin

The Coombe Hospital, Dublin

Holles' Street, Dublin

Rotunda Hospital Dublin

Midlands Regional Hospital

Mullingar, Westmeath

Midlands Regional Hospital

Portlaoise, Laoise

Midlands Regional Hospital

Tullamore, Offaly

University Hospital Waterford

St Luke's General Hospital, Kilkenny

Wexford University Hospital

Blackrock Hospice, Dublin

St Luke's Rathgar, Dublin

Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross, Dublin

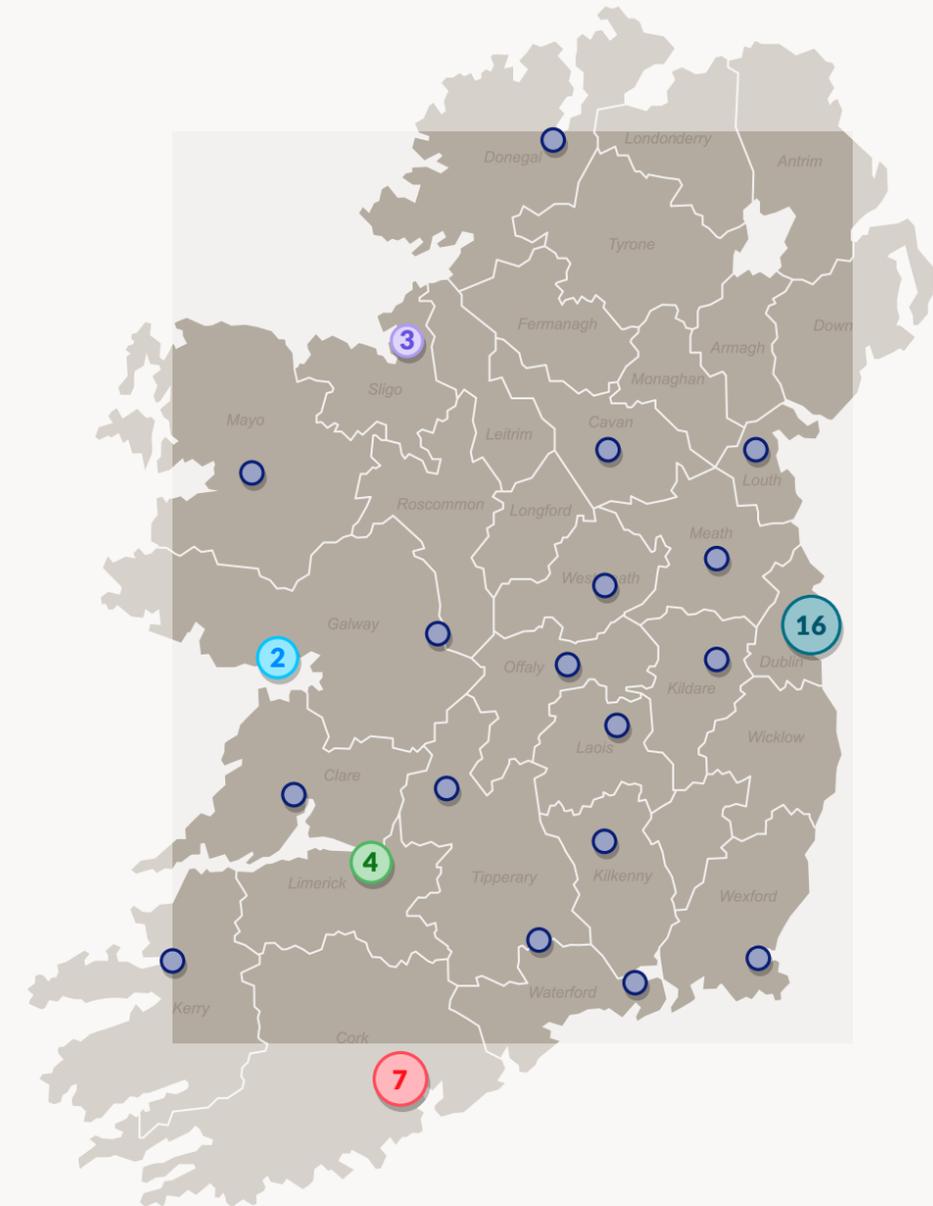
St Francis Hospice, Raheny, Dublin

Galway Hospice

Milford Care Centre, Limerick

Northwest Hospice, Sligo

Marymount Hospice, Cork



WORLD-CLASS SPECIALIST TRAINING

Occupational Health Medicine

University Hospital Limerick
HSE North West (JFK House, Sligo)
Corporate Health Ireland Cork
EHA Limerick
Medmark Occupational Centre - Dublin
HSE North East (Ardee)
Medwise Naas
Tallaght University Hospital
Corporate Health Ireland
Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown
An Garda Siochana
Dr Steevens Hospital, HSE
Cork University Hospital



Public Health Medicine

Public Health Area - A
Public Health Area - B
Public Health Area - C
Public Health Area - D
Public Health Area - E
Public Health Area - F
Department of Health
Health Intelligence Unit
Health Protection Surveillance Centre
National Cancer Control Programme
National Child Health Group
National Social Inclusion
Quality and Patient Safety
National Screening Service
World Health Organisation
The Institute of Public Health
Chronic Conditions



WORLD-CLASS SPECIALIST TRAINING

BASIC AND HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAMMES

1,322 applications were received for training programme across 28 specialties for the July 2022 intake. There were 56 interview panels for both BST and HST with 543 candidates interviewed in total.

595 candidates were offered places across all specialties in HST and BST programmes. During 2022 and 2023, each specialty chose whether to conduct interviews on Zoom or in person.

NEW BST TAUGHT PROGRAMME

In 2022/23, a review of mandatory teaching for BST was completed, with the aim to consolidate and redevelop BST teaching and move it to a structured programme of learning. The new BST Taught Programme is designed to bring an appropriate level of teaching at the appropriate stage of training. Trainees will be enrolled onto their BST Taught Programme on RCPI's virtual learning environment (VLE) Brightspace, where they will access all their online learning content and virtual tutorials. New online content will be



released quarterly throughout BST, rounding out with a virtual tutorial at the end of each quarter.

Trainees will be allocated to Tutorial Groups and assigned a Clinical Tutor that they will stay with for the duration of their BST Programme. This gives Trainees an identifiable group of peers who are following the same pathway as they are, and encountering similar challenges at a similar time. Part-time Clinical Tutors were recruited for the delivery and roll-out of the new programme.

The new BST Taught Programmes launched for year 1 Trainees in July 2023.

TRAINEE EVALUATIONS

1,760 Trainee evaluations were conducted over a seven-week period between May to June. All HST yearly evaluations were conducted on Zoom except for penultimate year assessments and final year assessments, which were in person. There were over 63 evaluation panels across all 30 specialties. Zoom worked well for the evaluations and it meant that busy clinicians did not have to come to Dublin, and Trainees could conduct their evaluation and then go back to work. This also helps the college to reduce its carbon footprint.

MANAGEMENT FELLOWSHIPS

In July 2021, we introduced the first of our Management Fellowships with PwC. These fellowships in management are an innovative opportunity for Trainees to gain experience in management theory, hands-on project management and delivery modelling for healthcare. The structured work placement, developed in partnership with PwC, is open to Specialist Registrars entering year four or five from all specialties, who are eligible for out of programme experience.

WORLD-CLASS SPECIALIST TRAINING

The one-year programme is designed to support the training and professional development of our future healthcare leaders and provides training opportunities in management and leadership, relationship building, business acumen, digital upskilling and project management. During July 2022 and July 2023, three Trainees were in post, Dr Ciara Kelly – Public Health Medicine, Dr James Murphy – Geriatrics, and Dr Sean Casey – Paediatrics.

Management Fellowship posts will be expanding from July 2023 onwards, in partnership with EY, as well as PwC.

ASPIRE FELLOWSHIPS

RCPI had over 20 Aspire Fellowships across all six faculties during 2022/2023. These posts continue to be popular with Trainees. A number of doctors have now been appointed as consultants from these posts.

STUDY DAYS

Study days returned in person during the last year. However, a number of study days remained online,

allowing us to make more study days available to all Trainees. Overall, between June 2022 and July 2023, RCPI hosted approximately 300 study days.

NEW CURRICULUM FOR IRISH CLINICIAN EDUCATOR TRACK

A new curriculum for the Irish Clinician Educator Track (ICET) was developed. This is a National Training Track for SpRs and it is designed to enhance the quality of Clinical Education in Ireland. The programme duration is two years to be undertaken as Out of Clinical Programme Experience (OCPE).



Trainee doctors at Beaumont Hospital, Dublin

A significant programme of work supported curriculum development. This included benchmarking against established National and International programmes in Clinical Education, literature reviews, stakeholder engagement through workshops and meetings, and culminated in the identification of training goals, training outcomes and training requirements.

Over the past year, nine HST programmes have moved to an outcome-based curriculum, including HST and BST in Paediatrics, and all Institute of Medicine dual General Internal Medicine training programmes. This means Trainees commencing HST scheme in 2023 will continue on the pathway aligned to their BST.

EXAMINATIONS

In total 4,543 candidates took examinations from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 from 68 countries worldwide. This is an increase of 5 per cent compared with the previous year. Demand for RCPI examinations continues to grow globally and the college now has over 20 exam centres in five countries; Ireland, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, and Oman.

WORLD-CLASS SPECIALIST TRAINING

“Achieving the MRCPI in Obstetrics and Gynaecology is a significant career milestone. It’s an internationally-acknowledged qualification, which recognises the achievement of clinical knowledge and skills in the specialty. The college is its members; becoming a Member of RCPI represents an opportunity to grow and develop the specialty for future generations both in Ireland and internationally.”

Dr Grace Madigan, MRCPI,
Obstetrics and Gynaecology

EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIP EXAMINATIONS

RCPI established a link to work in partnership with European Specialty Examinations. The Examinations Department began collaborating with CESMA/ UEMS European Society for Endocrinology and the European Aids Society to support them with exam question development, standard setting, exam delivery via remote invigilation and candidate management. We look forward to working closely with both societies over the coming year and to deliver the Endocrinology examination in early November 2023.

INTERNATIONAL EXPANSION OF EXAMINATION CENTRES

With two new Obstetrics and Gynaecology International OSCE/Clinical centres opening in 2022, Al Ain in March and Muscat in November, and a third centre opening in Riyadh in February 2023, RCPI has increased the number of exam places available. Candidates on the waiting list for the MRCPI Part II OSCE/Clinical examination all sat their exam. As a result, the college was able to significantly increase the number of written examination places available.



Dr. Marah Yousef, Dr. Sean Casey, Dr. Esraa Ads during BST induction day at No. 6 Kildare Street

For General Internal Medicine, we increased diets to twice a year in Malaysia, with a new centre in Hospital Tuanku Fauziah, Kangar, Perlis. Further expansion is planned for North Malaysia in November 2023, with a new centre in Hospital Sultan Abdul Halim, Sungai Petani, Kedah.

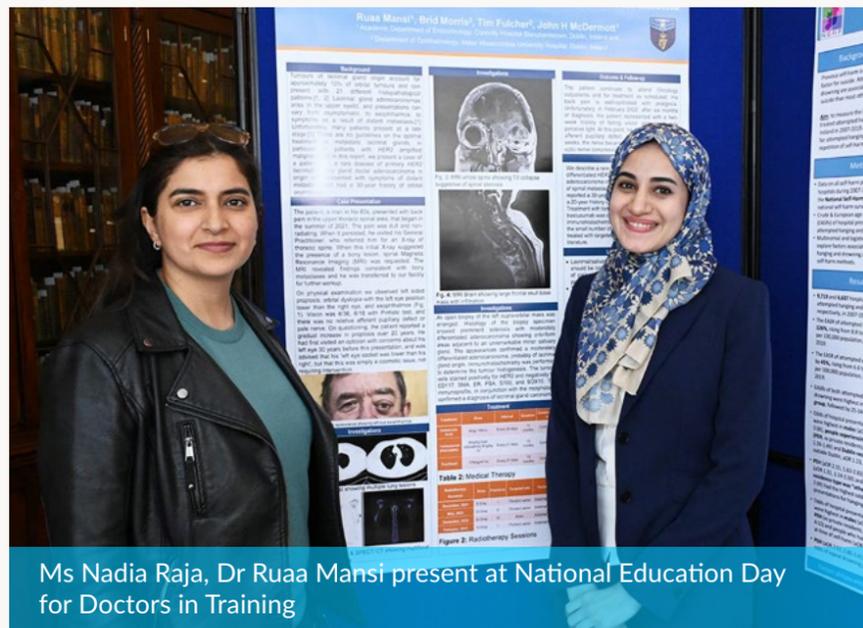
Another new centre was established in the Crown Prince Centre for Training and Medical Research, Bahrain, and exams will commence there in early December.

For Paediatrics, we have identified the first RCPI International Paediatrics Clinical Exam Centre in Suliman Al Habib Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and will deliver this examination in October 2023.

WORLD-CLASS SPECIALIST TRAINING

EXAM BOARDS REVIEW

To enhance, strengthen and protect the governance of RCPIs examinations, as outlined in the college's strategic objectives, a full review of the standard operating procedures, work instructions, examination regulations and terms of reference (TOR) which govern the Exam Boards, was carried out over the last year. The TORs have been adapted to align with the college governance committee templates. Exam Regulations have been updated and reformatted.



Ms Nadia Raja, Dr Ruaa Mansi present at National Education Day for Doctors in Training

PARTNERSHIP WITH ROYAL COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS UK

An MoU was signed to form a partnership with the Royal College of Pathologists UK (RCPATH) and the Faculty of Pathology RCPI, whereby the RCPI Exams Department are supporting our Pathology Trainees and others by hosting the FRCPath examinations in the college.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINEES – INTEGRATION PROJECT

The Integration project, completed in July 2022, saw the international training team move under the administration of the Training and Faculties office. Detailed touch points and meeting plans were highlighted in the project plan to maintain good working relationships between both departments. Standard Operating Practices were completed across the work programme, including a Coordinator Handbook for onboarding Trainees.

A Capacity Mapping project was launched to map international training posts and a review of all past and current posts. Three new subspecialty areas of training with Trainees on programme

HOSPITAL SITE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

The RCPI hospital site Quality Improvement process is at the midway point of the first cycle of visits. To date, 18 sites have been visited in-person, with the specialties of Occupational Health and Public Health being reviewed by a panel at RCPI in No. 6 Kildare Street.

Overseen by an extern, the visits take place on-site over 1 to 5 days, with a panel from RCPI meeting with site management, Trainees and Trainers to review training standards on site and make recommendations where suitable. Relevant NSDs take part in their own speciality sessions to ensure curriculum outcomes are being met. A report is made available to the site within 10 – 12 weeks following the visit.

To date this new approach has been very well received by the sites, as well as by Trainees and Trainers. The process is under constant refinement to ensure the visits are as minimally disruptive as possible and provide tangible and necessary feedback.

WORLD-CLASS SPECIALIST TRAINING

RCPI TRAINER PROJECT

The Trainer Engagement Project is currently advancing through its third phase, which is focused on Quality Improvement. Within this phase, we are working towards meeting various key deliverables related to Trainer resources, enhancements to the Trainer Hub asset, and managing the Annual Trainer Conference.

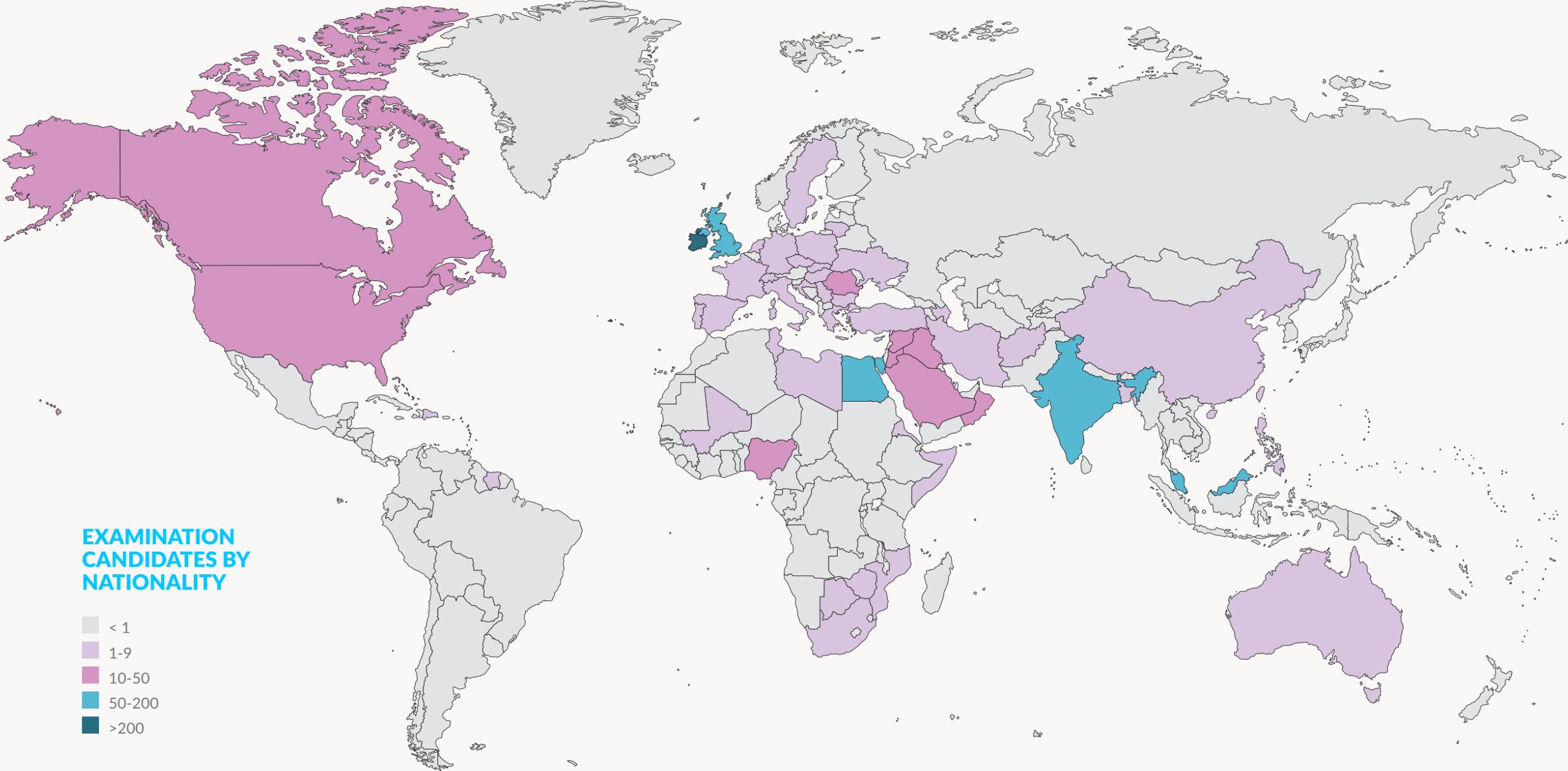
Notably, the Trainer Refresher Course has achieved significant progress, with 60 per cent of eligible Trainers successfully completing the course.

