

Nursing Leadership in the Midlands: Evolution of Practice - Undergraduates and Beyond

PROGRAMME

This is an in-person event only and is not being livestreamed

17:00 - 17:30 Registration and Refreshments

17:35 - 17:45 **Welcoming and opening of NMBI Summer Series**

Essene Cassidy, President of NMBI

Video message from **Rachel Kenna**, Chief Nursing Officer, Department of Health

17:45 - 17:55 **NMBI demographics**

Dr Ray Healy, Director of Registration, NMBI

17:55 - 18:05 **Strategic directions**

Dr Don Fallor, Dean of Faculty of Science and Health at TUS

18:05 - 18:35 **Panel discussion**

Nursing Leadership in the Midlands: Undergraduate and Beyond

Chaired by **Ms Eileen Whelan**, Group Director of Nursing Dublin Midlands Hospital Group and co-facilitated by **Dr. Mary McDonnell Naughton**, Senior Lecturer Senior Lecturer in Nursing, Department of Nursing and Healthcare, TUS

Panelists

Shaini John, Staff Nurse, Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise

Lloyd McGree, Clinical Nurse Manager3, Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise

Clare O’Dea, Assistant Director of Nursing, Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore

Denise Doolan, Nurse Practice Development Co-ordinator, Regional Hospital Mullingar

Katherine Kenny, Director of Nursing (DoN), Regional Hospital Mullingar

18:35 - 19:05 **Panel discussion**

Evolution of Advanced Practice and Specialist Nursing Roles in the Midlands

Chaired by **Paul Gallagher**, Group Director of Nursing for Ireland East Hospital Group and co-facilitated by **Dr Laura Dempsey**, Lecturer in Nursing and Programme Coordinator for the BSc (Hons) in General Nursing, Department of Nursing and Healthcare, TUS

Panelists

Yvonne McCague, Advanced Nurse Practitioner, ED, Regional Hospital Mullingar

Maree Healy, Candidate Advanced Nurse Practitioner, Tissue Viability, Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore

Patricia Clancy, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Adult Respiratory Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise

Regina Healion, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Diabetes Midlands Regional Hospital Portlaoise

Dr Lisa Kerr, Lecturer in Nursing Studies, Department of Nursing and Healthcare, TUS

19:05 - 19:25 **Questions and answers session**

19:25 - 19:30 **Future directions and closing remarks**

Sheila McClelland, CEO of NMBI

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Clare O'Dea

Clare O'Dea is Assistant Director of Nursing (ADoN) at Midland Regional Hospital Tullamore. Clare has gained vast experience through her numerous roles in the health service since she began her nurse training in 1980. She began her career caring for post-op cardiac patients before taking up a staff nurse position in Tullamore in 1988 which included a time at the regional ear, nose and throat unit. In 2000 she took up the Night Superintendent position at Portiuncula Hospital, Ballinasloe, in order to gain more experience in management. Two years later she was appointed Divisional Nurse Manager at Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar with responsibility for the Surgical Directorate. She returned to Tullamore in 2004 and has held her current position since then. Clare is constantly updating her skills, has completed a Diploma in Project Management at the University of Limerick (UL) and has a Certificate in Reflexology. She supports quality end-of-life initiatives at Tullamore and is a member of the Hospice Friendly Hospital.

Maree Healy

Maree Healy is a candidate Advanced Nurse Practitioner in Tissue Viability in MRH Tullamore. She completed her Higher Diploma in Wound management and Tissue Viability in RCSI 2004, P.G Certificate in Ionising Radiation 2016, MSc Nursing 2017, P.G Certificate Nurse prescribing medicinal products 2021 and has just completed PG Certificate in Advanced Practice in Trinity College Dublin (TCD).

As a candidate advanced nurse practitioner, she is tasked with the development of this new role to care for patients with complex wound care needs. Her patient caseload is varied but has a strong vascular element. Her independent practice will focus on the care of patients with lower limb leg ulcerations of varying aetiologies. She runs clinics both independently and alongside the vascular consultant and more recently has developed a vascular outreach clinic in the community alongside her ANP colleague to manage a specific cohort of arterially compromised patients with leg ulcers.

