



conference programme

**Today's
Health Research
is Tomorrow's
Health Care**

**13-14 June 2006
Dublin Castle, Dublin,
Ireland**

Improving health through research and information





WELCOME

Mary Harney TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Health and Children

Research is the linchpin of better medical care for patients, improved health of the population and the generation of wealth through new drugs, medical devices and diagnostics. 'Today's health research is tomorrow's health care' is a conference that will highlight the value of research, how it improves health-care delivery and adds social and economic value, and how Ireland can gain by understanding and exploiting the opportunities for health research more effectively.

The speakers and the programme of topics for this conference reflect different perspectives on the contribution of research to better health and increased wealth. The conference is a unique opportunity for a meeting of minds and a sharing of ideas between researchers, senior health policy makers, health managers, industry leaders and those responsible for economic and industrial policy. I would encourage all the key players in research, health policy and management, industry and economic development to participate in the Conference to help develop and shape the future of research and health policy in Ireland.

The Government has demonstrated the value that it places on research by making unprecedented levels of investment in knowledge generation to ensure this country's continued economic growth and development. Major changes are taking place in the health services to make them more adaptive and innovative. The pharmaceutical, medical devices and ICT industries are hugely significant to the Irish economy. These industries can add value to their activities in Ireland by developing strong links with the health service. These links will ensure that today's health research will become tomorrow's health care, to the benefit of patients and the economy.

I look forward to discussing these exciting opportunities with you at this conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Harney".

DAY ONE: TUESDAY 13 JUNE 2006

The overall objective of this conference is to develop and shape the future of health research and policy in Ireland. The conference aims to increase awareness and understanding of the benefits of health research and information; to highlight the positive impact on clinical care and social and economic progress, and to demonstrate to policy makers how health research and information can effectively inform policy decisions.

12.00 **BUFFET LUNCH/ REGISTRATION**

13.00 **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Professor Desmond Fitzgerald, Chair, Health Research Board

13.10 **OFFICIAL OPENING**

Ms Mary Harney TD, Tánaiste and Minister for Health and Children

13.30 **KEYNOTE SPEECH**

Dr Julio Frenk, Minister of Health, Mexico

Today's health research is tomorrow's health care

SESSION ONE

THE IMPACT OF HEALTH RESEARCH AND INFORMATION ON HEALTH POLICY AND CLINICAL CARE OF PATIENTS

Chair: **Professor Desmond Fitzgerald**, Chair, Health Research Board

14.15 **Professor Patrick Johnston**, Cancer Research Centre, Belfast City Hospital

Building the bridge between basic science and clinical research for better patient care

14.45 **Professor Allyson Pollock**, Public Health Policy Unit, University College London
From research findings to health policy and practice

15.15 **COFFEE BREAK**

Chair: **Professor Hannah McGee**, Board member, Health Research Board

15.30 **Professor Tim O'Brien**, Director, REMEDI (Regenerative Medicine Institute), National University of Ireland, Galway
Irish challenges in clinical research

16.00 **Dr Desmond Corrigan**, Senior Lecturer, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences Trinity College Dublin and Chair, National Advisory Committee on Drugs
Diversity in health research and its impact on health policy and outcomes

16.30 **Mr Michael Griffith**, Chief Executive, Fighting Blindness
Priorities in setting the health research agenda: The patient perspective

17.00 **Ms Mary Fitzsimons**, Principal Physicist, Beaumont Hospital
'At the coal face' - Introducing information systems that change patient care

17.30 **CLOSE OF SESSION ONE**

18.30 **RECEPTION AND DINNER**: State Apartments, Dublin Castle
Guest of Honour: **Ms Mary Harney TD**, Tánaiste and Minister for Health and Children

DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE 2006

FIVE PARALLEL BREAKFAST WORKSHOPS (select one) running from **08.15 - 09.20**

1. **Early intervention in mental health – what can research contribute?**

Lead speaker

Professor Eadhard O Callaghan

St John of God Hospitaller Services

Chair: **Ms Ros Moran**, Head of Mental Health Research, HRB

2. **Global health issues – the value of health research**

Lead speakers

Ms Eilish McAuliffe and **Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan**

Irish Forum for Global Health

Chair: **Dr Julio Frenk**, Minister of Health, Mexico

3. **Evidence-based practice and the benefits of effective information systems**

Lead speaker

Professor Jane Grimson

Department of Computer Science, Trinity College Dublin

Chair: **Mr Pat McGrath**, Chair iHIQA

4. **Identifying research priorities – The nursing and midwifery experience**

Lead speakers

Sarah Condell, Nursing Research Advisor, HRB

Dr Therese Meehan, Principal Investigator: Nursing and Midwifery Research Priorities for Ireland

Ms Mary McCarthy, Chief Nurse, Department of Health and Children

Chair: **Laraine Joyce**, Chair, National Council for the Professional Development of Nursing and Midwifery

5. **Clinical trials – Linking science, patient care and innovation**

Lead speaker

Dr Paul Browne, St James's Hospital

Chair: **Professor Bob Stout**, Director of Research & Development for the Northern Ireland Health & Personal Social Services