Feedback from participants who took part in the Refresher Course has been gathered and will serve as valuable input to enhance the course in its subsequent iterations. The overall feedback received has been positive, reflecting the effectiveness of the course content and delivery. However, it was identified that there is room for improvement in terms of progression tracking, as highlighted by some of the Learners.

Preparations are actively underway for the upcoming Annual RCPI Trainer Conference, scheduled for 3 November at No. 6 Kildare Street. This conference promises to be another impactful event, providing a platform for sharing insights, best practices, and fostering collaboration among Trainers.



Dr Tom Crotty, Dr Maeve Doyle, Prof Deirdre Bennett, and Ms Janet O'Farrell at the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland's Trainer Conference 2022.



LIFELONG LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Throughout their professional lives, doctors must constantly update their knowledge and expertise so that they can provide world-class care to patients.

We continue to develop our range of lifelong learning and educational opportunities for doctors and other healthcare professionals as the needs of the sector and our patients continue to evolve.

OVER
93,300
Learners accessed Brightspace

297
workshops and tutorials delivered

9,367
attendees across **43**
events and webinars

82%
of participants across
11 Professional
Competence
Schemes met the
PCS requirements

5,589
total enrolled across
11 Professional
Competence Schemes

9,137
participants on
RCPI Courses

1,973
participants on RCPI
iheed programmes



LIFELONG LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

It was an excellent webinar and very helpful for the current practice.

Thanks to all who spent time putting together such a broad and interesting agenda and to the speakers who delivered it so well. There was so much in it that it could easily have been a half day!

High quality series of webinars so far with esteemed panels, generating good discussion and updating the attendees effectively. Worth registering for. Many more to come I hope.

The platform used is very user friendly, a very good experience.

CPD EVENTS

WHAT OUR PARTICIPANTS SAY:

Excellent and broad ranging day. Topics and speakers were first class throughout the day.

The RCPI staff were extremely helpful to me as I attended with my 6-month-old. They helped me getting the buggy into and out of the building, showed me to the lift, heated my baby's food and generally everyone asked if there was anything else I needed.

The masterclasses by webinar are an incredible benefit for fellowship and unexpected consequence of pandemic and allows one to sample updates not directly related to one's own practice whereas it might be harder to justify leaving work to attend an in-person when not in direct discipline.

Really worthwhile hot topics. All the speakers spoke knowledgeably and eloquently. I am amazed at the advances in diagnoses and identifying risk in CVD. Technology has transformed the specialty. Great to be updated, all in one session!

LIFELONG LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ENGAGEMENT IN PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE SCHEMES

RCPI administers 11 Professional Competence Schemes (PCS) on behalf of the Medical Council. The numbers enrolled on our Professional Competence Schemes have been increasing year on year since they were first introduced in May 2011, with the highest number of doctors enrolled to date at the end of the 2022 – 23 PCS year. This included 1,053 new enrolments during the year.

PCS compliance continues to grow year on year. Overall, 82 per cent of participants across 11 Schemes met the PCS requirements for the 2022 – 23 PCS year, an increase of 7 per cent on last year. The individual Scheme compliance rates for the year ranged from 74 per cent to 94 per cent.

The Annual Verification Process for the 2021 – 2022 PCS year was undertaken between July 2022 and April 2023. A random selection of 4 per cent of all Scheme participants, and a further 4 per cent of those who had not met requirements for 2021-2022, were chosen from each of RCPI's 11 Schemes. Detailed administrator and clinician reviews were



Learners present the results from their projects undertaken as part of RCPI's Postgraduate Certificate in Quality Improvement Leadership in Healthcare

conducted with a view to preparing constructive advice for the relevant doctors. 61 per cent of doctors were verified with no further action required. Doctors who were verified action received an annotation on their 2022-2023 Annual Statement.

A total of 377 RCPI activities (2805 hours) were approved for CPD credits between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023. RCPI also facilitates a process of reviewing and approving external activities provided by other individuals or bodies for the purpose of awarding CPD credits. During the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June

2022, RCPI approved a total of 426 activities (2209 hours) provided by other individuals or bodies.

RCPI engaged with the Medical Council on Public Consultation for the new Draft Rules and Guidelines for the Maintenance of Professional Competence. The new Maintenance of Professional Competence (MPC) Framework will be implemented on 1 May 2024. RCPI will continue to collaborate with the Medical Council and the Forum of Postgraduate Training Bodies Sub Committee to support implementation of the new MPC Framework.

ENHANCING OUR EDUCATION OFFERING

RCPI's Certificate in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and the Certificate in Cancer Genetics and Genomics were validated by Quality Qualifications Ireland (QQI) as NFQ Level 9 Postgraduate Certificates in 22/23. Both programmes are enrolling Learners for commencement with postgraduate qualifications in Autumn 2023.

The first intakes of the newly QQI accredited Postgraduate Certificate in Quality Improvement Leadership in Healthcare commenced in September 2022.

LIFELONG LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Dr Filipa Aguiar, Consultant in Internal Medicine, pictured after receiving her Certificate in Essential Leadership for New Consultants

In September 2022, the Certificate in Cancer Genetics and Genomics received the AMEE ASPIRE to Excellence Certificate of Merit in the area of 'Inspirational Approaches'.

RCPI launched an online module 'A Guide to Reflective

Practice' in early 2023. This course introduces the theory of reflective practice and provides practical examples of how to enrich your own reflective practice. This guide is beneficial to those with little or no experience of reflective practice and may also direct those seasoned practitioners into novel areas to use this skill. Reflective practice can be applied to many domains of a physician's practice, from clinical decisions, patient interactions and teamwork, to personal development and lifelong learning.

A new certificate in Clinical Care in Residential facilities launched in September 2022. This course is designed for General Practitioners, other physicians, Directors of Nursing, Clinical Nurse Managers and Persons in Charge who want to develop their expertise in the care of older people living in residential care and collaborate with other healthcare professionals and experts to drive improvements in this area.

The course covered clinical care of the older person, including the management of dementia, therapeutics, the prescribing and de-prescribing of medication where appropriate, and end of life care. Learners also gain an understanding of best practice when communicating with residents, families and carers and when working as part of a multi-disciplinary team.

Feedback was excellent and it is planned to run again in 2023.

CPD-SS PROGRAMME

A total of 785 Learners were enrolled on CPD-SS in 2022/2023, representing a 29 per cent increase in enrolments year-on-year. 681 we on the self-directed programme, and 104 participated in the Structured Learning Pathway.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMMES

The college continues to grow and expand our offering of quality improvement (QI) programmes to support healthcare professionals to provide the best possible care for their patients in a positive and safe environment. 57 healthcare leaders participated in the Postgraduate Certificate in Quality Improvement in Leadership Healthcare, 38 in the Quality in Action programme, and 20 groups participated in the SAFE – Situation Awareness for Everyone. The QI team held a series of successful in person events in 2023, bringing together programme participants to share their knowledge and experience

LIFELONG LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

and we are seeing strong examples of scaling the projects beyond the initial hospital site.

IHEED PARTNERSHIP

RCPI's partnership with iHeed continues to be a huge success with 1,973 Learners across our six programmes in 2022/2023. RCPI and iHeed currently offer; Professional Diploma in Paediatrics, Professional Diploma in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Professional Diploma in Dermatology, Professional Diploma in Medicine for the Older Person, Professional Diploma in Infectious Diseases, and Professional Diploma in Occupational Medicine.

CPD EVENT DELIVERY

RCPI implemented a new system to extend the reach and improve the experience of CPD event participants in September 2022. The online platform enables more doctors to engage with vital CPD opportunities in a manner less disruptive to their daily work and from anywhere in the world. The platform delivers an easier and more efficient registration process, and has elevated the virtual experience and boosted attendance and overall Member engagement.

RCPI delivered 43 webinars, conferences, meetings and symposia during the past financial year, with 9,367 doctors attending and more watching online after the event via the playback function.

St Luke's Symposium 2022 saw over 1,100 doctors attending across the four day event. The Institute of Medicine Hot Topics Webinar series and the How I do It series from the Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists continue to be extremely popular with our Membership. The RCPI Masterclass series is growing in prominence.

RESEARCH

A substantial evidence review on international and Irish practice and experience regarding less than fulltime Training and geographical rotations, gathering evidence from Trainees, Trainers, international training bodies and HR/Medical Manpower was completed in 2022-2023. This examined current practice, experience and barriers and facilitators to change. Findings informed a key element of a report submitted to HSE-NDTP by RCPI, setting out recommendations for facilitating less than fulltime Training opportunities and reducing cross-



Participants at RCPI's Faculty Training Workshop

regional rotations for Trainees in the future. Emergent findings were also presented at the Psychological Society of Ireland Psychology, Health and Medicine conference, at the University of Limerick in May 2023.

The Training Post Evaluation (TPE) 2021-2022 was completed by 587 Basic and Higher Specialist Trainees (35%) in the summer of 2022. Launched by RCPI in 2016, this annual survey provides an opportunity to

LIFELONG LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Prof Dara Byrne, Dr Maeve Doyle, Ms Aisling Smith, Prof Walter Eppich, Prof Mary Horgan pictured at RCPI's inaugural Trainer conference

share honest and anonymous feedback on training experiences throughout the year. The data gathered through TPE 2021-2022 informed each specialty review during our Site Quality Improvement (QI) Visits since being gathered and to improve the quality of training for our Trainees. Initial findings were presented at the Trainer conference held in RCPI in December 2022 and at the IOM Training Lead Forum in February 2023, with bespoke reports for each training body in development.

A focus group study consisting of early-career consultant physicians from a range of specialties across RCPI was undertaken in late 2022 by the research team, aimed at investigating the understanding of, and attitudes towards, formal mentorship.

Findings fell into two main themes:

1. Perceived value of mentorship (minding the gap), *and*
2. Facilitators of participation and sustained engagement.

Findings have informed the pilot mentorship programme to be delivered for new RCPI-affiliated hospital consultants in their first two years of independent practice in Ireland in 2023. This will also be evaluated by the research team going forward, measuring effectiveness and impact.

A substantial study commenced in May 2023 to evaluate the impact of change in the delivery of RCPI mandatory courses at both BST and HST levels, to determine whether the redesign was successful and to provide feedback to RCPI on an annual basis. The has gathered

perceptions of BST and HST Trainees, BST and HST Faculty who deliver RCPI mandatory courses, RCPI BST and HST Trainers, and RCPI Staff who administer the delivery of RCPI mandatory courses, using anonymous online surveys. Comparisons will be made between the current mandatory course delivery format and the new programme of teaching going forward.

The RCPI Research Ethics Committee saw significant change in 2022, with Dr Una Fallon stepping down from her role as Chair after 10 years' significant contribution to the college, along with her Vice-Chair colleague Dr Kathleen Bennett. The Committee welcomed Dr Fiona Boland as Vice-Chair, along with incoming Chair, Dr Niamh Clarke.

In 2022-23, 21 applications received a favourable review by the Committee, while the Committee also undertook a review of both ToRs and SoP in the context of change in the research climate in Ireland and REC reform.

LEADERSHIP IN PATIENT CARE

The Royal College of Physicians in Ireland manages four National Specialty Quality Improvement (NSQI) Programmes in GI Endoscopy, Histopathology, Radiology and Bronchoscopy.

The primary aim of the NSQI Programmes is to strengthen patient safety efforts in participating public, voluntary and private hospitals, enhancing patient care with accurate, timely and complete diagnoses and reports in GI Endoscopy, Histopathology, Radiology and Bronchoscopy.



participated in the National Specialty Quality Improvement Programmes



LEADERSHIP IN PATIENT CARE

SPECIALTY QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

Significant work was undertaken to increase the standardisation and transparency of all policies across National Specialty Quality Improvement programmes, including a large collaborative project on the information governance policy. The NSQI programmes became designated data processors for the HSE, leading to a robust data request process, which was used four times in the last year. The data was used in research projects conducted by the National Histopathology Quality Improvement programme, the Irish Cancer Society, the National Cancer Control Programme, and the National Acute Operations Endoscopy Programme. The high-quality data produced contributes towards better patient care and service improvements.

The National GI Endoscopy Quality Improvement (NEQI) programme began collecting data in relation to endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) for the first time. In 2021, it was estimated that approximately 1,000 ERCP procedures were performed in Ireland. With the new data collection process in place, the programme will be able to provide accurate data relating to the number and quality of these procedures on an ongoing basis.



Dr Danny Cheriyan consults with patient at Beaumont Hospital, Dublin

The National Radiology Quality Improvement (NRQI) programme commenced the total turnaround time (TAT) pilot project, with one of the participating radiology departments, in March 2023. The project will explore opportunities to improve turnaround times at a pilot site and how to better capture the current patient journey time, with the aim of minimising delays encountered.

The National Bronchoscopy Quality Improvement (NBQI) programme began the first phase of key quality indicator development, focusing on sedation. A working group was set-up in November 2022, successfully

recruiting 13 members from public hospitals around the country. The initial response and engagement with this new programme have been positive and will utilise QI processes within the specialty to benefit patient care.

The National Histopathology Quality Improvement (NHQI) programme research group presented at the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (USCAP) annual meeting on 'The role of MDT Histopathology Review and Impact on Revised Reports' and 'Persistence of Peer Review During the Pandemic'. The team is comprised of a Trainee histopathologist, two working group members and the programme manager.

The NHQI programme continues to collaborate with the newly established Autopsy Quality Improvement Committee (AQIC), the aim of which is to improve the quality of autopsy practice in Ireland, collecting data from all autopsies carried out in hospitals and by coroners in Ireland.

ANNUAL REPORTING TO ENHANCE PATIENT CARE

The NSQI programmes in GI Endoscopy, Histopathology, Radiology and Bronchoscopy have continued their work throughout the year with 60 public, voluntary

LEADERSHIP IN PATIENT CARE

and public hospitals, in the pursuit of lasting change and quality improvements in patient care through meticulous data collection and reporting on key quality indicators (KQI). The annual data reports were published and publicly shared, detailing important findings and recommendations made by the working groups.

QI data is increasingly used by other organisations for research purposes, to support ongoing improvements in reporting, patient care and quality practice.

IN NUMBERS:

NATIONAL HISTOPATHOLOGY QI PROGRAMME

First programme of its kind internationally

21/21 Public labs

7/9 Private labs

5 Key Quality Indicators plus workload reported on annually

515,786 Cases
920,694 Specimens
1,478,476 Blocks

56 clinicians involved locally (Consultant Histopathologists and Med Lab Scientists)

10th Annual National Data Report
Publish date: November 2023

NATIONAL GI ENDOSCOPY QI PROGRAMME

36/36 Public hospitals

15/17 Private hospitals performing endoscopy

8 Key Quality Indicators plus workload reported on annually

794 Endoscopists (anonymously)	
257,093 Procedures	123,784 Colonoscopies
113,957 OGDs	19,352 FSigs

90 clinicians involved locally (Consultant Endoscopists and Endoscopy Nurses)

8th Annual National Data Report
Publish date: November 2023

LEADERSHIP IN PATIENT CARE

NATIONAL RADIOLOGY QI PROGRAMME

48/51 Public hospitals

1 Private hospital (in progress at time of publication)

4 Key Quality Indicators plus workload reported on annually

3,064,750 Cases

444,040 CT

368,454 US

1,718,351 X-ray

185,971 MR

4,670 PET

68 clinicians involved locally (Consultant Radiologists and Diagnostic Radiographers)

4th Annual National Data Report
Publish date: November 2023

NATIONAL BRONCHOSCOPY QI PROGRAMME

13 members in a working group established in 2022

Communications maintained with

147 respiratory physicians across

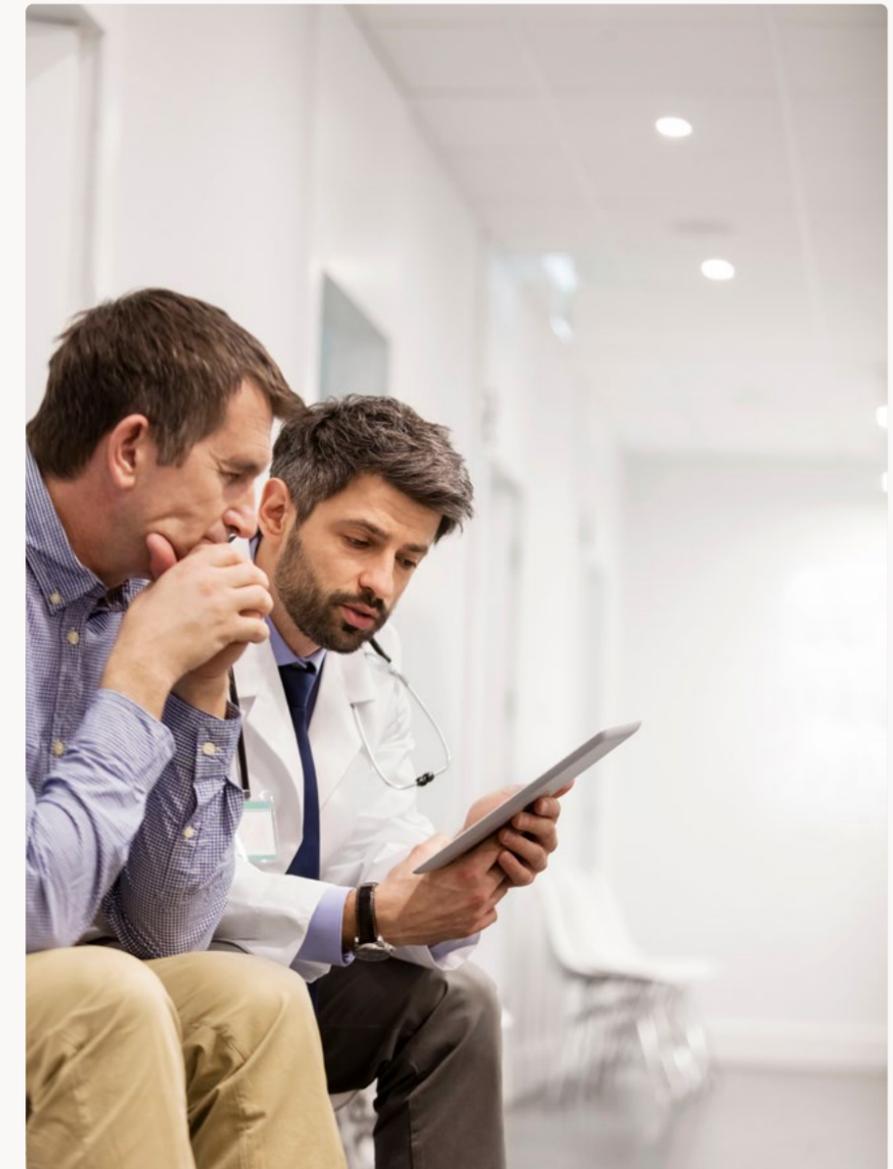
28 public and

12 private hospitals

that provide a bronchoscopy service

2 programme updates delivered at the Irish Thoracic Society conferences in 2022

Development of the first of a potential 4 KQIs commenced



TRUSTED, AUTHORITATIVE VOICE ON PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland is a leading source of information and advice on public health, immunisation and healthcare policy.

HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP STRATEGIC PLAN

The Healthcare Leadership function was established in 2022 under the direction of Professor Trevor Duffy. The Healthcare Leadership strategy provides direction in three core areas; Teaching Leaders, Leadership Support, and The College as a Leader. Consultation with Faculties and Institutes to ensure open dialogue and input on Healthcare Leadership priorities and activities is ongoing.

390 doctors participated in RCPI
advocacy consultation

College advocacy priorities defined



TRUSTED, AUTHORITATIVE VOICE ON PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

ADVOCACY PRIORITIES 2023-2025

The college's new advocacy priorities for 2023-2025 were approved by Executive Board and Council. These priorities followed consultation with Trainees, Members and Fellows at three hospital sites, consultation with Executive board, Council, Senior Management and other staff and a survey open to all RCPI Trainees, Members and Fellows. This is the first time that RCPI has developed advocacy priorities through wide consultation with its membership. The process also included a review of previous advocacy work and successes, and the new priorities will build on this work and existing collaborations. A mechanism has also been approved for engagement with membership on policy development, advocacy, and consultation responses.

Advocacy priorities:

- Patient Safety and Dignity
- Health Equity
- Prevention of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)
- Climate Change and Healthcare / Sustainable Healthcare



Prof Karina Butler and Dr Kevin Connolly reflect on the history of NIAC



RCPI delegation visits University Hospital Limerick

"It is great to see the issue of advocacy being raised, as it is often difficult to know where to start with advocacy initiatives within the college. This process will be a major step forward for more effective advocacy"

Professor Francis Finucane, RCPI Council

RCPI PRESIDENT VISITS TRAINING SITES

As part of the membership engagement and consultation, Professor Mary Horgan, RCPI President, Professor Trevor Duffy, Head of Healthcare Leadership and other senior RCPI staff visited three hospital sites – Sligo, Waterford and Limerick – between September and December 2022. Professor Horgan met with local colleagues and provided an update on RCPI's current work, including ongoing improvements in training, changes to examinations, international engagement and healthcare leadership and advocacy. She made time for

TRUSTED, AUTHORITATIVE VOICE ON PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

questions and answers with participants at each session. Site visits will continue throughout 2023 and 2024.

PILOT MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME FOR EARLY-STAGE CONSULTANTS

A pilot mentorship programme was established to support recently appointed consultants in their roles, as they learn to navigate the healthcare system as an independent practitioner. This is the first formal mentorship programme for consultants, aimed at supporting them to build leadership and management capability, offer guidance on specific competencies, accelerate the development of a full range of practice, and provide a supportive network across the healthcare system.

The mentors on the programme are retired or semi-retired consultants with extensive experience and knowledge to share with and support their mentees. The programme will last for 12 months.

Qualitative research has been designed to assess the influence of mentorship on participating consultants' roles.

POLICY GROUP ON TOBACCO CALLS FOR INCREASE TO LEGAL AGE

"Tobacco 21 is a simple and effective step on the road to tobacco endgame. It requires only simple amendments to existing legislation and has strong public support."

Professor Des Cox, Chair, RCPI Policy Group on Tobacco

Tobacco 21 report was launched by the RCPI Policy Group on Tobacco in September 2022. The report was produced collaboratively by the Policy Group and the Institute for Public Health. The report presents the national and international evidence and feasibility for increasing the minimum legal age of sale of tobacco and nicotine products to 21 years of age. Prof Des Cox, Paediatric Respiratory Consultant, was spokesperson for the report, which received extensive coverage in print, online and broadcast media.

"MORE THAN JUST AN APPOINTMENT" - A MASTERCLASS ON HEALTH EQUITY

The college delivered a Masterclass in March 2023, titled *"More than just an appointment"*, as part of RCPI's commitment to creating discussion, advocacy and action

towards health equity in Ireland. Over 400 people attended the event, live with hundreds more accessing the playback online, a record number of participants for a single masterclass. The CPD event explored the topic of health equity, discussing the complexities of access to healthcare for marginalised communities and proposed solutions towards greater equity of access and outcomes. A report documenting key messages and opportunities relating to the topics explored has been published and is available on RCPI's website.

"Excellent presentation which highlights how to improve our approach to vulnerable patients"

Masterclass Participant

TRUSTED, AUTHORITATIVE VOICE ON PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

CLIMATE BREAKDOWN PAPER

A paper on Climate Breakdown was developed in collaboration with Irish Doctors for the Environment (IDE) and approved by Executive Board and Council in April. It will be launched in October 2023.

NATIONAL IMMUNISATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A total of 17 high-quality, evidence-based recommendations have been issued to the Chief Medical Officer and Department of Health in the past year. This culmination of efforts by the Committee and Secretariat reflects numerous meetings, in-depth evidence reviews, consideration and discussion. We acknowledge the commitment of Committee members who undertake this work in a voluntary capacity and the Secretariat, many of whom work part-time alongside demanding clinical roles.

The work of the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) has made an important contribution to the COVID-19 vaccination programme in Ireland. In the past year, NIAC has issued nine evidence-based recommendations regarding COVID-19 vaccination, which have been accepted by the Chief Medical Officer

and Department of Health (DOH). This advice has helped achieve a successful COVID-19 vaccination programme, with Ireland having among the highest uptake rates for COVID-19 vaccination in Europe.



Prof Mary Horgan and Prof Trevor Duffy with Prof Cathy McHugh at Sligo University Hospital

LIFETIME CONTRIBUTIONS TO IMMUNOLOGY IN IRELAND

NIAC celebrated the incredibly valuable contributions of Professor Karina Butler (past NIAC Chair and Interim Clinical Lead), Dr Brenda Corcoran and Dr Kevin Connolly (past Special Advisors) to NIAC following their retirements in April 2023. Their depth of expertise, years of dedication and steadfast resilience have positively shaped NIAC's work, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. We wish them well for the future.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dr Siobhán O'Sullivan was appointed to the role of NIAC Chair. As a prior Committee member, Dr O'Sullivan's stewardship is guided by her excellent working knowledge of the committee, depth of expertise and insights.

Dr Bryony Treston was appointed as secretariat member. Dr Treston has worked as Technical Researcher to NIAC, and as Interim Clinical Lead following Professor Butler's retirement. Dr Treston's expertise and fresh perspectives ensure NIAC continues its strong trajectory into the future.

Dr Fiona Cullinane, Dr Helena Murray and Dr Corinna Sadlier joined NIAC as Special Advisors. Their diverse skillsets support NIAC's ability to pivot and address reviews, requests and updates to the Immunisation Guidelines for Ireland with finesse.

Grace Horan was appointed as Programme Coordinator for NIAC. Her support of the committee and the Secretariat has enhanced the robustness of processes and maintained momentum of activities.

TRUSTED, AUTHORITATIVE VOICE ON PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY

RTÉ NEWS SPORT ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS LIFESTYLE CULTURE PLAYER TV RADIO

NEWS • Starburst Ireland World Business Ukraine Climate Politics Nuacht RTÉ Investigates Progra

Alcohol labels to include health warnings, calorie content under new laws

Updated / Monday, 22 May 2023 13:56



The regulations will require that all labels warn about the risk of consuming alcohol when pregnant as well as the

Healthcare equity – A call to action

By RCPI - 11th Jun 2023



A recent RCPI masterclass discussed how to achieve greater equity of access for marginalised communities

"I will believe in you, until you believe in yourself"

This powerful statement was shared by Mr Paul Merrigan, Case Manager in the Inclusion Health Tea in St James's Hospital, Dublin, during the RCPI's recent masterclass on healthcare equity.

Hearing this promise from a healthcare worker marked a turning point in Mr Merrigan's life, a point at which his own self-worth was his greatest barrier to getting the care and support he needed.

"Access to care is about so much more than getting an appointment," said Prof Trevor Duff, RCPI Director of Healthcare Leadership, who facilitated the masterclass.

"It was so important to us in designing this masterclass that we brought together the right mix of people to explore the prevailing and complex issue of healthcare equity. In practice, none of us have the answers. But by working with our colleagues, community, Government agencies, and key workers we can have a profound impact in addressing the societal and systemic issues of access to care for individuals and for populations."

Breaking the cycle

RCPI launches open call to artists to address the theme of climate and health

By RCPI - 13th Jun 2023



Mr James Hanley, RISA (left), will chair the judging panel. He is pictured at No. 6 Kildare St with Ms Harriet Wheeler, RCPI Keeper of Collections, and Dr Diarmuid O'Shea, RCPI President Designate.

The RCPI has launched an art competition inviting artists to submit a piece of visual arts exploring the theme of climate and health for an exhibition at the College, to be held in October 2023 during St Luke's Annual Symposium.

The winning entry will receive a prize of €2,000, with two additional artists receiving a prize of €300 each.

The judging panel will be chaired by Mr James Hanley, one of Ireland's most prominent painters and a member of the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts (RHA).

General internal medicine – the bedrock of the Irish medical system

By Prof Andrew O'Connor - 03rd Apr 2023



Dr Diarmuid O'Shea, Prof Saba Barani, and Prof Andrew O'Connor

The RCPI review of general internal medicine training is a timely intervention to help address critical needs within our hospitals

General internal medicine (GIM) is the core business of Irish hospitals, accounting for approximately two-thirds of hospital bed days. The preservation of general medical skills in an era of increased specialisation is critical to maintaining standards of care in Ireland, particularly in managing multimorbidity, frailty, and polypharmacy in our growing, ageing population.

Pressures on GIM manifest across the system as longer waiting times in emergency departments, increased numbers of patients placed in beds not suited to their specific needs, decreased efficiency in the discharge process, increased errors, and greater stress within the workplace.

Improving patient safety together

By RCPI - 14th May 2023



RCPI SAFE Sustainability Workshop: Dr Dervla Hogan, Yvonne Young, Blathnaid Connolly, Maria Lordan Dunphy, Dr Peter Lachman, Mary Bedding, Rachel McDonald

The RCPI's SAFE programme equips participants with the skills to engage and empower patients and colleagues to improve patient safety

The RCPI hosted the first S.A.F.E. sustainability workshop in May 2023 at No 6 Kildare Street. The event brought together past participants to share their experiences and ongoing commitment to Situation Awareness For Everyone (SAFE) in their hospitals.

SAFE is a six-month collaborative patient safety education programme designed and delivered by the RCPI and funded by the HSE National Quality and Patient Safety Directorate. The programme supports multidisciplinary clinical teams to integrate patient safety methodologies into their daily work.

Now in its sixth year, the RCPI is recruiting teams for the 2023-2024 SAFE programme.

The Journal



Prof Don Cox, Chair, RCPI Policy Group on Tobacco, is joined by County Offaly, RL, and Donegal, RL, at the launch of Tobacco 21.

New report says it's time to raise the legal age to buy tobacco to 21

The RCPI says Tobacco 21 offers a proven approach to significantly reduce the numbers of teenagers becoming addicted to tobacco

17 15 37 37 Sep 17th 2022, 6:00 AM

A NEW REPORT from the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland says it's time to raise the legal age to buy tobacco from 18 to 21.

The RCPI's Policy Group on Tobacco has today launched the Tobacco 21 report, which was developed from national and international evidence analysed by the Institute of Public Health.

CONNECTING, INFORMING, ENGAGING

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland plays an integral role in providing trusted information and opportunities, enabling our doctors to access relevant information to support their endeavours, and enhancing public awareness and understanding of health-related issues.

247,191

visitors to RCPI Website from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 from

176 countries

Page views

Over 2.1 million

53,206 engaged on social media

MOST VISITED PAGES:

1. Homepage
2. Basic Specialist Training
3. Examination
4. Higher Specialist Training
5. IOG National Clinical Guidelines
6. International Clinical Fellowship Programme

TOP 10



Countries Per Visitor Numbers:

1. Ireland (117,530)
2. Saudi Arabia (21,267)
3. UK (15,559)
4. Pakistan (10,217)
5. India (8,480)
6. USA (7,656)
7. UAE (7,168)
8. Malaysia (6,366)
9. Oman (3,748)
10. Australia (3,641)

CONNECTING, INFORMING, ENGAGING

LAUNCH OF NEW RCPI WEBSITE

RCPI launched its new website at the start of 2023. The new website was well received, welcoming over 65,000 visitors from 176 countries since its launch on Monday, 16 January 2023.

Key improvements, driven by consultation with a wide range of stakeholders throughout the college, were incorporated, making the new website easier and quicker for our Trainees, Members, Fellows, Learners and members of the public to navigate and complete their tasks. Some features include:

- Easier navigation and better user journeys
- CPD events and course catalogues, which can be searched and filtered by preferences
- Specialty hubs which act as one-stop shops for doctors to get information relevant to their specialty, training programme and/or examination.

On average, the website welcomes 1,500 unique visitors each day.

Time spent on the website has halved, with the average user spending about three minutes on the

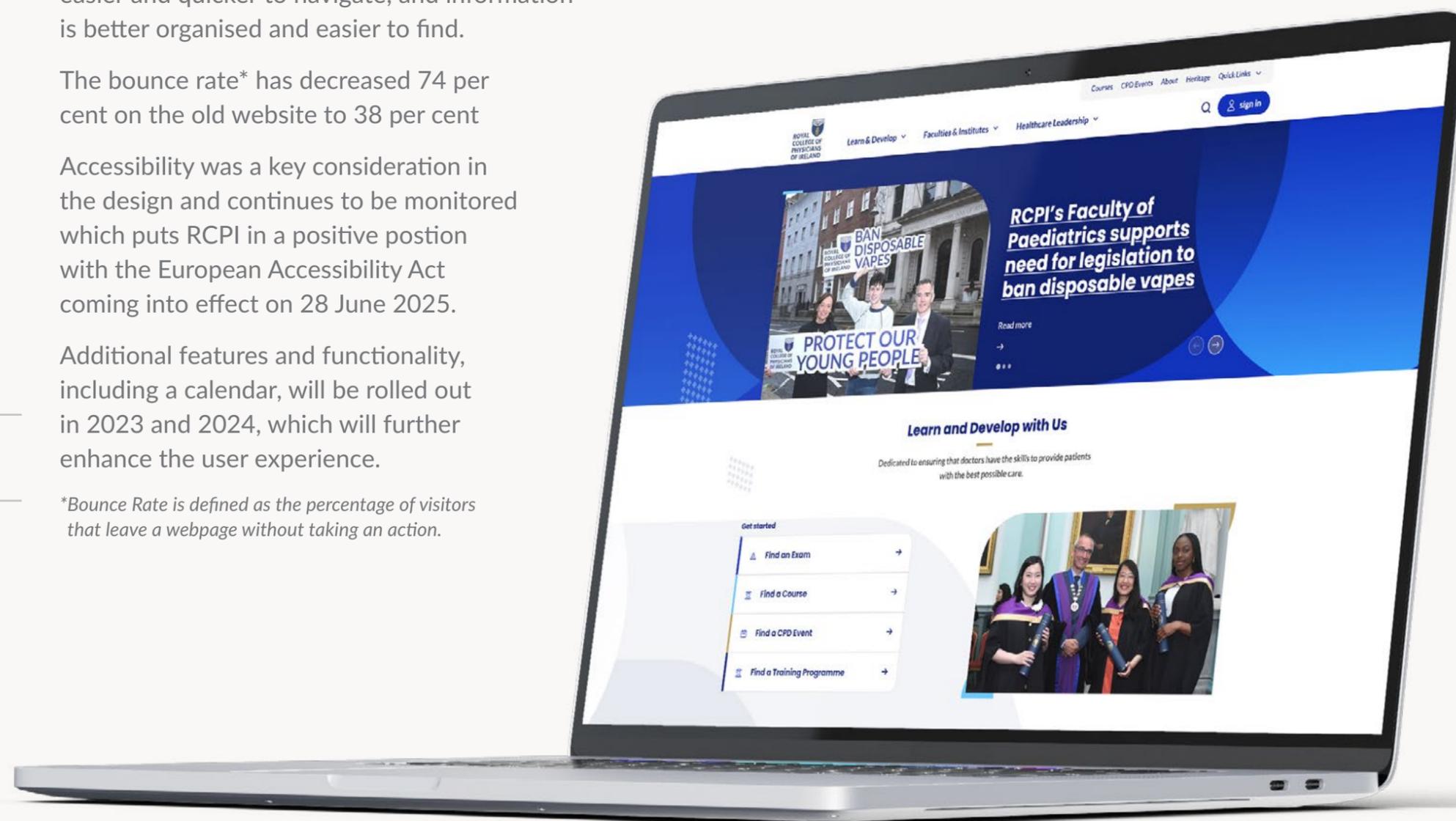
website. User feedback says the new website is easier and quicker to navigate, and information is better organised and easier to find.