All things wounds have been her passion since qualifying as a nurse. She believes that as nurses we have a fundamental role in the care of patients with wounds and their successful outcomes. Maree believes that continuous education and training, networking with peers and shared learning from others is crucial for all nurses.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Regina Healion

Regina Healion graduated with a PG Dip in Adult Nursing from Lancaster University in 1999, PG Dip in Diabetes in 2014 and Professional Diploma in Prescription of Medication in 2016 through University College Dublin (UCD). Regina is currently working as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Diabetes at Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise. She is responsible for inpatient referrals, runs an extensive number of outpatient clinics in conjunction with endocrinologists, podiatrist, dieticians and nurse-led clinics.

Regina is a member of the Midlands Diabetes Nursing Group which launched their End of life guidelines in June 2020. She is also on the Diabetes working group for the roll out of The Integrated Care Chronic Disease Management Hub for Laois/Offaly. She is a member of the Curriculum Development Team for the Certificate in Diabetes as a specialist subject matter expert.

Regina has a passion for device technologies as an avenue to enhance self-management behaviour and improving health outcomes for people with diabetes. She has recently graduated as a DAFNE (Dietary Advice for Normal Eating) educator and rolled out the first Online Dafne course for patients with Type 1 diabetes in the Dublin Mid-Leinster Hospital group.

Regina provides mentorship for colleagues who are undertaking the Post Grad in Diabetes through University College Dublin (UCD). She is currently focusing on staff education over the coming months to catch up on time and education missed due to the pandemic.

Shaini John

Shaini John is a Registered General Nurse currently working in Dunamaise Ward at the Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise. Shaini completed a Diploma in General nursing and midwifery at Manipal College of nursing in India. She completed two years of internship at Manipal hospital. Shaini spent time after her internship in Saudi Arabia. During this time she gained nursing experience working in an Endoscopy unit. After four years in Saudi, Shaini travelled back to her home in India to plan the next phase of her nursing career. Shaini began her career as a Registered nurse in Ireland in 2007, successfully completing an adaptation programme at Naas General Hospital which allowed her to register with NMBI as a Registered Nurse. From here she started working in a very busy stroke unit at Naas Hospital where she spent 12 years. Shaini move to the Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise in 2019 and currently works in a busy surgical unit. Shaini has a particular interest in working with and supporting nursing students, acting as preceptor to both undergraduate nursing students and candidate nurses undergoing compensation measures and adaptation as preparation for entry onto the NMBI General Register. Shaini is an assessor for nurses expanding their role to undertake peripheral venous cannulation and venepuncture.

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Lloyd McGree

Lloyd McGree is an Emergency Department Clinical Nurse Manager 3, in Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise. Lloyd completed his undergraduate nurse training at Dublin City University (DCU) in 2010. His clinical placement as a nursing student in the emergency department sparked his passion and interest in Emergency Nursing leading to a Staff Nurse position in Beaumont Hospital Emergency Department for three years following his qualification. With the arrival of his first son in 2012 Lloyd's calling to his native Kilkenny led to him taking up a staff nurse position in the Emergency Department at Waterford Regional Hospital completing his Post Graduate Diploma in Emergency Nursing in University College Dublin (UCD), progressing from Staff Nurse to Clinical Nurse Manager 2/Shift Leader in 2017. Lloyd has a keen interest in education and practice development leading to being appointed as Clinical Skills Facilitator for the Emergency Department in 2019. He qualified as both a Basic and Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor through the Irish Heart Foundation and as a Trauma Nurse Core Course Instructor (TNCC). Lloyd continues to instruct TNCC in both Ireland and the UK. His own career and leadership development led him to the position of Interim Clinical Nurse Manager 3 (CNM3) in the Emergency Department at University Hospital Waterford in 2020. He has recently taken up the permanent post of CNM3 at the Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise. In his spare time, Lloyd volunteers with the Order of Malta Ambulance Corps, where he holds a national role as National Officer for Cardiac First Responders.

