

Future Proofing Midwifery through Education, Practice and Leadership

PROGRAMME

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

17:00 - 17:30 Registration and Refreshments

17:30 - 17:45 **Opening of NMBI Summer Series and today's focus on midwifery**

Essene Cassidy, President of NMBI

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

17:45 - 17:50 **Welcome on behalf of the college**

Professor Pauline Meskell, Head of Department of Nursing and Midwifery, UL

Eileen Ronan, Director of Midwifery, University Maternity Hospital, Limerick

17:50 - 17:55 **Research and education in midwifery**

Professor Alice Coffey, Department of Nursing and Midwifery, and Lead of the HRI
Health Implementation Science Cluster (HIST)

17:55 - 18:00 **NMBI demographics**

Dawn Johnston, Director of Midwifery, NMBI

18:00 - 18:40 **Panel discussion**

The challenges and the solutions: future proofing midwifery recruitment and retention

Chaired by **Dawn Johnston**, Director of Midwifery, NMBI

Panelists

Eileen Ronan, Director of Midwifery, University Maternity Hospital Limerick

Ray Healy, Director of Registration, NMBI

Paula Power, Director of Midwifery, St Luke's Maternity Services, Kilkenny

Margaret Crowley Murphy, Director of Midwifery Education, HSE

Jane Irwin, student midwife

Muireann Cuddihy, student midwife

18:40 - 19:30 **Panel discussion**

Embracing the autonomous role of the midwife

Panel discussion facilitated by **Margaret Quigley**, Lead Midwife, ONMSD

Panelists

Dr Sandra Healy, Self-Employed Community Midwife (SECM)

Sarah Scanlan, Clinical Midwife Manager 3 (CMM3 Community Services)

Yvonne Tier, Advanced Midwife Practitioner, University Maternity Hospital Limerick

19:30 - 19:40 **Summary of discussions**

Paula Curtin, Director of Midwifery, Waterford Maternity Services

19:40 - 19:45 **Future directions and closing remarks**

Sheila McClelland, CEO of NMBI

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Paula Power

Paula Power is the Director of Midwifery in St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny. She qualified as a general nurse in London in 2002 and worked across a variety of acute settings in University Hospital Limerick and Australia until 2007. During this time, she completed her BSc in Nursing Studies in UCC. In 2009, she graduated as midwife from UL and completed an MSc in Nursing Studies in UCC in 2010. Paula worked in the University Maternity Hospital Limerick in all areas until 2014 where she developed a keen interest in midwifery led care. Since 2014, Paula has worked in the Maternity Department in St. Luke's Hospital in a variety of roles including Staff Midwife, Shift Leader, CMM2, CMM3 and as Director of Midwifery since 2018.

Recruitment and retention are a multifaceted issue, and the challenges in midwifery have been exacerbated by the Covid 19 pandemic. Paula believes that managers of all grades play a pivotal role in balancing provision of high quality maternity services, whilst improving midwives job satisfaction.

Eileen Ronan, RGN, RM BA Healthcare Management

Eileen Ronan is Director of Midwifery at University Maternity Hospital Limerick/UHLG. Eileen has a breadth and depth of professional experience of midwifery and maternity care, both in the United Kingdom and Ireland, over the last 30 years.

Eileen's current role is to provide the leadership necessary to ensure that the hospital groups maternity services are high quality, evidence based, women centred and cost effective with a strong emphasis on skilled, sensitive evidence based and respectful midwifery care with particular attention to the management and safe delivery of maternity services including Neonatology.

Eileen has a BSc (Honours) in Healthcare management and has just completed an MSc in leadership development.