The bounce rate* has decreased 74 per cent on the old website to 38 per cent

Accessibility was a key consideration in the design and continues to be monitored which puts RCPI in a positive position with the European Accessibility Act coming into effect on 28 June 2025.

Additional features and functionality, including a calendar, will be rolled out in 2023 and 2024, which will further enhance the user experience.

**Bounce Rate is defined as the percentage of visitors that leave a webpage without taking an action.*



CONNECTING, INFORMING, ENGAGING

SOCIAL MEDIA

The college's social media strategy aims to engage our Trainees, Members, Fellows and Learners, as well as the public, resulting in increased audience numbers and engagement with RCPI content.

All platforms experienced increased audience numbers from July 2022 to June 2023, with the largest growth on LinkedIn at 26 per cent, followed by Instagram at 23 per cent. Engagement on Twitter is up by 1,048 per cent reflecting a shift to value-add content with clear call to actions, and connection content focused on the activities and achievements of our people which has been found to resonate with the active medical audience on the platform. Engagement on LinkedIn and Instagram has also seen significant increases; 306 per cent and 358 per cent respectively. Engagement has remained consistent on Facebook but reach of organic content is slowing (-55 per cent). Facebook algorithms favour paid content and ads promoting courses, events and opportunities continue to perform well on the platform.



TWITTER

- Followers:.....19,634
- Engagements:.....13,293
- Impressions:615.3 K



FACEBOOK

- Followers:.....16,020
- Reach:5,289,121
- Engagements:.....360,692



LINKED IN

- Followers:.....10,007
- Impressions:1,405,624
- Engagements:.....45,324
- Page Views:8,687



YOU TUBE

- Subscribers:.....4,107
- New Subscribers:963
- Views:67,910
- Watch time:.....2.8k hours
- Impressions:809,561



INSTAGRAM

- Followers:.....3,438
- Reach:22,294
- Engagements:.....4,161
- Reach:180,250



OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE

RCPI offers structured post-graduate training opportunities for doctors from several countries worldwide.

Our International Residency and Fellowship Programmes are available to doctors in training who are sponsored by their home countries to come to RCPI for medical training and to doctors in training from Pakistan and Sudan who participate in a scholarship programme.

SPONSORED PROGRAMME:

- 51** international Trainees are currently training on the RCPI Sponsored Residency and Clinical Fellowship Programmes.
- 58** % of graduates are female
- 108** Doctors graduated in 2022/2023

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

- 29** Trainees graduated from the Postgraduate Scholarship programme in 2022/2023.



OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE

SPONSORED RESIDENCY AND CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES

Interest in RCPI International Residency and Fellowship Programmes from Trainees and sponsors in the Gulf remains strong. 27 new Trainees commenced training in 2022/2023 across Residency and Fellowship programmes. 51 international Trainees are currently enrolled with RCPI, in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Limerick. Residency Trainees are in Paediatrics or Internal Medicine Programmes, while Fellowship Trainees are across Internal Medicine, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Pathology, and Public Health Medicine.

Continued engagement with Trainers and clinical sites in Ireland has generated significant interest from the community in training international Fellows and resulted in 38 specialities being open to incoming fellowship Trainees for July 2024

RCPI has expanded its international presence by opening new examination centres in Bahrain and Oman, providing greater accessibility and convenience for Trainees in the region.

There are 181 graduates of the sponsored programmes from across the Gulf, of which 106 are female. The table below provides a breakdown of Trainees per country per year. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Oman see the largest number of graduate Trainees.

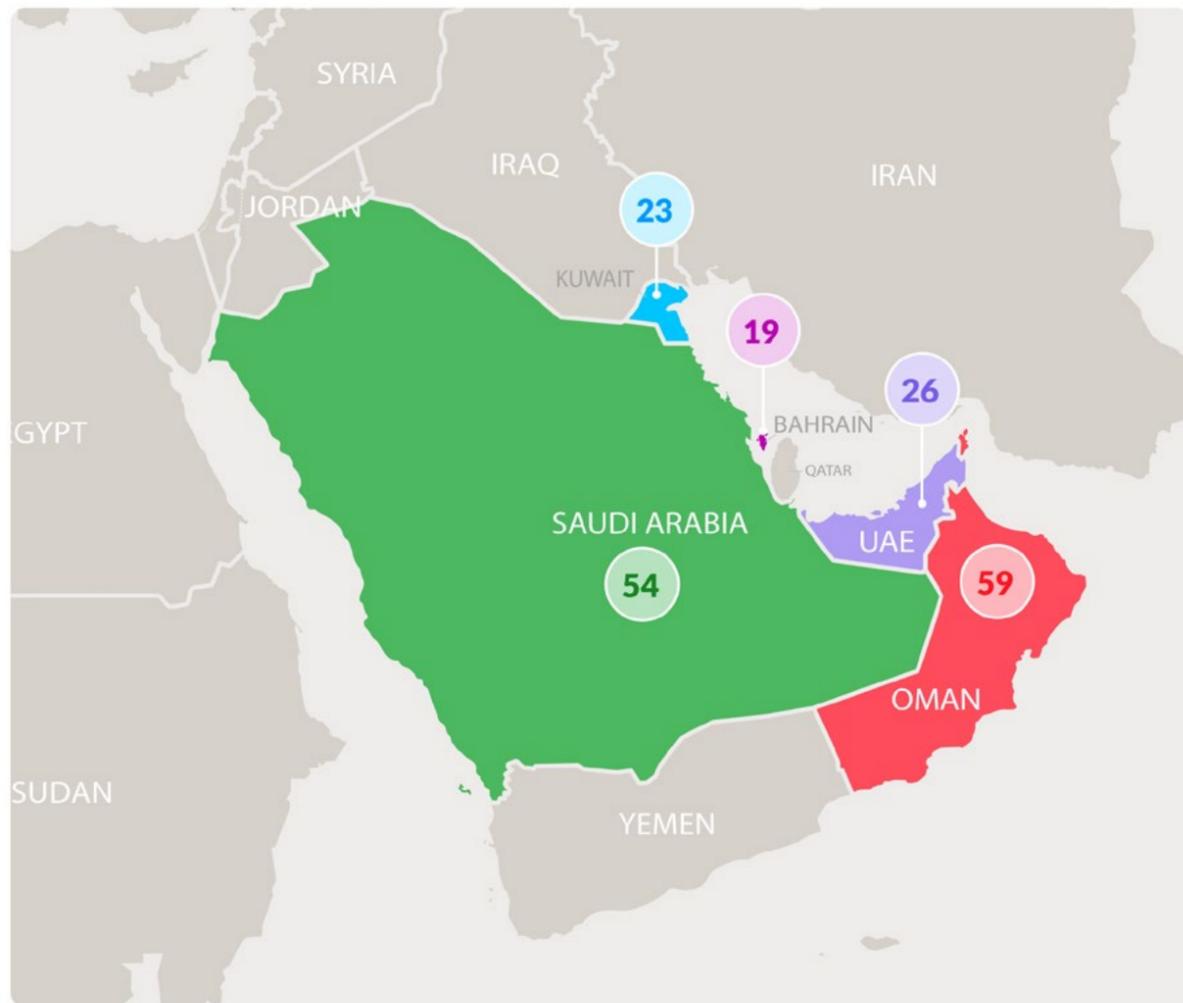
“I was looking for a unique experience and an exciting adventure while still fulfilling excellent educational requirements that would meet high international standards. Ireland was ideal due to its reputation for friendliness and having one of the most welcoming cultures and it is also an extremely beautiful and charming island that’s much closer to home.”

Dr Asmaa Milyani, Trainee,
International Residency Training
Programme in Paediatrics



OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE

INTERNATIONAL CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME TRAINEES (2013 – 2023)



Year	Oman	KSA	UAE	Kuwait	Bahrain	Total
2022/2023	9	5	1	1	4	20
2021/2022	4	6	4	1	6	21
2020/2021	9	10	3	2	2	26
2019/2020	3	10	6	3	4	26
2018/2019	6	4	4	5		19
2017/2018	5	5	3	2	2	17
2016/2017	7	6	5	5	1	24
2015/2016	12	8	-	3	-	23
2014/2015	4	-	-	-	-	4
2013/2014	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total	59	54	26	23	19	181

OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

Despite travel restrictions being in place, we were delighted to be able to welcome over 60 Trainees on the International Management Graduate Training Initiative programme from Pakistan and Sudan.

Trainees were enrolled from the following specialties:

General Internal Medicine **45**

Obstetrics and Gynaecology **9**

Paediatrics **14**

A review of current programme structures, including the possibility of expanding the programme to other countries, will take place in 2023/2024.

LAUNCH OF POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING WEBSITE IN DUBAI

In February 2023, representatives from Irish postgraduate medical colleges convened in Dubai to engage in discussions regarding the extensive array of medical training prospects available in Ireland for doctors from the Gulf region. To facilitate this initiative, Her Excellency Ambassador Alison Milton, the Irish Ambassador to the UAE, inaugurated a newly established website, www.postgraduatemedicaltraining.ie. The website is a comprehensive resource, outlining Ireland's clinical postgraduate training options for doctors from Gulf countries.



Joining a globally connected community of doctors.

OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE

“It’s satisfying to witness my own personal and professional development under talented mentors.”

Dr Sultan Fathi, Trainee, International Residency Training Programme in Medicine



In March 2023, Professor Mary Horgan, RCPI President and Dr Amal Shuqair, Director for Scholarships at the Ministry for Education, came together in Riyadh to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), marking the renewal of their institutional collaboration for an additional three years.

GLOBAL TRAINING AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE

Led by Prof Cecily Quinn, the Global Training and Partnerships Committee was established to oversee and manage strategic initiatives and projects related to international Trainees.

The college continues to engage widely with Trainees who have completed their training with RCPI and have made significant contributions upon returning to their home countries. Examples include the appointment of the first female Chair of the Internal Medicine Department at King Fahad Hospital, Dammam, the Head of Gastroenterology Department at Al Nahda Hospital, Muscat, and the Head of the Department of Medicine at Imam Muhammad Bin Saud Islamic University, Riyadh.

These, among others, reflect the impact and influence of RCPI’s rigorous training in shaping future healthcare leaders worldwide.

ENHANCING INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

By actively understanding the needs of our key stakeholders, which include Ministries, Specialist Hospitals, Medical Universities, Postgraduate training bodies and RCPI graduates across GCC countries, RCPI continues to foster growth, create collaborative partnerships, and further enhance the quality of its programmes. These efforts reflect the college’s commitment to continuous improvement, understanding the evolving requirements of sponsorship bodies, and to ensuring our international programmes remain at the forefront of excellence.

ZAMBIA

The EQUALS Initiative, a collaborative effort between RCPI and the HSE, is dedicated to supporting training and supplying equipment to hospitals in Zambia. In August 2022, January 2023 and February 2023 shipments of decommissioned medical equipment were

OUR GLOBAL PRESENCE

dispatched from hospitals in Ireland to Lusaka, Zambia. To date, a total of seventeen 40ft containers of equipment have been generously donated. Before distribution to larger teaching hospitals and smaller health clinics across the country, the equipment undergoes rigorous testing by clinical engineers associated with the EQUALS Initiative.

As part of the ongoing partnership between RCPI and the Zambia College of Medicine and Surgery (ZACOMS), Zambian Trainees continue to benefit from access to online courses facilitated by RCPI.

RCPI conducted two Train the Trainer courses for Faculty members of ZACOMS, contributing to their professional development and educational capabilities.

A DIGITAL FIRST APPROACH

Since May 2023, RCPI has taken a digital-first marketing approach to support the continued growth and awareness of the International Medical Graduate Training Initiative. Utilising new systems and a new way of marketing ourselves, we are embracing this new digital-first approach as a means to reach our target audience wherever they spend their time online.

Having used this strategy for Fellowship and Residency programs, we are now seeing new doors open to us, not only to market the college but also to promote specific specialties lacking in applications. This allows us to pivot as needed and invest more granularly.

To date our ads have been seen 3,712,015 times and

have been clicked 53,705 times leading to an overall average click-through rate (CTR) of 1.45 per cent. We have seen a total of 540 conversions meaning 540 people have followed our ads and either signed into or created accounts on Quercus resulting in a conversion rate of 1.01 per cent across all platforms.



Meeting between RCPI delegates and the Saudi Cultural Bureau at No. 6 Kildare Street, strengthening connections with Saudi Arabia

MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Our Membership community is growing and strengthening every year.

We have a global membership of over 13,000 respected physicians across 90 countries.

13,000 doctors

90 countries

New Members and Fellows 2022/2023:

862 MCCPI conferred

105 FRCPI conferred

8 honorary Fellows



MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP GROWTH

There has been strong growth in Membership in the last 12 months with 862 doctors conferred with Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (MRCPI). There has been an 8 per cent increase in revenue from annual subscriptions from Membership and Fellowship. The volume of new doctors choosing to become Members is a key factor driving this growth, as well as improvements made in the Membership subscription collection process, coupled with a more accessible Continuous Professional Development (CPD) online offering for Members and Fellows.

In the past year, 105 new Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (FRCPI) were admitted. Fellowship is a prestigious award and is awarded by the college in recognition of a doctor's contribution to their specialty. The new RCPI fellowship strategy to make fellowship more inclusive and attractive was introduced in July 2023 with three new pathways to fellowship to encourage graduates of RCPI training programmes to join as Fellows. In addition, a pathway was created for doctors on the specialist division of the register in Ireland. As a result, it is expected the number of doctors joining as Fellows will increase over the next period.



Dr Geraldine McGinty admitted as an Honorary Fellow at RCPI

COLLEGIATE MEMBERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT GROUP

A Collegiate Membership and Engagement Group was established in 2022 to create a new Membership model with clearer Membership pathways and more attractive Membership benefits.

The committee found that the current Membership pathways are disjointed and confusing and that they should be streamlined as much as possible to deliver a better experience for Members. The

Group is expected to make recommendations to address this in September 2023.

CONFERRING CEREMONIES AT NO. 6 KILDARE STREET

To consolidate and streamline conferring processes and ensure a consistent experience for all new Members and Fellows, the CPD events team took over the delivery of MRCPI and FRCPI ceremonies in 2023. The team conferred 43 Fellows at two FRCPI ceremonies in May 2023, and 366 Members at six ceremonies across three days in June 2023.

HONORARY FELLOWSHIP - CELEBRATING OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland recognised the outstanding contributions to healthcare of seven individuals by bestowing them with Honorary Fellowship of the college.

Professor Andrew Goddard, former President of RCP London, Consultant Physician and Gastroenterologist at Royal Derby Hospital.

MEMBERSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Professor Mary Daly, Emeritus Professor of History, University College Dublin

Professor Jane Macnaughton, Professor of Medical Humanities, Durham University

Professor Richard Reilly, Professor of Neural Engineering at Trinity College

Dr Geraldine McGinty, Academic Medicine Leader, Board Member, Strategist at Weill Cornell Medicine

Professor Robert Gale, Visiting Professor of Haematology at the Imperial College of London and an



Dr Sarah Fitzpatrick, Dr Norah-Marie MGrath, Prof Michael Keane, RCPI Registrar, Dr Claire O'Hagan, Dr John Jones

Executive Director of Clinical Research, Hematology and Oncology at Celgene Corp. (Summit, NJ).

Professor John Wilson, Former President of RACP and Adjunct Clinical Professor, Monash University/Medicine Alfred Hospital

ACADEMY FOR RETIRED MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

The RCPI Academy was established to encourage retired Members and Fellows to stay connected with the college, providing them with rewarding opportunities to use their expertise in whatever capacity suits their personal needs and lifestyle.

With the creation of the Academy, the college can retain and share the wealth of experience of retired Members and Fellows, enhancing the education and training experience of new doctors and facilitating a transfer of knowledge.

The Academy members may choose to get involved in mentorship, examinations, education and training, college representation and volunteer work. There will also be opportunities to attend social and educational events.



Dr. Ahmad Basirat with his wife Dr. Mazia Shahid and their children Musa and Mohid



**FACULTY OF
OCCUPATIONAL
MEDICINE**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

FACULTY OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE



Dr Sheelagh O'Brien
Dean, Faculty of Occupational Medicine

The Faculty of Occupational Medicine is the national professional training body for occupational medicine in Ireland and strives for the highest possible standards in health at work

The Faculty is proud to meet the strict standards required to deliver postgraduate specialist training in occupational medicine and offers a four-year Higher Specialist Training Programme for doctors who wish to specialise in Occupational Medicine.

The specialty is increasingly important in our changing modern world of work and the Faculty continues to advocate for its advancement and for the continuing development and expansion of its accredited training programme.

HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING

The Higher Specialist Training Programme in Occupational Medicine continues to prepare new doctors to protect and improve the health and wellbeing of workers across all sectors and to meet evolving global occupational health challenges. In July 2023, two SpRs successfully completed the training programme and



FACULTY OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

were awarded CSCST in Occupational Medicine. The programme also recruited two new SpR Trainees into the training scheme; their training commenced in July.

ANNUAL JAMES SMILEY MEMORIAL LECTURE

The 35th annual James Smiley Lecture led by Professor Stavroula Leka took place on 11 November 2022. Professor Leka is Professor of Work Organisation and Well-being at University College Cork, and President of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology. Her lecture was entitled Psychosocial Risk Management and the Promotion of Health, Safety, and Wellbeing in the Future of Work. During the event Professor Leka was awarded Honorary Fellowship of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine.

After the lecture, the Faculty community gathered at No. 6 Kildare Street for the first time since 2019 for the Admission Ceremony and a wonderful Annual Dinner. The occasion was marked by awarding three Lifetime Achievement Awards to Prof Ken Addley, Dr John Malone, and Dr Paul Guéret. It was a lovely opportunity to meet with colleagues in a social setting after two years of on-line communications.



Launch of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine strategy paper, Advocating for the Value of Occupational Health in Ireland.