Dr Lisa Kerr

Dr Lisa Kerr completed her undergraduate studies in general nursing and midwifery in Sheffield, England and obtained her MSc in Healthcare Practice and Education in 2002. She has worked as an RNT Lecturer in Nursing at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in both England and Ireland. Lisa's interest in advanced practice extended in 2010 when she was a research assistant with the Evaluation of Clinical Nurse and Midwife Specialist and Advanced Nurse and Midwife Practitioner Roles in Ireland (SCAPE) study. Subsequently she undertook a Doctorate in Education completing her thesis in 2016 investigating Advanced Nurse Practitioners' (emergency) perceptions of their role, positionality and professional identity. Currently she is Programme Coordinator of the Master of Science in Nursing in Leadership and Quality Healthcare at the Technological University of the Shannon Midlands (TUS). Her teaching interests include research methodologies, evidence-based practice, and advanced practice. She continues to be research active with particular interest in advanced nursing practice roles, health policy and healthcare systems.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Katherine Kenny

Katherine Kenny is Director of Nursing (DoN), Regional Hospital Mullingar. She qualified as a Registered General Nurse at St Vincent's University Hospital and successfully attained a Bachelor in Nursing Studies in 2005 at Dublin City University (DCU) and an MSc Healthcare Management in 2015 at The Institute of Leadership, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI). Her clinical experience relates to Acute Medical, Surgical and Intensive Care Nursing in various settings. Katherine has held Clinical Nurse Manager positions during her career progressing to Senior Nurse Management roles which included Site Nurse Manager, Directorate Nurse Manager and ADON Patient Flow. She held the position of Director of Nursing at the Midland Regional Hospital Tullamore, where she was engaged in a more strategic role in respect of advocating for the representation of nursing in all discussions around service development. Katherine took up her current position in 2019. Her leadership role is complex and diverse in a rapidly evolving health service with the strategic focus of implementing National Healthcare Policy. She is committed to developing and empowering the nursing workforce to possess the necessary skills to fulfil this major change in the way Irish health services will be delivered. Katherine is actively engaged with the Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) with regards to the BSc Nursing undergraduate programme requirements from a clinical site and resource perspective. Katherine has developed strong links with the Regional Centre for Nursing & Midwifery Education and the Nurse and Midwifery Planning and Development Unit, Tullamore, to continuously review the programmes of education and training that RHM requires so that the Nursing Team can deliver safe quality person centred care while reflecting the values of Nursing. Katherine leads the Nursing Team in Quality Improvement Work with the development of key measurable performance indicators to improve patient care and staff experience.

Sheila McClelland

Sheila McClelland is the CEO of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI), the independent, statutory organisation which regulates the nursing and midwifery professions in Ireland. NMBI works with nurses and midwives, the public and key stakeholders to enhance patient safety and patient care and protect the integrity of the professions.

Ms McClelland joined NMBI as interim CEO in June 2019 and has driven a new digitisation and reform agenda in the organisation including the introduction of online annual renewal of registration for approximately 80,000 nurses and midwives. She was appointed permanent CEO in January this year.

The Co Down native has had a long career in public service prior to joining NMBI and has held a number of senior positions including as CEO at Carrickfergus Borough Council in Co Antrim. She continues to serve on the Board of Cooperation Ireland, is a member of the Board of the Community Relations Council and is Chair of the Consumer Council for Northern Ireland.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Patricia Clancy

Patricia Clancy is Respiratory CNS at Midland Regional Hospital Portlaoise (MRHP). She began her nursing studies in Trinity College Dublin (TCD) in 2002, completing her Bachelor of Science in General Nursing in 2006. Clinical placements were in St James's Hospital where a placement in a cardio thoracic ward would spark her interest in respiratory care. In 2007 Patricia began her nursing career as a staff nurse in the Intensive Care Unit, St Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny where she stayed for 13 years developing her nursing skills in intensive care and respiratory care. During this time Patricia continued her academic studies in University College Dublin (UCD) in 2009, completing a Post Graduate Diploma in Critical Care Nursing (Intensive Care Nursing).