Margaret Crowley-Murphy

Margaret Crowley-Murphy, Director of the Centre of Nurse and Midwifery Education, HSE Mid West (Limerick, Clare and North Tipperary), part of the ONMSD team, based in Limerick. Margaret has been working in nursing and midwifery clinical practice internationally. She developed her career in nursing and midwifery education in London in the 1990s. She joined the HSE in 1998, progressing her professional development in midwifery education and subsequently advanced into nurse and midwifery education management. She has a keen interest in ongoing professional development, leadership, coaching, mentorship of nurses, midwives and healthcare assistants. Margaret has witnessed and experienced many changes and challenges in healthcare systems over the years. She believes the core values of caring, respect, dignity and compassion are central to the care of individuals who receive and provide care within our healthcare service.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Jane Irwin

Jane Irwin is undertaking the Higher Diploma in Midwifery and is due to qualify in July 2022. She is currently completing her midwifery education in the University Maternity Hospital Limerick. In 2019, she qualified as a general nurse. Following this Jane staffed on a gynaecological ward where she gained exposure, knowledge and developed a passion for the area of women's health. During this time, she had the opportunity to work with some fantastic midwives, which led her to applying for the post-registration midwifery programme. As her student cohort approach completion of their programme, recruitment and retention of midwives is an area of great significance to her and her colleagues.

Muireann Cuddihy

Muireann Cuddihy is a fourth-year undergraduate student at the University of Limerick undertaking a Bachelor of Science in Midwifery. She is currently working as an intern midwife in University Maternity Hospital Limerick. Shortly, she will move to University Hospital Waterford where she will complete the final three months of her internship. Throughout her training, Muireann has witnessed staffing issues in the Irish healthcare services and is looking forward to discussing the issue of recruitment and retention of staff at the NMBI Summer Series event.

Sandra Healy, RM, PhD

Sandra is a community midwife working predominantly in the field of homebirth. She works as a Self-Employed Community Midwife (SECM) with the HSE Homebirth Scheme and part-time as a community midwife in University Maternity Hospital Limerick (UMHL). Sandra qualified as a midwife in 2010 as part of the first nationwide direct entry cohort in Ireland and completed a PhD in the University of Limerick in 2018.

Her area of interest is in supporting women to have empowering, life-affirming physiological births. She believes women should be the primary decision-makers in their maternity care and that coercion and paternalistic models of care need to end. Her PhD focused on how our risk adverse current medicalised system does not meet the holistic needs of women and their families and that much work needs to be done in supporting midwives to embrace and strengthen their role as experts in normal birth.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Sarah Scanlan RGN, RM, BSc (Hons) Midwifery, HDip Business – (Leadership Development)

Sarah Scanlan is the Clinical Midwife Manager 3 (CMM 3) for the Community Midwifery Integrated Service at University Maternity Hospital Limerick.

After qualifying as a midwife in London, Sarah went to New Zealand where she spent 15 years as a Lead Maternity Care Midwife, working autonomously in a community setting. This is where her passion for holistic midwife led care began. On returning to Ireland, Sarah took up the post of manager of the Community Team at UMHL.

In the last two years, Sarah has championed midwife led care for women attending UMHL, developing a community service comprising of 5 antenatal clinics across Limerick City and Ennis, along with an Early Transfer Home Service. Her wish is for a change in the culture of pregnancy and birth, to follow a physiological health based philosophy, where women are empowered in their decision making, and midwives confidently practicing autonomously is the norm.

Yvonne Tier, RN, RM, RAMP

Yvonne Tier is the Advanced Midwife Practitioner (AMP) Supported Care in University Maternity Hospital Limerick (UMHL) dedicated to promoting and protecting safe, compassionate women-centered maternity care. Yvonne qualified as nurse in 2007, midwife in 2012 and recently registered as an AMP with the NMBI in January 2022.

Her role is primarily involved in the promotion and development of the Supported Care Pathway and championing pregnancy, labour and birth as a normal physiological process. She is the lead professional for a specific caseload of women- normal risk with one previous, uncomplicated caesarean section. Her practice is based on a holistic model of midwifery providing continuity of carer and building trusting, therapeutic midwife-women relationships. It focuses on maternal and fetal well-being and offering support, debriefing, preparation and education to women/partners when considering their birth options. An integral component of her role is to demonstrate leadership and foster a culture of change. She is passionate about supporting and empowering midwifery staff to embrace their role as autonomous practitioners within the traditionally obstetric led hospital setting.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Paula Curtin

Paula Curtin has been Director of Midwifery in University Hospital Waterford (UHW) for the past six years. Prior to this she was Clinical Midwifery Manager 3 and Assistant Director of Midwifery in UHW after working in all areas of the service as a midwife.

