



*“Help us shape the way palliative care research is conducted on the island of Ireland. Let’s increase the impact together”*

Dear Early Career Researcher Forum (ECRF) Members,

Welcome to the Spring edition of our ECRF Newsletter. Plenty of activities have taken place since our last newsletter.

Firstly, we had some changes to our committee group. We welcomed Kasia Patynowska, Marie Curie, UK, as Acting Chair and Yvonne Muldowney, Trinity College Dublin, as Acting Vice Chair, as both the Chair Dr Deborah Muldrew, University of Ulster; and Vice Chair, Dr Serena FitzGerald, University College Cork, have gone on maternity leave.

We held a number of ECRF Steering Committee meetings, during which we laid out our plans for the year. We will be promoting ECRF members’ research by supporting them to produce 4 podcasts, 4 blogs and 3 newsletters with support of AIIHPC. We are also planning for a mini-series of skill-building webinars with a focus on supporting ECRF members to use social media, blogs, podcasts, and graphic design to better promote their research. This mini-series is because of ECRF members’ feedback to the 2022 survey outlining your areas of interest for capacity building activities. We will keep you updated with our progress on these events and if you would like to nominate a speaker for the mini-series, [please get in touch](#).

If you have a project or recent publication and you would like to explore options for disseminating them further, please get in touch to see how we can support you. As always, please continue letting us know your ideas, and sharing your successes (please forward information to [Kasia Patynowska](#)).

Let’s continue increasing the impact together!

Kasia and Yvonne

### Overview

- Podcast and Blog
- Palliative Hub Professional
- Event report: 11<sup>th</sup> Annual PCRN Symposium
- Upcoming events
- Member Celebrations

Follow us online at the [Professional Palliative Hub](#) or on [Twitter](#)

### Get in touch:

Email AIIHPC at [info@aaihpc.org](mailto:info@aaihpc.org) or the [ECRF Committee](#)



### PODCAST

Episode 14 – Dr Una Molloy:

How palliative care is understood in older person residential care

Dr Karie Dennehy (Specialist Registrar in Palliative Medicine, Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services, Blackrock Hospice, Dublin) interviews Dr Una Molloy, who outlines her current role as Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) in Palliative Care for Older People at St Francis Hospice, and her research career including her PhD. Una's PhD thesis focused on how palliative care is understood in older person residential care. The interface between palliative care and care of the elderly in an era of increased integration across disciplines is an exciting topic to discuss in this podcast episode.

You can listen to it here: [tinyurl.com/aaihpcPodcastEp14](https://tinyurl.com/aaihpcPodcastEp14), and check out other episodes here: [professionalpalliativehub.com/podcasts](https://professionalpalliativehub.com/podcasts)



**Featured in episode 14:**  
*Dr Una Molloy (L),  
Advanced Nurse  
Practitioner, St Francis  
Hospice; interviewed by Dr  
Karie Dennehy (R),  
Specialist Registrar in  
Palliative Medicine, Our  
Lady's Hospice & Care  
Services, Blackrock Hospice,  
Dublin*

**Upcoming blogs:** We will be publishing a number of new blogs soon, including one by Dr Nikki Dunne, Family Carers Ireland. For these, and older blogs visit [professionalpalliativehub.com/research/research-blogs](https://professionalpalliativehub.com/research/research-blogs) regularly.



*Blog: Dr Kathryn Gillespie  
Postdoctoral Research  
Fellow Queen's University  
Belfast*

### Most Recent Blog

Music therapy: providing a bridge back to life after loss for informal carers by Dr Kathryn Gillespie, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Queen's University Belfast

Music therapy uses the power of music and sound to work therapeutically with a wide range of people. It can make positive impacts on the experiences of those who care for people before they die.

Read the full blog here: <https://professionalpalliativehub.com/music-therapy-providing-a-bridge-back-to-life-after-loss-for-informal-carers/>

# The Professional Palliative Hub re-launch



# AIIHPC

Early Career Researcher Forum

## PALLIATIVE HUB RE-LAUNCH

AIIHPC's palliative care hub professional has been updated and improved. To keep up to date with the latest in palliative care research on the island of Ireland, visit [Research - The Palliative Hub Professional](#).



To check out the updated ECRF page follow this link: [Early Career Researcher Forum - The Palliative Hub Professional](#)

## Recordings of previous webinars and symposia

Are you interested in [big data for health research](#), [PPI within context of palliative care research](#) or [digital communication skills](#)? Or recordings from past [PCRN Symposia](#)? These and many other recorded events can be accessed via the Professional Palliative Hub [past events page](#).

## Palliative Care Research Studies Webpages

You can see examples of current research study pages here: [Palliative Care Research Studies - The Palliative Hub Professional](#).



If you are currently undertaking a research study you can talk to [Dr Emer Brangan](#), Research Impact Project Manager at AIIHPC, about helping to promote your research on the Professional Palliative Hub.