FACULTY OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

The Faculty maintained an active event schedule this year. The Faculty's Autumn Conference took place on 07 October 2022 and focused on wellbeing, workplace health and safety considerations, and the viruses impacting our society. Topics included: Emerging Viruses, Tuberculosis in Health Workers, Healthy Workplaces, Just Culture, Communication Body Clocks, and Clean Air. In April, the Faculty hosted its Spring Conference where it focused on the future. The conference was very well attended and had an excellent line-up of speakers who guided attendees through legal and HR issues, and advances in the areas of obesity, gender, lifestyle medicine and viral infections.

ADVOCATING FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH FOR ALL WORKERS

Tánaiste Leo Varadkar joined us remotely to formally launch our advocacy strategy, "Advocating For the Value of Occupational Health Services in Ireland Strategy 2023-2026" at the Annual James Smiley Memorial Lecture on 11 November. This project is headed up by Prof Ken Addley and the work of this project is ongoing to meet the agreed targets.



Dr Martin Hogan, Cator, Prof Stavroula Leka, Honorary Fellow of the Faculty, Dr Sheelagh O'Brien, Dean of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine, RCPI, Prof Mary Horgan, President, RCPI, Prof Michael Keane, Register, RCPI.

EXAMINATIONS

The 2023 Licentiate of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (LFOM) and Membership of the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (MFOM) Examinations were conducted with a mixed format, virtually and in person. The written exams were held online via Remote Invigilation (TestReach), and portfolios were submitted and marked online. The LFOM Portfolio Viva Exam continued to be held online via Zoom. The MFOM OSPE continues to be held over two days, with the written component taking place on the first day of the exam. Both days of the OSPE were held in person. For Day 2 of the OSPE, six actors and two data interpretations were used instead of live patients this year. The MFOM Viva was a new component added to the MFOM Examinations this year, which was ran in person and held alongside Day 2 of the OSPE. For 2023, the Faculty had a total of 57 LFOM exams and 48 MFOM Exams. The total number of candidates sitting Occupational Medicine Examinations in 2023 was 105.

FACULTY OF PAEDIATRICS



Dr Louise Kyne
Dean, Faculty of Paediatrics

The Faculty of Paediatrics is the national professional and training body for Paediatrics in Ireland, working to ensure the highest standards in child health.

The Faculty is accredited by the Medical Council of Ireland to train General Paediatricians, Neonatologists and Paediatric Cardiologists. The Faculty offers a two-year Basic Specialist Training (BST) programme in General Paediatrics, and Higher Specialist Training (HST) programmes in General Paediatrics, Paediatric Cardiology and Neonatology. A range of one-year subspecialist post-CSCST Fellowships are also offered, as well as a general paediatric training programme for paediatric Trainees from Pakistan (CPSP) and Sudan (SMSB).

On completion of HST, doctors have the appropriate clinical expertise to be appointed as consultants; managing and advocating for their patients' healthcare needs, teaching and training Trainees, and striving to become leaders in their field. Paediatricians working



FACULTY OF PAEDIATRICS

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

FACULTY OF PAEDIATRICS

in general hospitals in Ireland mainly practice General Paediatrics with neonatal care. Others may be general paediatricians with a special interest in community child health and additional training in child protection. Paediatricians in tertiary children's hospitals may be general paediatricians but most tend to have a specific subspecialty interest, such as paediatric oncology, cardiology, dermatology, gastroenterology, or metabolic.

40-YEAR CELEBRATIONS

We celebrated 40 years at our Autumn Conference. The conference took place on 21 October and looked at *"The Past Present and Future of the Faculty of Paediatrics - A celebration of 40 years"*. We also launched our 40th anniversary history book which is available to read online free and to purchase on the RCPI website.

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY.

The Faculty maintained an active event schedule this year. The 26th Ralph Counahan Lecture was given by Prof Conor O Mahony, School of Law, University College Cork on *"Children's Rights and the Irish Constitution; what has article 42 A changed."* Following



Launch of the Faculty of Paediatrics 40th Anniversary history book

FACULTY OF PAEDIATRICS

the conference, an admission ceremony included an Honorary Fellowship for Prof Peter Rosenbaum, Prof of Paediatrics at McMaster university/co-founder of CanChild centre for childhood disability research.

The Spring Meeting was held in May with a spotlight on 'Challenges and Choices for the Paediatrician: with guest speaker Dr Hedderly, Paediatric Neurologist at Evelina Hospital. Dr Hedderly gave a talk on "Functional tic like movements in adolescents".

We brought our webinars on the road broadcasting them from Portlaoise, Mayo and Portlinculla. In Portlaoise Paediatric Department, we looked at the development of paediatric respiratory and allergy services. In Mayo Paediatric Department, Innovations in a model 3 Hospital were discussed, and the Portlinculla Paediatric Department shared information and insight on providing paediatric intensive care in a peripheral paediatric unit.

The Faculty continues to develop Paediatric Pocket tutorial videos and have established a working group to continue to develop topics.

The Faculty created a resource document on inclusion and support of LGBTQ+ individuals for use as an educational resource for the Trainees study day.

This year and going forward, paediatric doctors in non-training posts working in paediatric units can avail of free online access to the Spring and Autumn study days.

Paediatric algorithms were reviewed, updated and approved with the help of SpRs and consultants at the Clinical Advisory Group (CAG)

A paediatric addendum was added to the new national trauma unit specification document.

The CAG also reviewed and advised on the palliative care for children educational resources and pathway planning for migrant child health.

GOVERNANCE

The Faculty of Paediatrics is undergoing a governance review, including review of terms of reference, role specifications, and standing orders, and hope to table a document for AGM approval.

FELLOWSHIPS

The Faculty has developed a new International Fellowship in Developmental Paediatrics and

Neurodisability, and also one in Adolescent Medicine which is due to start shortly. The Faculty of Paediatrics was very fortunate in obtaining 6 Aspire Fellowships and 2 Management Fellowships this year.

ADVOCACY

The Faculty advocated for strengthened legislation with regard to making vaping products more unattainable to minors, with the aim of preventing addiction from a young age. The Faculty also contributed to a consultation regarding implications of extending free contraception to 16 year olds with respect to age of consent, policy and services for children.

The Faculty wrote to support the development of a Down Syndrome register.

CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITY

We celebrated our Members outstanding contribution to paediatrics:

The Kathleen Lynn Medal; awarded to Prof Tom Clarke (2022) and Prof Hilary Hoey (2023).

FACULTY OF PAEDIATRICS

Dr Aoife Branigan was awarded the Sir Henry Marsh Medal in 2022 for her paper on “An Evaluation of the Quick Wee Method of Inducing Faster Clean Catch Urine Collection in PreContinent Infants - A Randomised Control Trial”.

The inaugural Conor Ward Essay Competition was won by Dr Laura Reaney in October 2022 with her essay entitled “Collaboration and Teamwork: getting through bad days together”. Conor Ward’s family were present when the award was presented at the Faculty’s 40th Anniversary Autumn Conference.

Dr Sinead McGlacken-Byrne was awarded the Victoria Coffey Medal in 2022 for “Pathogenic variants in the human reader YTHDC associated with primary ovarian insufficiency”.

Winners at the National Excellence in Teaching Awards 2022:

- Subspecialty in the Tertiary Children’s Hospitals (CHI): Dr Kathleen Gorman, Consultant Paediatric Neurologist, CHI Temple Street.
- Neonatology in tertiary and regional centres: Dr Anna Curley, Consultant Neonatologist, National Maternity Hospital, Holles Street.
- General with Special Interest, and Community Paediatrics (tertiary and regional centres): Dr Daragh Finn, Consultant Paediatrician with expertise in Cardiology, Cork University Hospital.
- General and Community Paediatrics (local centres): Dr Mohammed Islam, Consultant Paediatrician, Portiuncula University Hospital, Ballinasloe.



Dr Judith Meehan, Prof Jonathan Hourihane, Dr Louise Kyne, Dean of the Faculty of Paediatrics, RCPI, Dr Sarah Kyne, Dr Tammy Hedderley, Dr Ahmed Khan, Dr Susan Byrne, and Dr Julie Lucey. RCPI Faculty of Paediatrics Study Day.

FACULTY OF PATHOLOGY



**FACULTY OF
PATHOLOGY**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND



Professor Mary Keogan
Dean of the Faculty of Pathology

The Faculty of Pathology works to ensure the highest standards in laboratory medicine in Ireland.

The Faculty is accredited by the Medical Council of Ireland and is proud to meet the strict standards required to deliver postgraduate specialist training in five Pathology specialties. It offers a two-year Basic Specialist Training Programme (BST) in Histopathology, the first step to becoming a histopathologist in Ireland. It also offers six Higher Specialist Training (HST) programmes in Pathology: Chemical Pathology, Clinical Microbiology, Haematology, Histopathology, Neuropathology and Immunology. The Faculty works with the National Clinical Programme for Pathology and the National Histopathology Quality Improvement Programme to set standards for pathology services in Ireland.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Dr Maeve Doyle completed her term as Director of Education and Training. Under her stewardship the Faculty's training programmes were all accredited/reaccredited with the Medical Council, and the Faculty structures supporting education and training were reviewed and



FACULTY OF PATHOLOGY

streamlined. In addition to her role as Director of Education and Training, Maeve has contributed to, and continues to contribute to many aspects of the Faculty. Dr Doyle has been appointed as Dean of Education and Academic Programmes in RCPI, and we wish her every success in her new role. We are delighted to welcome Dr Cynthia Heffron as the Faculty's Director of Education and Training.



Prof Mary Keogan, Dean, Faculty of Pathology, Prof Mike Osborn, President of the College of Pathologists, and Prof Mary Horgan, RCPI President at the signing of a landmark agreement to deliver delivery FRCPath Part 2 examinations in Ireland.

GOVERNANCE

The Faculty's Governance Review was approved by RCPI Council in 2022, and we are now in the implementation phase.

- The Faculty Executive Committee has been established, and work is ongoing to streamline processes to optimise the effectiveness of both the Board and Executive Committee.
- The Trainee Standing Committee has been an invaluable asset to the faculty, and has been chaired by the Lead Trainee Rep, Dr Jennifer Mulhall, who is completing her term. The Faculty would like to thank Dr Mulhall for her leadership, commitment and invaluable contribution to faculty affairs.
- Faculty representation on committees and national reviews is proceeding in line with an inclusive process, where all invitations are communicated to Fellows in regular updates to ensure that all interested Fellows have an opportunity to apply.
- A medicolegal subgroup of the Board has been established under the Chairmanship of one of our lay members, Dr Muiris O'Ceidigh. Particular focus will be given to Laboratory aspects of Open Disclosure, and implications of the Patient Safety Bill and the Human Tissue Bill.

NEW FELLOWS GROUP

The Faculty has established a "New Fellows Group" to provide a platform for new Fellows who have received their Fellowship within the last 7 years.

FACULTY OF PATHOLOGY

Currently this is a consultative group to discuss the priorities of new Fellows, and how the Faculty could support them in this stage of their careers. CPD relating to laboratory management, as well as networking and involvement in Faculty affairs were identified as key priorities for new Fellows to date. Engagement of new Fellows in feedback on training and mandatory courses, and future Fellowships will assist in continual improvement in these areas.

MANPOWER PLANNING

The Faculty contributed to a collaborative medical workforce planning process, led by NDTP, and in collaboration with the National Clinical Programme for Pathology. This culminated in the publication of a report entitled “*Medical Workforce Planning for the Specialties of Pathology*” in early 2023. This report has highlighted the need to increase consultant numbers across all disciplines. Delivering the Pathology service required to support medical practice now and into the future will require a significant increase in Trainee numbers. The Faculty would like to thank the NDTP for their support in increasing Trainee numbers to begin to address these significant shortages.

SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

The Faculty of Pathology would like to thank Dr Joan Power who completed her term as Chair of the Scientific Meetings Committee in June 2022. Dr Cynthia Heffron took on this role and integrated the success of the Webinar Programme with the welcome resumption of face-to-face meetings. Following Dr Heffron’s appointment as Director of Education and Training, Dr Marie Staunton took on this key role.



Dr Daniel Hare, Dr Brid Minihan, Prof Mary Keogan, Dean of the Faculty of Pathology, RCPI, Dr Susan Laphorn, Dr Colleen Flannery, Dr Diarmuid O’Connor, Dr Cian Ward, and Dr Anna Keogh at Faculty of Pathology Annual Symposium, February 2023.

FACULTY OF PATHOLOGY

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

The Faculty maintained an active event schedule this year. Webinars continue to be a popular CPD format, with good attendance, engagement, and feedback. In addition, hybrid meetings were held for the Annual Faculty Trainee Day, which focussed on Quality Improvement and Effective Teamworking; the International Pathology Day which focussed on Pathology beyond the Test Report, and the Annual Symposium.

The Faculty's Annual Symposium took place on Thursday 9 and Friday 10 February, incorporating the Faculty AGM as well as sessions on Neurological Aspects of Pathology, Pathology and Training and E-Health in Pathology.

The Faculty's Annual Admissions Ceremony and Faculty Dinner took place the evening of Thursday 09 February. At the ceremony, Prof Mike Osborn, President of the Royal College of Pathologists, UK was presented with Honorary Fellowship of the Faculty. Faculty past Dean Prof Conor O'Keane was awarded the Paule Cotter medal for his career contributions to the specialty and Faculty of Pathology. Dr Anna Keogh received the Faculty George Greene medal for her paper on "*USO1 expression is dysregulated in non-small cell lung*

cancer". Dr Daniel Hare received the Faculty's John D Kennedy medal for his paper on "*Repeated Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in an overcrowded Irish emergency department elucidated by whole-genome sequencing*".

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS IN THE UK

An MoU in relation to the provision of Part 2 FRCPATH examination centres in histopathology and haematology co-ordinated by RCPI was signed in February. This will be a significant support to Trainees in these specialties going forward, allowing them to complete their examination on the island of Ireland, without the stress of travel (with an extra seat for their microscopes!) to the UK. It is planned to hold both sittings of the FRCPATH in Histopathology in Ireland, in addition to one sitting for Haematology annually.

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

12 new Fellows and 5 new Associate Members were admitted into the Faculty of Pathology in 2023. We welcome our New Fellows and Associate Members and look forward to working with them into the future.



Welcoming the newest Fellows and Honorary Fellows of the Faculty of Pathology



**FACULTY OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
MEDICINE**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICINE



Professor Cecily Kelleher
Dean, Faculty of Public Health Medicine

Established in 1976, the Faculty of Public Health Medicine is accredited by the Medical Council to provide Higher Specialist Training and for the Professional Competence Scheme for continuing education.

The Faculty has over two hundred actively engaged Members and Fellows who are experienced public health specialists and leading experts in their field. The Faculty continues to advocate for healthy public policy and to work to protect the population from health threats such as communicable diseases and environmental hazards, reduce health inequalities, support healthier lifestyles, and protect and improve healthcare services for local populations.

GOVERNANCE

The Faculty's governance review began in May this year and will be a comprehensive undertaking. A group comprising board members, chairs and executive support has been established. It was agreed that the Faculty's Examinations Committee, Meetings Committee, Fellowship Committee and Specialty



FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICINE

Training Committee will be part of this review in the first instance. The chairs of these committees have been asked to review, update and, as necessary, revise their committees' terms of reference. The review group is also taking account of reviews already undertaken by other Faculties and Institutes in RCPI.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dr Paul Kavanagh began his formal three-year term as Honorary Secretary in May 2023. We welcome Dr Kavanagh on board, and we look forward to working with him.

ASPIRE POST-CSCST FELLOWSHIP

Dr Eimear Burke was appointed to the 2023 Aspire Post-CSCST Fellowship, with Dr Anne Dee as primary clinical lead for a health intelligence related project.

HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING

The Higher Specialist Training Programme in Public Health Medicine continues to receive applications of high calibre. The programme recruited nine new Trainees



Dr Derval Igoe, Prof Cecily Kelleher, Prof Mary Horgan, and Dr Anne Sheahan at the Faculty of Public Health Medicine Conferring ceremony.

FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICINE

onto the training scheme this year, with their training posts commencing in July. Between July 2022 and June 2023, 4 Trainees completed the HST Programme.

EXAMINATIONS

The MFPHMI Examinations have continued to be held at a very high standard by the Examiners. In the past year, the Convenors have provided sessions for both Trainees and Trainers on the Examination formats and the requirements for all three parts of the MFPHMI Examinations.

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

The Faculty held a joint webinar with the Irish Society of Specialists in Public Health Medicine (ISSPHM) on COVID-19 Public Health and the Law on 4th October 2022.

Our Winter Scientific Meeting took place on 7 December 2022. The meeting included presentations from Dr Éamonn O'Moore, Director of National Health Protection, Dr Anne Nolan, Associate Research Professor in the Social Research Division of the ESRI,

Prof Mary Codd, Associate Professor of Epidemiology & Biostatistics at the UCD School of Public Health, Physiotherapy & Sports Science, and Prof Gerard McCartney, Professor of Wellbeing Economy at the University of Glasgow delivered a virtual presentation which looked at why life expectancy trends have stalled across many high-income countries.

The prize winners on the day included:

- PHM SpR Dr Margaret Brennan, the winner of the best 'full oral' and recipient of the Kevin Kelleher Award, for her presentation on the topic "Efficacy, effectiveness and immunogenicity of a single dose of HPV vaccine in 9-14-year-olds"
- PHM SpR Dr Clíodhna Ní Bhuachalla, winner of the best short oral presentation on "A novel Interagency sexual health promotion initiative for Ukrainian refugees in Cork and Kerry"
- PHM SpR Dr Michael Hanrahan, poster winner for his poster on "Problematic Opioid Use in Ireland, 2015 - 2019"
- The Faculty Summer Scientific Meeting took place on 23 and 24 May 2023 and received 92

abstracts for review. The meeting included abstract presentations and chaired poster tours where authors presented their work. The winners included:

- Dr Fionnuala Donohue, winner of the Zachary Johnson Medal for the best long oral presentation on "Health Support System - registry of registries".
- PHM SpR Dr Andrea Bowe, winner of the best short oral presentation on "Predicting Low Cognitive Ability at Age 5 Years using Machine Learning Methods: Findings From a Population-based Cohort Study"
- Dr Kate Timoney, poster winner for her poster on "Network analysis of mpox in Ireland"

Abstracts from both Winter and Summer Scientific Meetings are scheduled for publication as supplements to the Irish Medical Journal. The Faculty's admission ceremony took place on the evening of 23 May, as part of the two-day Summer Scientific Meeting, and conferring took place of 3 Fellows, 4 Members, 5 Diplomate Members and 4 CSCST graduates.