DAY TWO: WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE 2006

SESSION TWO: THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF HEALTH RESEARCH

Chair: **Mary Cryan**, Chair, Advisory Council for Science, Technology and Innovation

- 09.30 **Dr Damian O'Connell**, Executive Director, Clinical R&D, Pfizer Global Research and Development
Industry-supported health research: Current and potential contribution to the Irish economy
- 10.00 **Dr Stephen Hanney**, Health Economics Research Group, Brunel University, UK
Publicly supported health research: The 'payback' from investment in health research and development
- 10.30 **Professor Cecily Kelleher**, Department of Public Health Medicine and Epidemiology
A picture of the nation's health: Disadvantage is bad for your health!
- 11.00 **COFFEE**
- Chair: **Professor Michael Murphy**, Dean of Medical Faculty, Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Cork University Hospital and Board Member, HSE.
- 11.15 **Mr Michael Scanlan**, Secretary General, Department of Health and Children
The impact of health research on effective health care
- 11.45 **Dr Patrick Doorley**, National Director, Population Health, Health Service Executive
The role of the HSE in progressing research in the health services

12.15 **LUNCH**

SESSION THREE: HEALTH RESEARCH POLICY AND PRACTICE – THE WAY AHEAD

- 13.15 Keynote speaker: **Mr Irving Gold**, Director of Knowledge Transfer and Exchange, Canadian Health Services Research Foundation
Getting research-based evidence into policy and practice – using brokers to bridge the divide
- 14.15 **DISCUSSION:** Ireland's health care tomorrow: What are the key research priorities for the next five years?

Chair: **Mr John Bowman**, broadcaster and presenter

Panel:

- Dr Fenton Howell, Director of Public Health, Health Service Executive
- Dr Leo Bishop, Skills Division – Industrial Development Agency
- Mr Michael Kelly, Chair, Higher Education Authority
- Dr Ruth Barrington, Chief Executive, Health Research Board
- Ms Maev - Ann Wren, Journalist & Author

- 15.15 **CLOSING REMARKS**
Dr Ruth Barrington, Chief Executive, HRB
- 15.30 **CONFERENCE CLOSE**



Dr Julio Frenk

Dr Julio Frenk is the Minister of Health of Mexico, a position he has held for the past six years. Prior to this, Dr Frenk was executive director of the Evidence and Information for Policy programme of the World Health Organization. He has also served as executive vice president and director of the Mexican Health Foundation's Centre for Health and Economy. He was a visiting professor at the Harvard Centre for Population and Development Studies, and a founding director of both the National Institute of Public Health and the Centre of Public Health Research in Mexico.

Dr Frenk is a member of 12 scientific and professional associations, including the Mexican National Academy of Medicine and the US Institute of Medicine. He is the author of 29 books and monographs and is a member of the editorial boards of 10 national and international journals.

A medical doctor, Julio Frenk also holds masters degrees in Public Health and in Sociology and has a PhD in Medical Care Organization and Sociology. Among many awards, he has held a Kellogg International Fellowship in Health and received the Cecilio A. Robelo Award for Scientific Research.



Dr Damian O'Connell

Dr Damian O'Connell is an executive director of Pfizer and is global clinical leader for the company's analgesic portfolio. Accomplished in senior leadership roles and strategic pharmaceutical development and knowledge, Dr O'Connell was previously head of experimental medicine at the Pfizer Global Research and Development laboratory in Kent, UK. Before that, he worked as international drug director for Warner-Lambert.

Dr O'Connell, who has both MD and PhD degrees from the National University of Ireland, has been a medical faculty member of the University of Virginia Health Sciences Centre, as well as being a member of the Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics Department at University College Cork. He serves as a member of the experimental medicine and safety biomarker committees of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry and was a rapporteur for the efficacy component of the recently published '*Innovative Medicines Initiative*'. In addition, Dr O'Connell is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland; he is a member of the British Pharmacological Society, the American Society for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, the American College of Clinical Pharmacology and the Irish Association of Pharmacologists.



Mr Irving Gold

Irving Gold, a leader in the area of knowledge transfer and exchange since 1999 is a director of the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation. He is responsible for leading innovative programmes in research dissemination and knowledge exchange, as well as a suite of programmes in support of the Canadian health system's capacity to use research. He and his team are experts in developing linkage and exchange tools to bring researchers and decision makers together and to build decision-maker ability in the use of research evidence. Mr Gold developed and launched a knowledge-brokering programme that now includes a national evaluation component and a network of more than 600 brokers in Canada and abroad. Previously he was a research transfer associate at the Centre for Health Economics and Policy Analysis at McMaster University.

Mr Gold holds masters degrees in both criminology and sociology. He is a visiting scholar at Wellesley Central in Toronto, chairman of the board of directors of the Canadian Obesity Network (a network of centres of excellence), and a member of the knowledge transfer advisory committee of the Canadian Institute of Health Services and Policy Research.

A national opinion leader in his field, Mr Gold speaks globally about strategies for bridging the 'know-do' gap between researches and decision makers.

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