She took up the CNM 1/shift leader position in ICU in St Luke's in 2018, completing a post graduate Certificate in Management for Nurses and Healthcare Professionals in Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT) in 2020. Patricia's continued passion and interest in developing her clinical practice in respiratory care led to her being appointed as Clinical Nurse Specialist in Adult Respiratory in MRHP in 2021. Her role includes providing expert and specialist nursing services to patients with respiratory conditions both inpatient and hospital outpatient settings, and to their families. This includes patients with COPD, Asthma, Interstitial Lung Disease, NIV/CPAP/Hi-flow Nasal Oxygen, and general respiratory care. Patricia has recently completed a PgDip Respiratory Care in Nursing Practice in the RCSI and a Professional Diploma in Prescription of Medication (with Advanced Health Assessment), in UCD.

Essene Cassidy

Essene Cassidy was first elected to the Board of NMBI as a representative from Public Health Nursing in October 2012 and was re-elected unopposed in 2017. In January 2016 she was elected by the Board as President of NMBI.

Essene has extensive experience working in a variety of roles and functions across a number of acute and community settings, from immunisations, disability, area public health nursing, schools nursing teams and early year's inspectorate.

As Director of Public Health Nursing from 2017 to 2020, Essene led a team of 160 nurses, midwives and care staff responsible for providing health services across the Dublin North West region of Community Health Organisation 9 (CHO), known as Dublin North City and County (DNCC). She is currently Head of Older Persons Services in the same area, responsible for the roll-out of ECC. Essene is also the nursing representative on the National Immunisation Advisory Committee (NIAC).

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Denise Doolan

Denise Doolan, is Nurse Practice Development Co-ordinator (ADoN), Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar. Denise qualified as a Registered General Nurse in 1994 completing the Higher Diploma in Emergency Nursing in 2002, MSc in Nursing Clinical Practice in 2005 and the Professional Diploma in Clinical Leadership (Level 9) in 2022. She holds a Fellowship of the Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery (FFNMRC SI) with the RCSI. Her clinical experience relates to Vascular (St Vincent's University Hospital) and Emergency Nursing & Nurse Practice Development (Midlands Regional Hospital Tullamore). Within these roles she has led out on many practice development initiatives particularly nursing documentation, clinical handover, medication management, National Early Warning Score, Productive Ward, Releasing Time to Care TM, Nurse/ Midwife Prescribing (Medicinal Products) and Nurse/Midwife Referral for Ionizing Radiation. She has also guest lectured at Dublin City University (DCU) and the Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) for both undergraduate and postgraduate nursing programmes. She has worked at regional and national level within the Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director (ONMSD) – Nursing and Midwifery Planning and Development Units (NMPDU), Midlands's area and Dublin South Kildare & Wicklow as Project Officer. Her areas of responsibilities included Post Graduate Education Funding, Practice Development Forum, CHO 6 & 7, Older Persons Quality Improvement and the National Nursing and Midwifery Quality Care-Metrics. In her current role she leads the Practice Development team in supporting nurses and midwives to achieve their potential through ongoing leadership, practice development, continued professional development and quality improvement to promote best practice in the provision of quality patient care.

Yvonne McCague

Yvonne McCague completed her Registered General Nurse Training in 1993. This was followed by a Higher Diploma in Emergency Nursing, completed in 2002, MSc in Nursing Clinical Practice in 2004 and MSc in Advanced Nurse Practice (module only) in 2006. She also completed a Certificate in Nurse/Midwife Prescribing of Medicinal Product in 2008 and Ionising Radiation in 2010. She has 20 years' experience working in Emergency Department. During this period, she established the first Advanced Nurse Practitioner post in the Midlands area in 2008, specialising in Minor Injuries based at Midland Regional Hospital Mullingar. In the last 14 years as an ANP, she has greatly expanded her role to encompass care for major and minor injuries, non-traumatic limb problems as well as minor eye and ears problems. In addition, she is the clinical lead in the management of fractures liaising with the Virtual Fracture Clinic Team. In addition to her clinical role, Yvonne provides regular education and teaching to the multidisciplinary team in formal and informal settings. She was also guest lecturer at Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) and Rotunda Hospital Dublin. Yvonne has also successfully published five articles in international journals.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Dr Ray Healy

Ray is a Registered General Nurse, having worked in orthopaedic and neurosurgical setting across public and private settings. He has experience working as a quality manager and leading clinical audit programmes.