- At the College's National Education Day for Doctors in Training, Dr Karen McCarthy was declared winner of the Faculty's Dorothy Stopford Price Medal for her

FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICINE

presentation on “*Understanding respiratory tissue resident memory T-cell responses following Bordetella pertussis immunisation – progress toward more effective next generation Pertussis vaccines*”. Additionally, the Dorothy Stopford Price Poster Award was granted to PHM SpR Dr Margaret Brennan for her poster on “*Efficacy, Effectiveness and Immunogenicity of a Single Dose of HPV Vaccine in 9–14-year-olds*”.

ADVOCACY

The Dean established a Policy and Advocacy Group within the Faculty Board, for an initial period of a year, to review policy documents and reports received by the Faculty on behalf of the board.

An interim Board meeting was held on 19 October 2022 to discuss correspondence received from the HSE Office of the Chief Clinical Officer in relation to Public Health Medicine consultant recruitment. The Board strongly endorsed the rollout of phase 2 and 3 consultant post recruitments, now well in train.

The Dean received a Discussion Paper on “*Considering a Multi-disciplinary Public Health Workforce in Ireland*” from the Institute of Public Health for review. A subgroup of the Faculty Board has been established to meet with the Institute to discuss implementation of the proposed recommendations, in the context of the wider healthcare reforms.



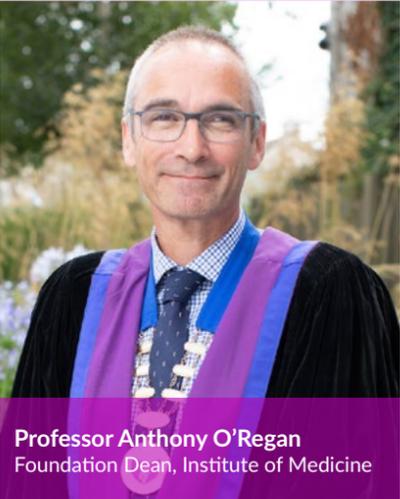
RCPI Faculty of Public Health Medicine Summer Scientific Meeting, 23 and 24 May 2023

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND



Professor Anthony O'Regan
Foundation Dean, Institute of Medicine

The Institute of Medicine, founded in January 2020, represents the largest spectrum of medical specialties in Ireland, with over 1,000 Trainees and consultant Trainers in 18 specialties.

The 18 specialties represented are:

- Cardiology
- Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics
- Clinical Genetics
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology and Diabetes Mellitus
- Gastroenterology
- General Internal Medicine
- Genitourinary Medicine
- Geriatric Medicine
- Infectious Diseases
- Medical Oncology
- Nephrology
- Neurology
- Palliative Medicine
- Pharmaceutical Medicine
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Respiratory Medicine
- Rheumatology



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

WELCOMING NEW TRAINEES

The Institute of Medicine has 590 Trainees in BST and 528 Trainees in HST.

Interviews for the Higher Specialist Training schemes took place between January and March for the July intake. Reflecting the quality of applicants, additional posts in Cardiology and Neurology were approved. There were 254 applications to the HST programmes, with 180 interviewed, and 115 places offered onto 15 schemes. Compared to the 2017 intake, this represents a 45 per cent increase in intake numbers.

Interviews for Basic Specialist Training took place in January for the July intake. There were 580 applicants interviewed and 285 posts have been offered for the July 2023 intake. Compared to the 2017 intake, this represents an 8 per cent increase in posts being offered and intake numbers.

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

Our webinar series for acute physicians has gone from strength to strength averaging over 200 attendees at each session with excellent feedback.

I wish to acknowledge all those who supported these sessions, and we are very grateful to the clinicians for their time and effort with these webinars.

“High quality series of webinars so far with esteemed panels, generating good discussion and updating the attendees effectively. Worth registering for. Many more to come I hope.”

May Webinar attendee.

“The topic was a great idea, and well presented. Certainly, worthy of consideration to be included in some form in undergraduate and post graduate training programmes.”

February Webinar attendee.

The Institute remains focused on Member support and has worked closely with Prof Trevor Duffy, Director of Healthcare Leadership. The IOM is very supportive of his work in advocacy and the development of a mentorship programme. The Institute endorsed the



Dr Diarmuid O'Shea, Prof Fidelma Dunne, and Prof Anthony O'Regan

Stroke Guidelines of UK and Ireland, joining our sister colleges in the UK. This process was a first for RCPI and we will use the experience to guide future endeavours in this area. We have also pleased to support the important work of the National Specialty Quality Improvement Programme and agree to oversee the Bronchoscopy Quality Improvement arm of this programme.

In June, we had the first in-person graduation for 78 CSCST graduates. The ceremony also gave recognition to outgoing NSDs.

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

NSD Term Completed	Specialty	Term
Prof Domhnall O'Halloran	Endocrinology	2017-2023
Prof Chris Thompson	Endocrinology	2019-2022
Prof Catherine Fleming	Infectious Diseases	2009-2023
Dr Cliona Feighery	Dermatology	2021-2023
Dr Johnny Bourke	Dermatology	2021-2023
Dr Aoibhinn O'Toole	Gastroenterology	2019-2022

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

The development of curriculum is on-going across all specialties within the Institute of Medicine. The majority of specialties are either currently undergoing Outcomes Based Education (OBE) development or

have agreed a specific time in which development will commence. The institute's specialties currently undergoing intensive curriculum development include Infectious Diseases, Rheumatology, Palliative Medicine, Clinical Pharmacology, Rehabilitation Medicine, Pharmaceutical Medicine, Medical Oncology, and Neurology. The developed curricula will go live in July 2023 (ePortfolio depending). All remaining curricula will go live in July 2024 in line with all RCPI training bodies. There will also be an implementation phase for OBE which will be designed to support Trainers in applying their new outcomes-based curricula in practice.

OPTIMISE

The OPTIMISE project is led by Prof Anthony O'Connor and Anjitha Radhamoney, Project Manager.

The current phase of this project involves the development of a new outcome-based curriculum for internal medicine with a clear focus on assessment of trainees, resources required, and initial consideration of programme structures required. A steering group panel has been identified for advice and review.

After considerable discussion with stakeholders and



Speakers at the Institute of Medicine Winter Symposium

the internal OPTIMISE project group, it has been agreed to produce a new dedicated RCPI webpage for the project which will act as a place for important updates. The webpage is currently being developed and will be published with the final report.

TRAINING

Training is never static. In 2022 we were successful in accrediting our training programmes in all dual specialties with the Medical Council. This was a major

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE

project and has driven the development of a ten-point quality improvement plan that will be a major focus for our institute in 2023-25. I would like to acknowledge Ms Siobhan Kearns for all her work on this project. We continue to work with all National Specialty and Regional Programme Directors to develop new training pathways, most notable the work, led by Mr Stephen Capper, on rolling out outcome-based curricula for all specialties. We have provided support to our Neurophysiology Colleagues in their efforts to develop a new training programme and it is likely this will be approved in 2024. It will be the 19th specialty under our governance.

LAUNCH OF IRISH CLINICAL EDUCATOR TRACK

The Irish Clinical Educator Track (ICET) was successfully launched by the Institute of Medicine due to the great work of Prof Ed McKone, Director of Education and Training, and Prof Margaret O'Connor, Board Member, IOM. The first IOM Trainee entered this novel programme in 2023 for a pilot 2 year period. While there will be challenges along the way, the interest in the programme speaks for itself, and it is aligned to the HSE desire to professionalise training roles into the future as seen in the NDTP Clinical Educator Pilot.



Welcoming new Members and Fellows of the college



**INSTITUTE OF
OBSTETRICIANS &
GYNAECOLOGISTS**

ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS



Professor Sam Coulter-Smith
Chair of the Institute of Obstetricians
and Gynaecologists

The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists continues to guide doctors in the provision of medical and surgical care for women throughout their lives.

Combined training in both obstetrics and gynaecology is crucial because of the overlap between these specialties.

The Institute has 250 Members and Associate Members who are experienced Consultant Obstetricians/ Gynaecologists and leading experts in their field. Established in 1968, the institute is accredited by the Medical Council of Ireland to deliver postgraduate specialist training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. It offers a three-year Basic Specialist Training programme, which is the first step to becoming an Obstetrician/Gynaecologist in Ireland and a five-year Higher Specialist Training programme.

ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY WITH WEBINAR SERIES

The Institute ran five webinars this past year. The first was on 07 September entitled “How I Do It series - Invasive



INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

Procedures in Fetal Medicine. Experts in the fields of fetal medicine and perinatal genomics including Dr Jennifer Walsh, Dr Gillian Ryan and Dr Samantha Doyle presented on how to determine when invasive measures are necessary and outlined work in defining future advances.

The Institute webinar series continued on 05 October on the topic of Gestational Trophoblastic Disease. Presenters included Prof John Coulter, Clinical Lead National GTD Centre, Dr Caroline Joyce, Lead Clinical Biochemist Cork University Hospital and Dr Rebecca Hunter a 1st year SpR.

The first webinar of 2023 was held on 01 February 2023 entitled *“Completed Menopause Care”*. Dr Deirdre Lundy presented on case-based discussion, Dr Fionán Donohoe presented on menopause and cancer, and Prof Donal Brennan presented on surgical menopause after risk reducing surgery.

The next webinar was held on Wednesday 05 April with a session on Cervical Screening in Ireland. Speakers included Ms Grainne Gleeson, a radiation therapist in the NHS, Prof Noirin Russell, Clinical Director CervicalCheck and Dr Sarah Fitzgibbon, Primary Care Clinical Advisor for CervicalCheck.



Prof Sam Coulter Smith presents Dr Chloe MacAuley with the Rory O'Connor Medal

INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS



Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists admission ceremony at No. 6 Kildare Street

The final webinar this past year was held on Wednesday 03 May with a session on GBS disease. Speakers included Prof Donal Brennan Chair of IOG Scientific Meetings Committee, Prof Maeve Eogan O&G consultant Rotunda and Dr Susan Knowles, Consultant Microbiologist.

JUNIOR OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS SOCIETY (JOGS) ANNUAL MEETING:

The JOGS annual meeting took place on Friday 25 November with the theme of the meeting being rebirth. The meeting was held in a hybrid format and included breakout sessions, 20 presentations and 5 keynote speakers with 140 posters presented on the day. The meeting was followed by a ceremony in the evening where Dr Abdul Sultan and Dr Raneer Thakar became Honorary Fellows of the institute, the day was concluded with a dinner in No. 6 Kildare Street.

TRAINING AND EXAMINATIONS:

Dr Tasneem Ramhendar was appointed as Institute NSD on February 2023. HST allocations have been sent in January for 15 fixed posts. The MRCI Clinical Exam was held in Ireland and Oman and had an 80-85 per cent

INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

pass rate. The waiting list since COVID-19 has been finalised with all now having been offered a place.

Dr Cathy Monteith, Chair of the JOGS Society, ran a 2-day induction programme for international Trainees on 23 and 24 August 2022. The sessions included presentations on: An overview of the Irish Maternity Healthcare System, Common Presentations in O&G and Professionalism, Ethics & Communication. Two further days were held in the Mater (August) and RCSI (October).

IOG ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE:

The Institute Spring Conference, Ceremony and AGM took place on Friday 03 March 2023. Speakers included:

- Prof Richard Greene “*Epidemiology of Obstetric Haemorrhage in Ireland*”
- Dr Joye McKernan “*An Update on the NQI Programme*”
- Dr Nicholas Barrett “*Anaesthetic management of MOH - the real-world experience*”
- Prof Joan Power “*Transfusion requirements - a national perspective*”

The topic of the meeting was “*Multidisciplinary management of Massive Obstetric Haemorrhage*”. A total of 179 people registered for the event with 61 of these attending in person on the day.

Our AGM took place during the lunch break of the conference. At the AGM, a motion on equitable Fellowship was passed; the Institute Standing Orders have been updated to reflect this. Further presentations focused on Training, Education and Exams.

The Spring Conference was followed by the Institute Annual Ceremony. At the ceremony, 6 new Members and 4 new Associate Members were admitted to the institute. The Institute Rory O’Connor medal was presented to Dr Chloe MacAuley. The Institute awards this medal to the highest achieving examination candidate at each sitting of the MRCPI examination in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. 11 CSCST certificates were also presented on the night. Finally, three Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Honorary Fellowships were presented to: Dr Anne Kihara, Prof Frank Louwen and Prof Rory Windrim. The day was concluded with the Institute’s Annual Dinner in the Dun Library.

MEETINGS WITH ECSACOG:

The institute met with the East, Central and Southern Africa College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (ECSACOG) on Good Friday regarding strengthening ties between the two organisations. An MoU had been signed at the start of the year.

The Institute is exploring the opportunity of examiners with the East, Central and Southern Africa College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (ECSACOG) overseeing the institute’s exam in November to assist with the establishment of their own exams. An MoU had been signed at the start of the year. This proposal was approved by the Institute Board and the Examinations Board.

INSTITUTE SUSTAINABILITY AND GREEN AGENDA COMMITTEE:

The Institute has established a Sustainability and Green Agenda Committee. The first meeting of this group took place on Monday 22 May. The Committee are to collate recommendations for units and will reconvene to attempt to create a positive change moving forward.

FACULTY OF SPORTS AND EXERCISE MEDICINE

The Faculty of Sports and Exercise Medicine was founded in 2002 and is a joint Faculty between the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and celebrates its 21st year in 2023.

The Faculty Board meets at least four times yearly, and the work of the Faculty is supported by a number of committees and working groups which report back to the Board. The Faculty has approximately 750 Fellows and Members, in Ireland and Overseas, and the Faculty office is based in RCSI on the St Stephen's Green campus. The Faculty is committed to be the leader and prime reference in education, ethics and science for sports and exercise medicine in Ireland.

ADMINISTRATION

In 2022, we appointed two new Board Members to the Faculty Board for a five-year term of office: Dr Martin Daly (past Treasurer), and Dr Joe Jordan (current PCS Manager and past trainee on the HST SEM programme). Prof Mick Molloy took over as our new Dean after the AGM in December for a three-year term of office, and Dr Philip Carolan, immediate past Dean of the Faculty, was appointed as our new Training Programme Director in August 2023. Elections are in process now for 3 board member positions which will become



Prof Michael Molloy, FSEM Dean; Prof Laura Viani, RCSI President; and Prof Anthony O'Regan, RCPI Pro-President attending in place of RCPI President, Prof Mary Horgan.

FACULTY OF SPORTS AND EXERCISE MEDICINE

vacant in December 2023. We welcome expressions of interest from individuals who would like to participate in our committees and sub-committees, please email sportsfac@rcsi.ie indicating what you area of interest is.

CPD ACTIVITIES

We continued to provide most of our CPD activities on-line in the last twelve months, through a variety of webinars and journal clubs, which proved very popular during the pandemic and there seems to be a desire to maintain a mix of online and in person educational events. Last year's Annual Scientific Conference theme was "Sports Medicine challenges of the thigh and lower leg" and was organised in collaboration with ISCP and ARTI. The ASC recently held in-person in RCSI on 15th September 2023 focused on "Challenges in contact and collision sports". The jointly commissioned ICGP/FSEM MSK Diploma returned in the autumn of 2022, and was internally reviewed in March 2023 by the Education Committee of the ICGP. Our Spring Symposium on "Tendinopathy" was delivered in collaboration with TCD in March 2023 (this event was our first face-to-face CPD event since 2020) and we were delighted to meet up again with our Fellows and Members.



The FSEM Spring Symposium in Trinity College Dublin this spring

HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING IN SPORTS AND EXERCISE MEDICINE (HST SEM)

The Faculty underwent a re-accreditation process of its training programme with the Medical Council of Ireland in December 2021, and the final recommendations' report was received in May 2023. The Faculty is busy addressing the final report recommendations and is

due to provide an up-date to the Medical Council in the autumn. We have engaged with other specialties to look at designing a 4 to 6-year route for SEM training in Ireland to be in line with EU Directive 2005/36/EC, which we plan to deliver in parallel with the current 2-year programme which is post CSCST in a primary specialty. We are finalising a matching review of the HST SEM curriculum against the UK curriculum and EU

FACULTY OF SPORTS AND EXERCISE MEDICINE

standards for postgraduate training in SEM. To date, five trainees have been awarded a CSCST in SEM since the programme launched in July 2019. Earlier this year, we appointed our first female trainee to the programme, Dr Valerie Hayes, who joined the scheme this July.

FELLOWS AND MEMBERS

This year, we introduced new subscription packages for our Fellows and Members: a “benefits” rate which includes free attendance at CPD events, access to BJSM online etc., and a “standard” reduced rate with a “pay as you go” option for our CPD events, which we hope will encourage our Fellows and Members to remain engaged with the Faculty choosing the membership option which more matches their ability to attend ongoing events. We have also secured a substantial discount regarding access to the SEM academy online modules offered by the Australasian College of Sports and Exercise Physicians (ACSEP) for our Fellows and Members in good standing. Are you an NCHD or a consultant interested and/or involved in Sports and Exercise Medicine in your spare time? We have three categories of membership (associate membership, membership and fellowship) and various routes depending on the

applicants’ clinical and academic backgrounds – for information, visit www.fsem.ie or e-mail the office at sportsfac@rcsi.ie for advice if you would like to join the Faculty in any of our membership categories.

In 2022, we raised revenue of €128,000 based 60% from membership subscriptions and 40% from training activity fees. Our expenses for the year were €177,000 based 50% from staff salaries, 30% running costs to administer the training activity, and 20% shared services costs for our offices in the RCSI. Our €50,000 deficit increases our overall deficit to €380,000. Income and expenses figures were both down from prior years and we are attempting to address our overall shortfall in 2 ways. We have expanded the membership options to the Faculty and hope this will result in new membership income in 2024, but expect more of an impact in 2025. We have also offered new payment options to allow people to spread the overall membership costs. This is in an attempt to get membership payment levels back to acceptable levels. We are also engaging the membership to identify ways that the Faculty can engage members better with the content on offer which in turn should give more stability to our finances.