She has a very keen interest in Midwifery Led Services and Waterford has a well-developed Integrated Hospital & Community Midwifery Service that facilitates DOMINO care & home birth for Waterford City and County. In addition, UHW had the first Advanced Midwife Practitioner (Midwifery Care) in Ireland and this was key in the development of midwifery practice.

She believes that autonomy in practice is developed and advanced by strong midwifery representation and good inter-disciplinary relationships.

As a DOM, she strives to balance the needs of the newly qualified midwife by ensuring supported rotation within the service and managing expectations of these midwives as they gain their experience. Positive role modelling is vital for students and new graduates and helps them to develop potential and direction. This in turn helps retention of midwives in the services.

Margaret Quigley

Margaret Quigley is the National Lead for Midwifery in the Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director (ONMSD) in the HSE. Her role is to provide midwifery expert leadership, guidance and support to the ONMSD Director and work collaboratively with the Director of Midwifery in the National Women and Infants Health Programme to assist in the implementation of the National Maternity Strategy (2016). Margaret sits on various national committees representing midwifery and her current national projects that she is leading out on include curriculum and educational programme development. Margaret has been a midwife for over 34 years in various clinical, management, operational, education and leadership roles both in the UK and in Ireland. During this time, she has led out on many woman centred initiatives including the establishment of community midwifery services and was key in the development of the role and autonomy of the midwife in the services including progressing career pathways for Clinical Midwife Specialists and Registered Advanced Midwife Practitioners.

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

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).

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

Dawn M Johnston RGN RM ADM MSc LLM

Dawn Johnston is a Registered General Nurse and Registered Midwife. Her clinical experience covers all midwifery practice including community, and home deliveries which included the provision of water birth. Dawn has previously held a number of management positions in southern England, including in London where she was one of four midwives who were also Clinical Directors of Women's Directorates in NHS hospitals in the UK. Her last role in the NHS was Director of Midwifery and Nursing at Barts Health Trust where there were approximately 16,000 deliveries per year undertaken in five different settings - three maternity units attached to an acute hospital and two standalone birth centres. Dawn also served for eight years as a Fitness to Practise Panellist at the UK regulatory board (NMC). She returned to Ireland in 2014 and is currently Director of Midwifery at NMBI. Dawn was a member of the National Maternity Strategy working group in 2016. She holds an MSc from Thames Valley University and has LLM in Legal Aspects of Medical Practice from Cardiff University. Dawn continues to hold a regular clinical session in Dublin.

Carolyn Donohoe

Carolyn Donohoe is the NMBI Director of Education, Policy and Standards, having joined the organisation in 2021.

She has more than 20 years' experience in multiple nursing roles including Clinical Facilitator and CNM3 in Critical Care, Nursing Practice Development Coordinator and Directorate Nurse Manager for Perioperative Services in St Vincent's University Hospital Dublin.

A keen advocate of continuous education, her post-graduate qualifications include a Higher Diploma in Critical Care Nursing, a Masters in Nursing Education, and she has completed Stage 1 of her PhD. More recently her studies have focused on Strategy, Innovation and Change.

Since joining NMBI she has provided balance for the remit of clinical and academic site inspectors and had led change in updating a number of important guidance documents including the Nurse Registration Programmes Standards and Requirements', the 'Policy on Approval and Monitoring of Nursing and Midwifery Programmes' and the 'Return to Nursing Practice Programme Standards and Requirements'. She leads a dynamic team of Professional Officers and Education Department officers. As a team they strive to ensure that as standards and guidance materials are updated and projects completed, the outputs provide a clear road map for safe effective practice, for the benefit of both the public and the profession.



Co-hosted with:



Wednesday, 8 June 2022

17:00-19:45

The Pavilion, North Campus, University
of Limerick, Limerick, V94 F7XW

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SPEAKERS AND PANELISTS

Ray Healy

Ray Healy 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.
