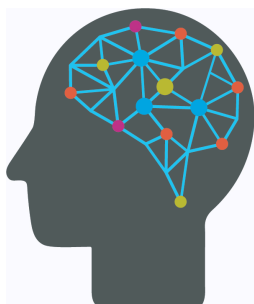


DRNI CONNECT

Issue No. 18 - October 2023



DEMENTIA RESEARCH NETWORK IRELAND

Prevention, Cure & Care for
Neurodegenerative Diseases

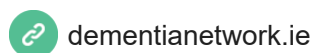
Welcome to the 18th issue of

DRNI CONNECT!

DRNI are very excited to announce the dates and titles of our upcoming webinar series, **Brain Health and Dementia**. Running across 5 weeks, this webinar series will cover numerous topics such as exercise in the brain and dementia, brain-specific post-diagnostic support, brain stimulation in dementia, and so on. You can also read about **DRNI's Early Career Researcher Day**, which saw nearly 80 people take part in a day filled with presentations, panel debates, PPI engagement, and networking! You can find out more about the Alzheimer Society of Ireland's report from the **Research Knowledge Exchange seminar**, as well as their new report **The Experience of Dementia in Ireland A Snapshot in Time**. In addition, details about **UCC's Centre for Gerontology and Rehabilitation's** dementia module are available, as well as our usual features such as **Researcher in Focus** and **Upcoming Events**.

If you have any news, projects or events that you would like to see featured in future newsletters, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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DRNI Brain Health and Dementia
Webinar Series

Dementia and the brain · Diet and brain health in dementia · Brain stimulation in dementia · Brain-specific post-diagnostic support · Brain health in dementia and physical activity

1) DRNI Brain Health and Dementia Webinar Series

DRNI are thrilled to announce our next series of events, Brain Health & Dementia.

Starting November 15th at 11 am, this webinar series will look at brain health and dementia in relation to a number of factors:

- Dementia and the brain - professor Sean Kennelly, TUH - Wednesday 15 November 11 am
- Diet and brain health in dementia - Dr Claire McEvoy, QUB - Wednesday 22 November 11 am
- Brain stimulation in dementia - Dr Michelle Kelly, NCI - Wednesday 29 November 11 am
- Brain-specific post-diagnostic support - Cathy McHale, TUH/TCD - Wednesday 06 December 11 am
- Brain health in dementia and physical activity - professor Catherine Blake, UCD - Wednesday 13 December 11 am

Each webinar will have additional input from an Early Career Researcher in the area, plus time for Q&A at the end.

To register, please click [HERE](#).

We hope that you can join us!



2) DRNI Early Career Researcher Day

On October 10th DRNI hosted an Early Career Researcher Event in St James's Hospital, Dublin. Attended by almost 80 participants and ECRs from across the island of Ireland, the event saw oral and poster presentations from all areas of research in dementia. The posters and presentations were judged by panels of experts, including a specific PPI judging panel made up of PPI representatives. Awards were given in a number of categories, including Best PPI Engagement.

The event also featured a panel discussion on funding with participants from Health Research Board, Science Foundation Ireland, Horizon Europe, Alzheimer Research UK, and Dementia Trials Ireland.

The Abstract Book from the event showcases the depth and breadth of the research undertaken by Early Career Researchers in Ireland and Northern Ireland -- it is a very interesting read and can be accessed [HERE](#). Also, part of the day's proceedings were recorded and can be accessed [HERE](#).

DRNI are absolutely thrilled that we had so many ECRs taking part, and that there was such an interest to attend the event. We would like to sincerely thank everybody who took part in the day for helping make it a success!

3) Alzheimer Society of Ireland: report from the Research Knowledge Exchange Seminar

Knowledge Exchange Event, bringing together early-career and experienced researchers, clinicians, people living with dementia and family carers to explore this topic.

This event provided an opportunity to share knowledge and expertise within the dementia research community and hear from others on collective challenges and solutions for research translation. The report from this event is now completed and can be read in full, or in a brief summary version, at <https://ow.ly/f9Ik50PCYxV>.

4) UCC Centre for Gerontology and Rehabilitation: CPD module

The Centre for Gerontology and Rehabilitation, University College Cork offer two flexible, interdisciplinary programmes, run by Professor Suzanne Timmons: *Dementia* and *Older Person Rehabilitation*.

There are three streams of study available for each of the two courses listed above:

1. Masters
2. Postgraduate Certificate
3. Individual CPD modules

The programmes are both available full-time or part-time and can be tailored with a wide range of optional modules. Most modules for both courses are delivered as blended-learning and therefore suit students who wish to study remotely and commute for the in-class workshops.

Applications are currently being invited, and the next intake of the programmes will commence in January 2024.

For semester 2 of the current academic year, there are four modules open for registration as CPD modules:

- Module: CG6002 – [Stroke Rehabilitation](#) [closing date 8th December 2023]
- Module: CG6006 – [Falls, Mobility and Movement Disorders](#) [closing date 15th February 2024]
- Module: CG6016 - [Advanced Issues in Dementia Care](#) [closing date 22nd February 2024]
- Module: IP5001 [Holistic Approach to Palliative Care](#) [closing date 7th January 2024]

For further information on the *Dementia* course visit: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/ckx21/>

For further information on the *Older Person Rehabilitation* course visit:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ckx14/>

To contact course personnel, email, Mr Christopher Walsh, Programme Manager, christopherwalsh@ucc.ie, Dr Emma O' Shea, Lecturer, emma.oshea@ucc.ie or Siobhán Fox, Lecturer s.fox@ucc.ie.



5) Alzheimer Society of Ireland: The Experience of Dementia in Ireland A Snapshot in Time Report

As part of World Alzheimer Month, The Alzheimer Society of Ireland launched their report *The Experience of Dementia in Ireland: A Snapshot in Time*. The national report captures the experience of living with dementia in Ireland in 2023, highlighting the multi-faceted and complex challenges facing those affected by the condition.

The new research was carried out in early summer with almost 670 people, including both carers and people living with dementia. Many people are struggling with issues such as burnout, isolation, mental and physical health against the backdrop of the Cost of Living Crisis. This national research illustrates the scale of need and the increasing demand for services nationwide.

You can read the full report and plain language summary [HERE](#).

6) Researcher in Focus: Colm Lannon-Boran

This edition's Researcher in Focus is **Colm Lannon-Boran**, Associate Faculty Lecturer & PhD Candidate National College of Ireland & Maynooth University. To read more about Colm's work and research into mindfulness, sleep and cognitive function, please click [HERE](#).

7) Upcoming events

DRNI Brain Health & Dementia Webinar Series

- Dementia and the brain - professor Sean Kennelly, TUH - Wednesday 15 November 11 am
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- Brain stimulation in dementia - Dr Michelle Kelly, NCI - Wednesday 29 November 11 am
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- Brain health in dementia and physical activity - professor Catherine Blake, UCD - Wednesday 13 December 11 am

To register for the DRNI Brain Health and Dementia webinar series please click [HERE](#).

Tea Time with Lewy

Tea Time with Lewy is a monthly get-together for anyone affected by Lewy body disease.

The remaining Tea Time with Lewy meetings for 2023 are taking place:

-Thursday, 23 November 2023 16:00 - 17:00 IST

-Thursday 07 December 10.00-11.00 IST.

To register to attend, please go to <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tea-time-with-lewy-tickets-530405145067?aff=ebsdoporgprofile>.



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