Dr Michael Ryan and Dr Jamie Kearns (left to right), our SpR trainees on the HST SEM programme in 2022/2023 – photographed here out RCSI for an anatomy refresher

FACULTY OF SPORTS AND EXERCISE MEDICINE

HSE HEALTH & WELLBEING - PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PATHWAY IN HEALTHCARE MODEL ADVISORY GROUP & FSEM EXERCISE MEDICINE COMMITTEE

The Faculty appointed representatives on this new HSE advisory group and we look forward to collaborating further on this important topic, exercise medicine and public engagement in increasing the population's physical activity is something very dear to the Faculty and which will yield enormous benefits in the decades to come. The Faculty set up a new Exercise Medicine Committee this spring with a number of key experts, and we look forward to increasing Exercise Medicine teaching sessions for our trainees, as well as CPD opportunities on this topic for our Fellows, Members, and PCS enrollees.

2022/2023 BOARD MEMBERS

Prof Laura Viani (*RCSI President*)

Mr Keith Synnott and Mr Pat O'Toole
(*RCSI College Representatives*)

Prof Mary Horgan (*RCPI President*)

Dr Bryan Whelan and Dr Conor McCarthy
(*RCPI College Representatives*)

Dr Natasha Jones (*FSEM UK President*)

Dr Alastair Nicol (*FSEM UK Representative*)

Dr Paul Dobbelaar (*UEMS Representative*)

Prof Mick Molloy (*Dean*)

Dr Suzi Clarke (*Vice-Dean*)

Dr Orla Ni Mhuircheartaigh (*Hon. Secretary*)

Mr Richard Egan (*Treasurer*)

Dr Philip Carolan

Dr Martin Daly (*December 2022 onwards*)

Dr Maeve Doheny

Dr Tony Gleeson

Dr Joe Jordan (*December 2022 onwards*)

Dr Jamie Kearns (*trainee representative*)

Dr Robert Kelly

Mr Kevin Moran

Mr Seamus Morris

Prof Niall Moyna

Dr Loretta Nolan

Dr Jim O'Donovan

Dr Fardod O'Kelly

Dr Frank O'Leary



Prof Moira O'Brien and Ms Lauren Guilfoyle from UL (left to right). Lauren was the winner of the Prof Moira O'Brien Medal for best oral presentation in the main scientific session at the FSEM Annual Scientific Conference 2023 in RCSI

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE



HERITAGE CENTRE

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND



Prof Brendan Kelly
Dun's Librarian

“Over the past year, the RCPI Heritage Centre has expanded its collection and dramatically increased access for physicians, researchers, and the public. Key initiatives include a dedicated website and completing our digitisation project with Ancestry. We also received generous donations of portraits, photography, letters, lecture notes, and a court suit from the middle of the nineteenth century. We ran a series of successful events which continue to reveal the history of medicine of Ireland and add impetus to our development of a dedicated museum space in Number 6 Kildare Street in the years ahead.”

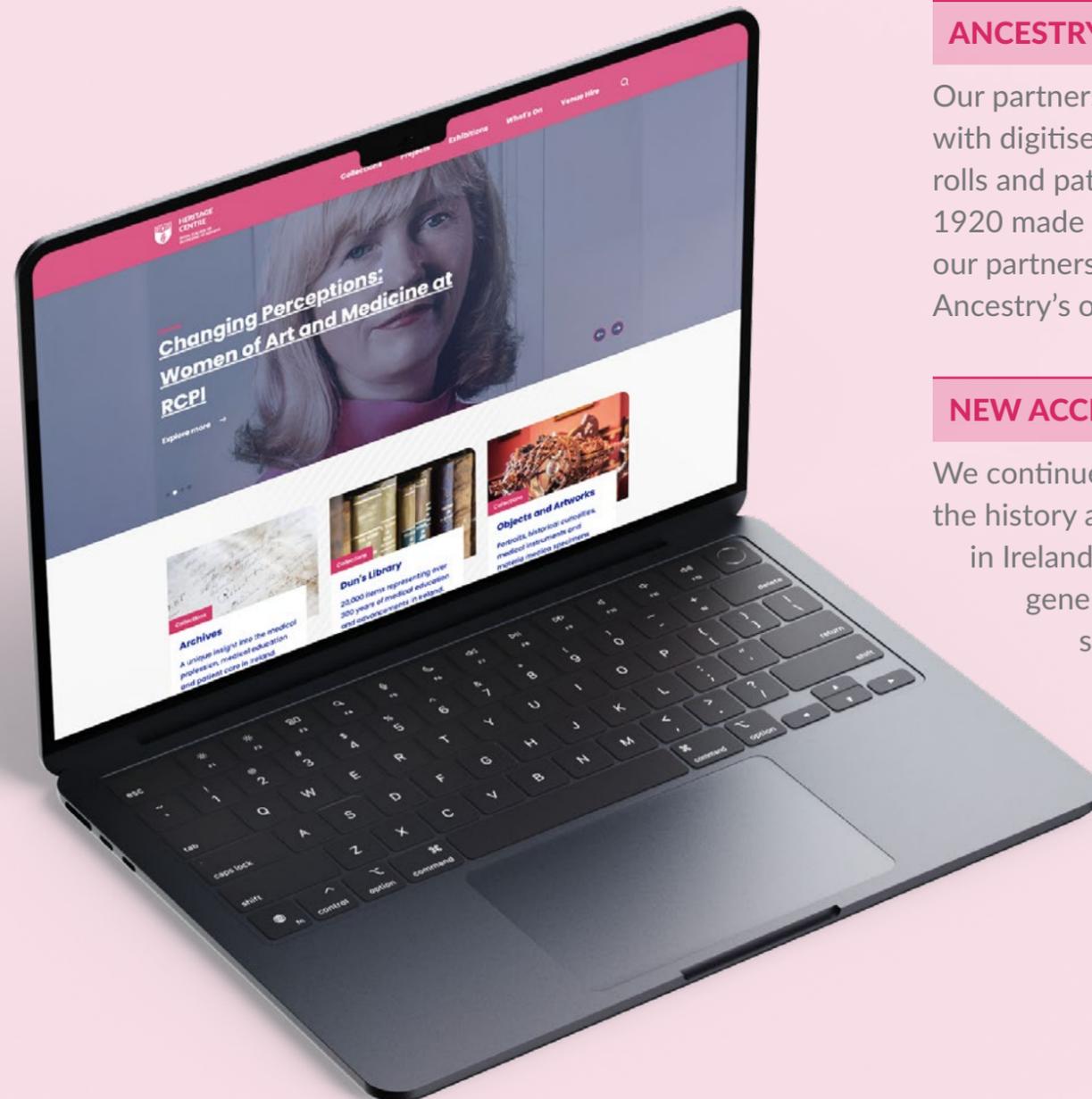
Prof Brendan Kelly, FRCPI, Dun's Librarian

NEW WEBSITE AND DIGITAL REPOSITORY

This year we launch a dedicated website for the Heritage Centre, allowing us to promote our collections, research, and resources to a wider audience. The project includes a new digital repository allowing us to share images of more of collections online, making it easier for researchers to access our collections from anywhere in the world.



CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE



ANCESTRY PARTNERSHIP

Our partnership with Ancestry has been completed with digitised versions of the Membership admission rolls and patient registers held in the archive up to 1920 made available and searchable online. As part of our partnership, there is now have free access to all of Ancestry's online resources onsite in the Heritage Centre.

NEW ACCESSIONS

We continue to develop our unique collections, charting the history and development of medicine and healthcare in Ireland. In the past year, we have received several generous donations and loans which have strengthened our collections. These include:

- Two books of lecture notes made by James Howlin (1835-1895) while a medical student in Dublin in the 1860s, including lectures delivered by William Stokes. Following graduation Dr Howlin emigrated to Australia, and these books were donated by his descendant Ms Sally Mack from Queenslands.
- A series of over 150 letters written home to his family in Dublin by Dr E S Horgan (1899-1996) while working as a bacteriologist in Sudan and Entebbe between 1928 and the 1950s. The letters provide a fascinating insight into the work and personal life of an Irish born doctor working overseas. The letters and other items were donated by Mr Noel Kelly, godson of Dr Horgan.
- Suit worn by Dr William Barker (1810-1872), Vice-President of the college, on his attending the royal count. Although a Fellow of RCPI, Barker never practiced as a physician, instead practicing chemistry, and lecturing on the subject in RCSI. The suit was donated by Dr Barker's descendant Nick Harland.
- We also received on loan of a pair of portraits of Sir Nathaniel and Lady Catherine Barry, probably painted on their marriage in 1758. Sir Nathaniel

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE

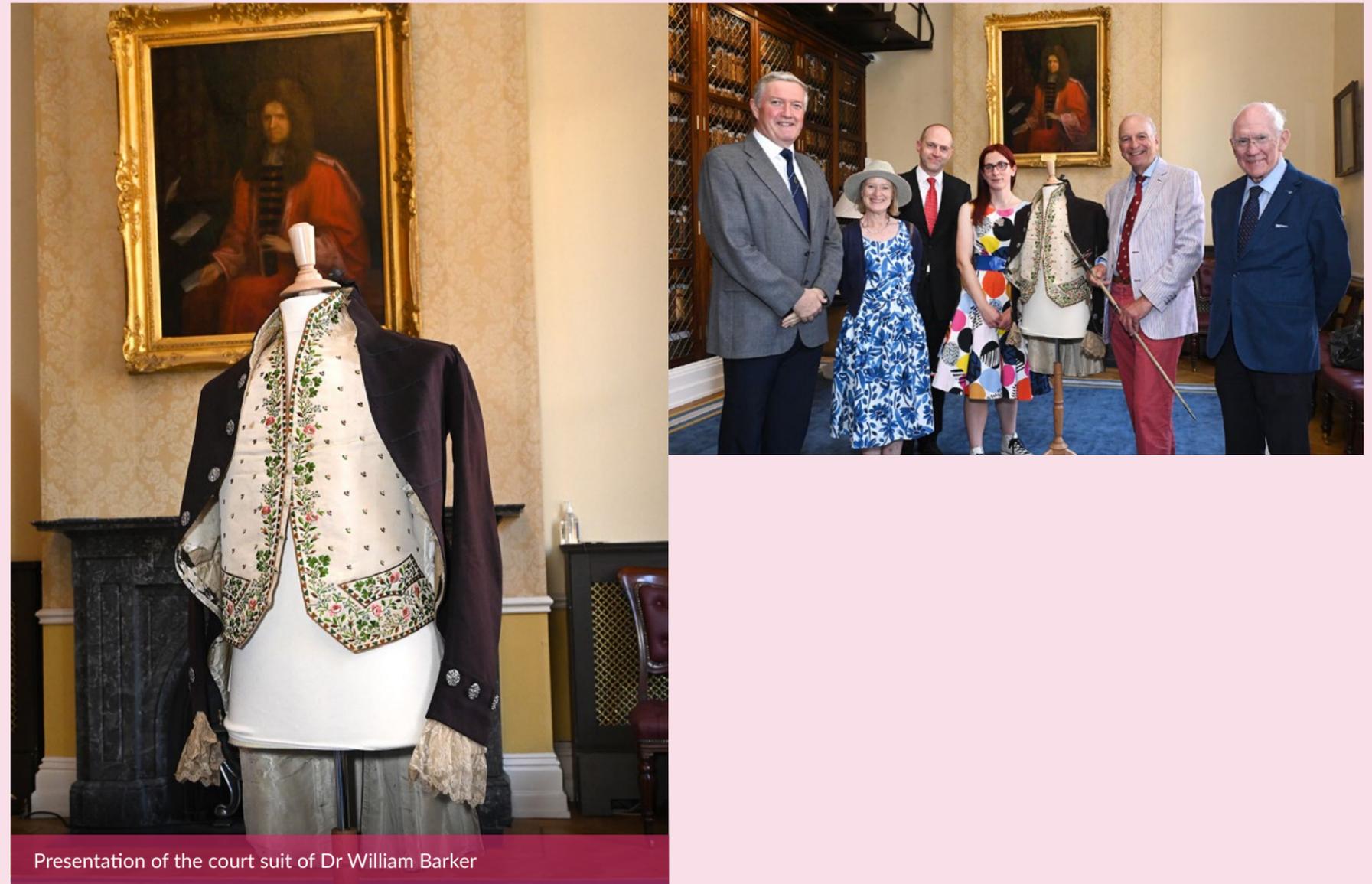
was President of the college on three occasions in the 1760s and 1770s and was first Professor of Chirurgery and Midwifery in Trinity. The portraits were placed on loan by Mr Tony Gibson

- Finally, we purchased a series of photographic prints “A midwifery of darker times” by Elizabeth O’Shaughnessy. These prints were part of Elizabeth’s prize-winning final year show for her BA in Photographic Media at Griffith College, Dublin, and feature items from our collections.

We are always looking to develop our collections to tell the full story of medicine in Ireland – and not just from the doctors’ point of view. If you have any items that you think might be of interest, please get in touch.

DEDICATED MUSEUM SPACE

Work continues on the plans for a dedicated publicly accessible museum space in the basement of No. 6 Kildare Street. Working with Tandem, exhibition design consultants, and Scott Tallon Walker architects, a planning permission application is being prepared. A fundraising campaign will commence later this year.



Presentation of the court suit of Dr William Barker

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE



A midwifery of darker times by Elizabeth O'Shaughnessy

CELEBRATING OUR HISTORY AND HERITAGE



Portraits of Sir Nathaniel and Lady Catherine Barry



Letters of Dr E S Horgan

GOVERNANCE

REGISTRATION AND CONSTITUTION

The Royal College of Physicians of Ireland (RCPI) is an Irish registered charity (Charities Regulatory Authority Number 20002718) and complies with the Charities Governance Code. RCPI is governed under the 1692 Charter (and subsequent amendments) and RCPI by-laws.

Our mission is to be a globally connected community of doctors improving people’s health. Our vision is to develop and support our Learners, Trainees, Members and Fellows to be leaders in healthcare delivery and transformation through training, education and advocacy.

RCPI COUNCIL AND TRUSTEES

The Fellows of the College as the Body Corporate have devolved authority to Council, which has the ultimate responsibility for the actions, decisions and policies of RCPI. All Council members are Trustees of RCPI. (See Appendix A for a list of Council members).

Council’s role is to ensure the legal and ethical integrity of RCPI. It defines the values, mission, vision, goals, objectives and strategic directions of RCPI, and approves general policies. Council also ensures

the accountability of the RCPI by monitoring and supporting the implementation of policies, directives and general functions. It fulfils this accountability and monitoring through various means including the receipt and review of reports from the President and CEO, the Treasurer, the Executive Board, Faculty Boards, and its standing committees.

During the period 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023, RCPI Council met five times.

Key Highlights

Council reviewed and approved the following items:

- Council elections for President Designate and four Ordinary Councillors – the following Fellows have been elected to Council for a term of 3 years commencing October 2023: Dr Diarmuid O’Shea (President-Designate), Dr Martin Hogan, Prof Cathy McHugh, Prof Donal Reddan, Prof Gaye Cunnane.
- Fellowship Steering Group recommendations including amendments to the College By-Laws and Governance Frameworks for the faculties and institutes, which came into effect from 1 July 2023 and provided updated Governance Frameworks for the six

faculties and institutes, were approved by Council.

- The recommendations which came into effect from the 1st July 2023 to introduce equitable Fellowships and new routes to Fellowship, an updated Honorary Fellowships process and criteria, and new terms of reference for the College Credentials and Awards Committee were also approved.
- RCPI President, Prof Mary Horgan, proposed the introduction of a new medal to be named after Dr Cecelia Grierson who was the first female physician in Argentina, and whose mother was Irish. Council approved the proposal, and it is planned that the medal would be launched in Autumn 2023.
- The proposal to create an RCPI Academy for retired Members and Fellows was supported by Council “RCPI Advocacy Priorities to Guide the Advocacy and Policy work of RCPI from 2023-2025” was reviewed and approved.
- Council supported construction and fundraising plans to create a new Museum Space in No.6 Kildare St, currently under review for planning permission.

GOVERNANCE

EXECUTIVE BOARD

As delegated by Council, the Executive Board oversees the operation and management of the RCPI and reports to Council.

During the period 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023, the Executive Board met eight times.

Key highlights:

- Executive Board oversaw the progression of the Strategy 2021-24, receiving updates from senior management on agreed key performance indicators against the 10 Strategic initiatives at each of its meetings.
- Reviewed and approved several RCPI policies including Pilot Recognition of Prior Learning for the purposes of applying to HST, updated staff policies including maternity leave and sick leave.
- Approved recommended changes to the RCPI Health and Wellbeing Department aligning with the newly established WHWU Occupational Health Services in the National Doctor Training Programme of the HSE.

- Continued focus on college finances to ensure activities are aligned with agreed strategy and lead to future financial strength.
- Continued focus on college investment portfolio to ensure agreed Investment Policy is adhered to.
- Specific project reviewing Institute and Faculty reserves with a focus on greater transparency and ownership of income and expenditure.

Discussion items included:

- Key college projects including Mandatory Teaching Review, Simulation Governance Project, Review of General Internal Medicine and Outcomes Based Education.
- Review of RCPI Training Gap Analysis - Insight into the impact of Covid-19 on training opportunities.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

The boards and committees reporting directly to Council are:

Executive Board (see Appendix A)

Governance and Nominations Committee

The Governance and Nominations Committee assists Council in fulfilling its obligations and oversight responsibility for:

- corporate governance practices, principles, guidelines and related policies
- nomination of candidates for appointment to specific roles under the remit of this committee
- composition and evaluation of the Council and Council committees

Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee is responsible for reviewing applications for Fellowship of RCPI and making recommendations to Council for nominations to FRCPI and Honorary Fellowship.

GOVERNANCE

Boards of the six Faculties and Institutes

The role of each of the Faculty/Institute Boards is to oversee the governance, strategy and financial planning of training and professional affairs related to the Faculty or Institute, on behalf of its Membership.

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee (FinARC) is responsible for independently reviewing financial statements and the effectiveness of RCPI's internal controls. FinARC ensures that the interests of RCPI are fully protected in relation to its business and ensure the adequacy and accuracy of financial reporting and internal control and the management of Corporate Risk. This committee acts independently of management and no powers or responsibilities are transferred to it nor does it sit in any approval chain.