Recently he was a project officer in the Chief Nursing Officer's Office in the Department of Health, managing the Safe Nurse Staffing and Skill Mix brief. While in the Dept of Health he saw oversaw the completion of Phase 2 (emergency care setting) and commenced phase 3 (long-term residential care setting). Ray was the secretariat for the Expert Review Body of Nursing and Midwifery and brought the Body's report to publication in 2022.

Ray holds an MSc Leadership from the RCSI and recently completed his Doctorate in Nursing from London South Bank University which focused on how nurses, in an acute care setting, define the care they provide.

Ms Eileen Whelan

Eileen Whelan was the Chief Director of Nursing & Midwifery & Quality in the Dublin Midlands Hospital Group (DMHG) from March 2015 to June this year when she was appointed as National Lead for Vaccination, Testing and Tracing. Eileen trained as a Registered General Nurse in Ireland prior to gaining international experience in the UK and Australia. Since her return to Ireland she has held a number of Executive leadership posts in both statutory and voluntary Hospitals (Mater Hospital & Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda), and also Lead for Performance Improvement, Unscheduled Care in the Special Delivery Unit (SDU). Eileen is a MBA graduate from the Smurfit School of Business, UCD. Her extensive clinical and leadership track record was evidenced through her work during the Covid-19 pandemic, leading on the Vaccination Programme but also on prior new service developments in Ireland and the UK, and reconfiguration of services in the Northeast.

Eileen is committed to driving the quality & safety agenda for patients and their families, and to nurses and midwives working as part of the wider multidisciplinary team delivering integrated care for patients. She completed the NHS Education for Scotland, Scottish Patient Safety Fellowship Programme (2013 -2014) and is leading on the development of a quality improvement culture within DMHG.

She was awarded a Florence Nightingale Scholarship in March 2018 and is a member of the Regional Health Advisory Group established in December 2021.

Given the significant demands on Eileen's working life she appreciates the importance of fitness and is a keen skier, snowboarder, cyclist and hill walker. A native of Limerick she is also an avid supporter of the reigning All-Ireland Hurling Champions.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Paul Gallagher

Paul Gallagher is a Registered Psychiatric and General Nurse and holds qualifications in critical care nursing. He was appointed as the Chief Director of Nursing & Midwifery to the Ireland East Hospital Group (IEHG) in May 2018, a role that he is relishing. He is professional lead for over 5000 nurses and midwives across the IEHG, a role that requires strategic and operational engagement with fourteen Directors of Nursing and Midwifery.

Prior to his current appointment Paul joined the corporate management team of St. James's Hospital, Dublin, as Director of Nursing in August 2006. He had responsibility for overseeing the Nursing Practice Development Unit, undergraduate, postgraduate, and general education requirements for over 2000 registered nurses, student nurses and healthcare assistant staff. During this time as Director of Nursing Paul was also responsible for over-seeing the recruitment, retention, and the development of the nursing profession at St. James's. Paul has a strong interest in supporting clinical research and worked closely with academic colleagues in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Trinity College Dublin to increase the profile of nursing research throughout the hospital.

Between April 2013 and December 2015, Paul was nominated by the Minister for Health to represent Directors of Nursing and Midwifery on the Board of the Nursing & Midwifery Board of Ireland (the regulator for Nursing and Midwifery). Paul was immediately elected President of the Board and in this role he and his fellow Board members were responsible for overseeing the introduction of the Nurses and Midwives Act, 2011.

In acknowledgement of Paul's contribution to the professions of Nursing and Midwifery, the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Trinity College Dublin, awarded Paul the title of Adjunct Associate Professor in June 2014. In February 2015, Paul was awarded an Honorary Fellowship from the Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and in 2019 the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Sciences, University College Dublin, awarded Paul title of Adjunct Professor.

Paul has obtained a great deal of clinical and managerial experience in the Intensive Care setting both in Dublin and North America. He was Assistant Director of Nursing at Beaumont Hospital, Dublin, for seven years prior to his appointment as Director of Nursing at St. James's Hospital. Paul holds an MBA (Health Services Management) from the Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School, University College Dublin and was recently awarded a Diploma in Leadership and Quality in Healthcare from the Royal College of Physicians.