## Event report: 11th Palliative Care Research Network (PCRN) Symposium

The 11th Palliative Care Research Network (PCRN) Symposium took place on 25 November 2022. The focus was on building collaboration between academic and clinical settings. The keynote presentations included 'The good, the bad, the ugly: building a palliative care research programme' from Prof Miriam Johnson, Professor of Palliative Medicine at Hull York Medical School, and Director of the Wolfson Palliative Care Research Centre; and 'Learning international collaboration on EU the EU MySupport Study' by Prof Kevin Brazil, PCRN member and Professor of Palliative Care, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Fellow in Centre for Evidence and Social Innovation, Queen's University Belfast. You can find more details [here](#), and watch the video recordings here: [tinyurl.com/SymposiumPlaylist](https://tinyurl.com/SymposiumPlaylist).

The Symposium saw the successful launch of the [PCRN Strategic Plan 2023-2027](#), which sets the PCRN's core principles and commitments to continue to advance outcomes that have a positive impact on the quality of life and death for people with life-limiting conditions and supports for their families. It lays out the plan for the PCRN and the ECRF, and is well worth reading (linked above), or you could read a summary of the strategy's priorities [here](#) or view the launch video [here](#).

Three ECRF members presented their abstracts (watch the video [here](#)):

- Kasia Patynowska, Marie Curie, UK
- Nipuna Thamanan, DCU
- Yvonne Muldowney, TCD





## Spotlight on the next PCRN Webinar Series event

**PCRN Webinar Series: The Development of an Irish Model for Dementia Palliative Care on 23 May 2023 @12:00 – 13:00. Book your place now**

People with dementia benefit from a palliative approach to their care, and in some instances, from input from Specialist Palliative Care. However, many people with dementia do not receive this type of care. The Model for Dementia Palliative Care Project aims to develop a model to organise the service-delivery of palliative care to people with dementia and their families who are living at home in the community. This webinar will describe the development of the Model for Dementia Palliative Care and present the current draft model.

This webinar will be presented by PCRN member, **Dr Siobhán Fox** who is a Lecturer and Senior Postdoctoral Researcher in the Centre for Gerontology and Rehabilitation in University College Cork. Dr Fox is project manager on the Model for Dementia Palliative Care Project (2017-2022). The project aims to develop an evidenced-based model to inform healthcare service development to optimise the provision of palliative care to all people with dementia and their families, living in Ireland.



Book your place at this link: [tinyurl.com/DementiaPallCareModel](https://tinyurl.com/DementiaPallCareModel)

## Other upcoming events

### **Palliative Care Week 2023**

**from 10 – 16 September:**

If you would like to get involved, please email [Yvonne McCahill](mailto:Yvonne McCahill)

### **6th UK and Ireland Implementation Science Research Conference 2023**

13-14 July [Limerick].

More information available [HERE](#)

### **Hospice UK conference 2023**

**6th –8th November**

More information available [HERE](#)

### **Webinar series by SAGE Publishing:**

How do I select the right journal for my manuscript? How does peer review work? How can I acquire more citations for my published article? In this webinar series, these questions about the publishing process are answered. Featuring SAGE and external speakers from various disciplines, this series will address the stumbling blocks every researcher encounters in the beginning of their careers and provide practical and in-depth guidance to help you get published.

For more information and to register for each of the webinars [How to Get Published Webinar | Sage Publications Ltd](#)



## CELEBRATING OUR MEMBERS' ACHIEVEMENTS

**We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our ECRF members on all their hard work. Here are some examples of what our early career researchers have been working on:**

**Congratulations to Dr Richeal Burns and Ms Ciara Mc Bride**, Atlantic Technological University and **Dr Anna Cleminson**, North West Hospice for winning best poster presentation at the 11<sup>th</sup> Palliative Care Research Network Symposium on 25 November 2022 in The Ashling Hotel, Dublin. Their abstract was entitled 'Developing multi-disciplinary research networks to address regional unmet needs and inefficiencies in Palliative Care services'.

**Congratulations to Yvonne Muldowney** on her two presentations at Trinity Health and Education International Research Conference 2023 (TheConf2023), in the school of Nursing and Midwifery, TCD relating to her research of palliative care interventions for adult patients in the intensive care unit. Yvonne Muldowney has also who won 1st in the oral presentation session for ECRF at the 11th Palliative Care Research Network Symposium on 25<sup>th</sup> of November last.

**Well done!**

### **Interested in sharing your successes?**

If you would like us to share your successes with your peers in the ECRF through our newsletter or the ECRF Twitter account (@AIIHPC\_ECRF), please get in touch with [Kasia Patynowska](#). Information for Twitter can be shared at any time, but if you would like to be included in the Summer edition of the ECRF Newsletter, please send your information to us **before the middle of August 2023.**

### **We need your help on the ECRF Committee**

We are looking for people from the island of Ireland to join our committee to support the work of the ECRF and are particularly interested in members who are based in Northern Ireland. Some activities you may be involved in include writing/editing blogs, participating in our podcast series, and hosting online-based activities (e.g., webinars). Contact [Kasia Patynowska](#) for more information.