Remuneration Committee

The Remuneration Committee functions to ensure that staff are provided with appropriate compensation to encourage enhanced performance in a fair and responsible manner and are rewarded for their contribution to the success of RCPI.

Academic Board

The Academic Board is the primary decision-making body in RCPI for all academic matters and makes recommendations to Council for approval.

National Immunisation Advisory Committee

The National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC) provides evidence-based advice to the Chief Medical Officer and Department of Health on vaccines, immunisation and related health matters to inform health policies in Ireland. NIAC prepares this advice through extensive review of the latest clinical and scientific information.

THE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES REPORTING TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ARE:

Library and Heritage Committee

The Library and Heritage Committee oversees the management and development of the Heritage Centre and the college's historic collections

Trainees' Committee

The purpose of the Trainees Committee is to advise and assist RCPI on matters relating to

postgraduate specialist training, and on issues and concerns that impact on trainees.

College Examinations Committee

This committee has representation from all RCPI training bodies to develop (where appropriate) a consistent approach to training and assessment policies, procedures, and supports, including; curriculum development, recruitment and selection of trainees, trainee agreements, evaluation of progress, trainee support, trainer supports, site quality assurance, health and wellbeing, equality, diversity and inclusion

College Training Committee

The RCPI College Examinations Committee provides oversight and promotes collaboration across RCPI's Faculties and Institutes, to develop strategic options and review examination performance and attendance, to review and approve examination formats, policies, requirements and regulations, to ensure alignment of standards and objectives across all examinations, and to report on questions and issues concerning examinations as required.

GOVERNANCE

TRUSTEES AND OTHER INFORMATION

TRUSTEES AND COUNCIL MEMBERS OF RCPI

See Appendix A for list of Council Members

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dr Terry McWade (July 2022-Dec 2022)

Ms Sheila Gallagher

(Interim CEO from Jan 2023- July 2023)

EXECUTIVE BOARD

See Appendix A for Board Members

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

- Dr Terry McWade, CEO, July 2022 - Dec 2022
- Barry Quinlan, Interim CFO, Jan 2023 -July 2023
- Sheila Gallagher, CFO and Interim CEO from Jan 2023-July 2023
- Dr Ann O'Shaughnessy, Head of Education
- Sinead Lucey Head of Business Development
- Colm Small, Head of Training and Examinations
- Siobhán Creaton, Head of Communications
- Michael Hughes, Chief Technology Officer
- Prof Trevor Duffy, Head of Healthcare Leadership

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Frederick House

19 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2

PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Ulster Bank

130 Lower Baggot Street, Dublin 2

AUDITORS

BDO

Beaux Lane House Mercer Street

Lower St Peter's, Dublin 2

SOLICITORS

Arthur Cox

Ten Earlsfort Terrace, Dublin 2

Ronan Daly Jermyn

The Exchange, George's Dock IFSC, Dublin 1

CHARITY REGISTRATION

CHY Number: 1897

Charities Regulatory Authority Number: 20002718

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	2023 €	2022 €
Turnover	21,464,343	19,580,928
Expenditure	(19,583,817)	(16,708,457)
Operating Surplus	1,880,526	2,872,471
Interest receivable and similar income	14,362	24,112
Interest payable and similar expenses	(100,179)	(94,494)
Surplus before other (losses)/gains	1,794,709	2,802,089
(Loss)/Gain on Investments	239,245	(343,053)
Surplus for the financial year before taxation	2,033,954	2,459,036
Taxation	—	—
Surplus for the financial year	2,033,954	2,459,036
Retained Earnings at 1 July 2022	10,706,671	8,247,635
Surplus for the financial year	2,033,954	2,459,036
Retained Earnings at 30 June 2023	12,740,625	10,706,671

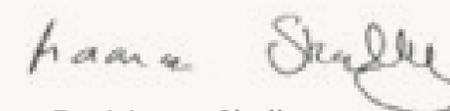
All activities relate to continuing operations.

There were no recognised gains and losses for 2023 or 2022 other than those included in the statement of income and retained earnings.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Executive Board and the Council on 12 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Professor Mary Horgan
President



Dr. Maeve Skelly
Treasurer

FINANCIAL REPORTS

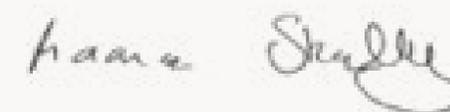
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	2023 €	2022 €
Fixed assets		
Tangible assets	10,632,742	10,880,654
Financial investments	8,839,497	8,980,459
	19,472,239	20,248,719
Current assets		
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	3,406,193	3,538,237
Cash at bank and in hand	7,505,138	6,474,150
	10,911,331	10,012,387
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(7,502,077)	(8,669,026)
Net current assets/(liabilities)	3,409,254	1,343,361
Total assets less current liabilities	22,881,493	20,847,766
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(4,999,773)	(5,000,000)
Provisions for liabilities	(395,608)	(395,608)
NET ASSETS	17,486,112	15,452,158
Capital and Reserves		
Revaluation reserve	4,745,487	4,745,487
Profit and loss account	12,740,625	10,706,671
	17,486,112	15,452,158

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Executive Board on 12 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Professor Mary Horgan
President



Dr. Maeve Skelly
Treasurer

APPENDIX A – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

COUNCIL MEMBERS 1 JULY 2022 TO 30 JUNE 2023

Title	Position	Term
Prof Mary Horgan	<i>President</i>	
Dr Maeve Skelly	<i>Treasurer</i>	
Prof Michael Keane	<i>Registrar</i>	
Prof Mary Higgins	<i>Fellow and VP</i>	
Dr Emer Kelly	<i>Fellow</i>	
Prof Ronan Collins	<i>Fellow</i>	
Prof Francis Finucane	<i>Fellow</i>	
Mr Feargal O'Rourke	<i>Lay Member</i>	
Prof Colm Bergin	<i>Fellow</i>	
Ms Karyn Harty	<i>Lay Member</i>	
Dr Lucy Geraghty	<i>Trainees' Committee Chair</i>	Completed 30 June 2023
Dr Patricia Harkin	<i>Trainees' Committee Vice Chair</i>	Completed 30 June 2023
Dr Yvonne Smyth	<i>Fellow</i>	
Dr Pamela O'Connor	<i>Fellow</i>	
Prof Mohammed Ranavaya	<i>Fellow</i>	
Dr Anna Clarke	<i>Fellow</i>	
Dr Joan Power	<i>Fellow</i>	
Prof James O'Neill	<i>Fellow</i>	Commenced October 18 2022
Prof Liam Plant	<i>Fellow</i>	Commenced October 18 2022
Prof Cathy McHugh	<i>Fellow</i>	Completed October 18 2022
Prof John Cooke	<i>Fellow</i>	Completed October 18 2022

APPENDIX A – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS 1 JULY 2022 TO 30 JUNE 2023

Name	Position	Term
Prof Mary Horgan	<i>President</i>	
Prof Mary Higgins	<i>VP</i>	
Prof Michael Keane	<i>Registrar</i>	
Dr Maeve Skelly	<i>Treasurer</i>	
Prof Anthony O'Regan	<i>Chair IOM</i>	
Dr Louise Kyne	<i>Dean Faculty of Paediatrics</i>	
Prof Sam Coulter -Smith	<i>Chair IOG</i>	
Dr Sheelagh O'Brien	<i>Dean FOM</i>	Appointed 11 November 22
Prof Cecily Kelleher	<i>Dean Faculty of Public Health</i>	
Prof Mary Keogan	<i>Dean Faculty of Pathology</i>	
Mr Kieran Crowley	<i>Lay Member</i>	
Dr Terry McWade	<i>CEO to Dec 2022</i>	
Ms Sheila Gallagher	<i>CFO / Interim CEO Jan-July 2023</i>	
Mr Barry Quinlan	<i>Interim CFO Jan-July 2023</i>	
Dr Sinead Murphy	<i>Chair Academic Board</i>	
Dr Robert Ryan	<i>Dean FOM</i>	Term complete 11 November 22

APPENDIX A – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE BOARD

Name	Position	Term
Prof Anthony O'Regan	<i>IoM Dean</i>	
Prof Mary Horgan	<i>President</i>	
Prof Edward McKone	<i>Director of Education & Training</i>	
Dr Lucy-Ann Behan	<i>Director of Examinations</i>	
Prof James O'Neill	<i>RCPI Council Representative</i>	Commenced Nov 2022
Prof Ronan Collins	<i>RCPI Council Representative</i>	
Prof Margaret O'Connor	<i>Fellow</i>	
Prof Patrick Nash	<i>Fellow</i>	
Dr Marie Talty	<i>Trainee Representative</i>	
Ms Justine McCarthy	<i>Lay Member</i>	
Mr Kevin Marshall	<i>Lay Member</i>	

FACULTY OF PATHOLOGY BOARD

Name	Position	Term
Prof Mary Keogan (Immunology)	<i>Dean</i>	
Dr. Maeve Doyle (Micro)	<i>Ex officio. Demitting 2024</i>	
Dr Cynthia Heffron (Histo)	<i>Fellow</i>	Became Director of Education and Training 2023
Dr Joan Power (Haem)	<i>Fellow</i>	RCPI Council representative
Dr Sine Phelan (Histo)	<i>Vice Dean, Fellow</i>	Became Vice Dean April 2023
Dr Marie Staunton (Histo)	<i>Fellow</i>	
Prof Aurelie Fabre (Histo)	<i>Fellow</i>	
Dr. Deirbhile Keady (Micro)	<i>Hon Treasurer, Fellow</i>	
Dr Linda Mulligan (Forensic Path)	<i>Elected Fellow</i>	
Prof Vincent Tormey (Immunology)	<i>Elected Fellow</i>	
Karina O'Connell (Microbiology)	<i>Elected Fellow</i>	
Sorcha Ni Loingsigh (Haematology)	<i>Elected Fellow</i>	
Dr Shari Srinivasan (Chempath)	<i>Elected Fellow</i>	
Dr Niamh Nolan (Histo)	<i>Histopathology Standing Committee Chair</i>	
Dr Muiris Ó Céidigh (Lay)	<i>Lay member</i>	
Ms Terry Prone (Lay)	<i>Lay member</i>	
Dr Mike Osborn	<i>Observer as President of RCPATH UK</i>	
Dr Gareth McKeenam	<i>Observer as Northern Ireland rep of RCPATH UK</i>	
Prof Mary Horgan	<i>Ex officio as RCPI President</i>	
Prof Michael Keane	<i>Ex officio as Registrar</i>	
Dr Jennifer Mulhall (Immunology)	<i>Trainee representative</i>	

APPENDIX A – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Name	Position	Term
Prof Sam Coulter-Smith	<i>Chair</i>	2022-2025
Prof Mary Higgins	<i>Vice-Chair, and Chair of O&G Exams Board</i>	Became Vice Chair in 2023
Dr Sharon Cooley	<i>Honorary Treasurer of the Institute</i>	
Dr Suzanne O'Sullivan	<i>Director of Training</i>	
Prof Donal Brennan	<i>IOG Convenor of Meetings</i>	
Aoife O'Neill	<i>Coombe hub Representative</i>	
Vacant	<i>Cork Hub Representative</i>	
Shane Higgins	<i>NMH Hub Representative</i>	
Rishi Roopnarinesingh	<i>Rotunda Hub Representative</i>	
Dr Nikhil Purandare	<i>West Hub Representative</i>	
Vacant	<i>Associate Members Rep Representative</i>	
Dr Eibhlin Healy	<i>Member of JOGS Committee</i>	
Ms Caoimhe Daly	<i>Lay Representative</i>	
Dr Lorna Roe	<i>Lay Representative</i>	
Prof Mary Horgan	<i>Ex Officio President, RCPI</i>	
Prof Michael Keane	<i>Ex Officio Registrar, RCPI</i>	

APPENDIX A – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FACULTY OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

Name	Position
Dr Sheelagh O'Brien	Dean
Dr Alex Reid	Dean Designate
Dr David Madden	Interim Honorary Treasurer
Dr Zakiah Amir	Member Rep
Prof Ken Addley OBE	Advocacy Lead
Dr Grant Jeffrey	Convenor of Meetings
Dr Letchumikandan Loganathan	Licentiate Rep
Dr Alan Bray	Chief Examiner
Dr Patrick Carr	Trainee Rep
Ms Marie Daly	Lay Person
Dr Nuala Kelly	Fellow Rep
Dr Fiona Kevitt	NSD
Dr David Mills	Fellow
Dr Oghenovo Oghuvbu	Fellow
Dr Martin Tohill	Fellow
Dr Thomas O'Connell	Professional Competence Rep
Prof Mohammed Ranavaya	Faculty Rep on Council
Dr Sasha Hennessy	Fellow

FACULTY OF PAEDIATRICS BOARD

Name	Position
Dr Louise Kyne	Dean
Dr Ethel Ryan	Interim Honorary Treasurer
Dr Judith Meehan	Ex-Officio, Immediate Past Honorary Secretary; Convenor of Meetings
Dr Sinéad Murphy	Honorary Secretary; RCPI Director of Education
Dr Michael Boyle	Ex-Officio, Lead NSD for HST General Paediatrics, NCAG Co-Chair
Ms Sinead Callinan	Lay Representative
Dr Emma Curtis	Elected Fellow
Mr James Doorley	Lay Representative
Dr John Fitzsimons	Ex-Officio, NSD of CPSP
Prof Ellen Crushell	Clinical Lead of the Clinical Programme for Children
Dr Conor Hensey	Ex-Officio, Lead NSD for BST
Prof Hilary Hoey	Co-opted, Professional Competence Lead
Dr John Gabriel Joyce	Co-opted, Trainee Representative
Dr Juliette Lucey	Elected Fellow Representative
Dr Anne-Marie Murphy	Ex-Officio, Lead NSD for HST General Paediatrics
Dr Ike Okafor	Elected Fellow Representative
Dr Michaela Pentony	Co-opted, Trainee Representative
Dr Roy Gavin Stone	Elected Collegiate Member Representative
Prof Michael O'Neill	Director of Training and Education
Dr Eoin Ó Curraín	Associate Dean of Examinations
Dr Michael O'Grady	Elected Fellow
Dr Ahmed Khan	Elected Fellow
Dr Montasser Gadelsayed	Elected Fellow
Dr Íde Nic Dhonncha	Elected Fellow
Prof Basil Elnazir	Elected Fellow
Dr Muhammed Azam	Elected Fellow

APPENDIX A – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH MEDICINE BOARD

Name	Position
Prof Cecily Kelleher	Dean
Dr Paul Kavanagh	Honorary Secretary Elect
Dr Kevin Kelleher	Honorary Treasurer
Dr Mary Ward	Convenor of Examinations
Vacant	NI Affairs Representative
Dr Anne Sheahan	NSD
Dr Lucinda Ryan	SpR Representative
Prof Alan Baird	External Member
Ms Janis Morrissey	External Member
Dr Anna Clarke	Faculty Representative on RCPI Council
Dr Lourda Geoghegan	Fellow
Prof David Weakliam	Fellow
Dr Anne Dee	Fellow
Dr Ger McDarby	Member
Dr Doug Hamilton	Member
Dr Fiona Cianci	Member
Dr Mai Mannix	Fellow
Dr Keith Ian Quintyne	Fellow

ACADEMIC BOARD 2022/23

Name	Position	Term
Dr Sinead Murphy	Chair of Academic Board	
Dr Neil Reddy	Lead of Teaching, Learning and Assessment	
Dr Cathal O'Broin	Programme Lead of Prof Diploma in Infectious Diseases	
Dr Conor McDonnell	Programme Lead of Prof Diploma in Occupational Medicine	
Dr Ann O'Shaughnessy	Head of Education	
Dr Patrick Felle	Independent member	
Dr Peter Lachman	Programme Lead of PG Certificate in Quality Improvement Leadership in Healthcare	
Dr Terri McVeigh	Programme Lead of PG Certificate in Cancer Genetics and Genomics	
Prof Mary Higgins	Programme Lead of PG Certificate in Obstetrics & Gynaecology	
Dr John Fitzsimons	Teaching Faculty	
Dr Michelle Murphy	Programme Lead of Prof Diploma in Dermatology	
Dr Catherine Wall	Learner Representative	
Ms Georgina Farr	Manager Quality Enhancement Office	
Ms Victoria Taylor	Student Support Officer	
Dr Máire Gilmartin	Learner Representative	
Prof Derek O'Keefe	Programme Lead of Telemedicine & Digital Health Programme	
Dr Jeanne Cloonan	Programme Lead of Prof Diploma in Paediatrics	Commenced Nov '22
Dr Isweri Pillay	Programme Lead Prof Dip Medicine for the Older Person	Commenced May '23
Dr Emma Jennings	Programme Lead Prof Dip Medicine for the Older Person	Commenced May '23
Dr Rosina McGovern	Programme Lead of Prof Diploma in Paediatrics	Commenced Nov '22
Ms Alexandra St John	Education Development Manager	
Ms Kristiana Mindere	Board Secretary	Commenced June '23

APPENDIX A – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FINARC COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND POSITIONS 01 JULY 2022 – 30 JUNE 2023

Name	Position	Term
Joe O’Shea	Co-Chair (Independent member)	
Maeve Skelly	Co-chair and treasurer	
John Barragry	Member	
Colm Bergin	Member	
Jamie Olden	Independent member	
Gerardine Doyle	Independent member	
Liam Plant	Independent member	Commenced November 2022
Cathy McHugh	Independent member	Completed October 2022

GOVERNANCE AND NOMINATION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Name	Position
Mr Feargal O’Rourke	Chair
Prof Mary Horgan	Member
Dr Yvonne Smyth	Member

REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

Name	Position
Maeve Skelly	The Treasurer of RCPI (Chair)
Francis Finucane/ Mary Horgan	Council Member nominated by President
Michael Keane	The Registrar
Elenore O Higgins	External Remuneration Expert

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Name	Position	Term
Prof Mary Horgan	Chair	
Prof Michael Keane	Member	
Dr Geoff Chadwick	Member	
Dr Anna Clarke	Member	Commenced November 2022
Dr John Cooke	Member	Completed November 2022
Prof Mohammed Ranavaya	Member	
Dr Pamela O’Connor	Member	
Dr Emer Kelly	Fellow, Member	Completed September 2022



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