

Dementia: Transforming the Journey- Prevention, Treatment and Quality of Life

Thursday 17 May 2018 | 09:00 – 17:00

**Castle Upton Suite
Hilton Templepatrick Golf &
Country Club, Co Antrim**



**The British
Psychological Society**
Northern Ireland Branch



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#2018NIDementia



WELCOME

Dementia has a profound impact on the people who experience it and on their families. With better standards of healthcare, increasing longevity means that the number of people living with dementia is increasing. It is estimated that one million people in the UK will have dementia by 2025 and that this will increase to two million by 2050. In Northern Ireland approximately 19,000 people are living with dementia, a number projected to rise to almost 60,000 by 2051. Research indicates that more people are developing dementia even later in life and are living, often with other significant and life-limiting chronic conditions, for shorter periods of time. We must therefore improve our understanding of the different forms of dementias and continue to redesign and transform services.

The World Health Organisation's, Global Action Plan on the public health response to dementia, 2017-2025, includes seven targets for increased policy which include:- awareness, prevention and diagnosis, research, care and treatment of dementia. The first target, 'Dementia as a public health priority' urges that 75% of Member States (146 countries) must develop a tailored response to dementia by 2025.

Governments across the four nations have identified as a priority the need to promote greater understanding of the causes of dementia, to work to find a cure, to modify the risk factors and to improve standards of care for people living with dementia. There is currently no cure for any type of dementia but there have recently been significant advances in our understanding of factors which contribute to prevention, together with improved diagnosis and treatment of dementia.

The Northern Health and Social Care Trust, The Royal College of Psychiatrists in NI, The NI British Psychological Society and the Ulster University have brought together a range of speakers with international reputations from across the UK and Ireland for this conference.

The aim of the conference is to examine how developments in prevention, treatment and quality of life can transform the journey for the person with dementia and their carers. Keynote speakers and parallel presentations will present on developments in dementia care and services across a number of important themes including diagnosis, intervention, innovation and prevention.

It is intended that this event will motivate, excite and inspire further service improvement, research and innovation across these key themes.

We thank all speakers and participants for their contributions.

The British Psychological Society, Dementia Advisory Group will also be delivering the Northern Ireland launch of its position paper on *Psychological Dimensions of Dementia: Putting the Person at the Centre of Care*.

Oscar Donnelly
Chair, Conference Organising Committee



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

09:00 - 09:30 **Registration & Refreshments**

09:30 - 09:50 **Welcome and introduction**
Richard Pengelly, Permanent Secretary, Department of Health

Session Chair: Dr Tony Stevens

09:50 - 10:40 **A life course approach to potentially modifiable risks in dementia**
Professor Gill Livingston, Deputy Director, Division of Psychiatry,
University College London

10:40 - 11:00 **Morning Refreshments**

11:00 - 12:00 **Parallel Sessions**

12:00 - 12:45 **'Dementia and Down syndrome: Awareness, hope and service transformation'**
Professor Mary McCarron, Chair of Aging and Intellectual Disability,
Trinity College, Dublin

12:45 - 13:30 **Lunch**

Session Chair: Sarah Travers

13:30 - 14:15 **Launch of the British Psychological Society Dementia Advisory Group Position Paper - 'Psychological Dimensions of Dementia: *Putting the Person at the Centre of Care*'**
Professor Bob Woods & Dr Frances Duffy, British Psychological Society
Dementia Advisory Group

14:20 - 15:20 **Parallel Sessions**

15:20 - 15:40 **Afternoon Refreshments**

15:45 - 16:30 **'Dementia Crisis Support Team: an innovative model of dementia care'**
Dr Afifa Qazi, Clinical Lead for Dementia Crisis Services, Mid and South Essex,
and Associate Medical Director, North East London Foundation Trust

16:45 - 17:00 **Closing remarks**
Oscar Donnelly, Divisional Director of Mental Health, Learning Disability and
Community Wellbeing, NHSCT



PARALLEL SESSIONS (Morning)

Diagnosis

Session Chair: Dr Liz Simpson

- 11:00 – 11:20 **Delivering a Memory Assessment Service in the Western Trust**
Dr Gillian Mullan, Consultant Lead Clinical Psychologist for Older People, WHSCT
- 11:20 – 11:40 **Experience of a Dementia diagnosis among family care givers**
Gemma Fields, Postgraduate Student, Ulster University
- 11:40 – 12:00 **Predictors of help seeking intentions for early dementia diagnosis**
Ellen E. A. Simpson, Senior Lecturer, Ulster University

Intervention

Session Chair: Dr Frances Duffy

- 11:00 – 11:20 **The neuropsychological impact of dementia: A lived experience of the impact of dementia in daily life.**
Dr Frances Duffy, Consultant Lead Clinical Psychologist for Older People Services, NHSCT & person living with dementia
- 11:20 – 11:40 **Intervening in 'Behaviours that Challenge' in Dementia care**
Esme Moniz-Cook, Professor of Clinical Psychology of Ageing and Dementia Care Research, Dementia Research Group, University of Hull
- 11:40 – 12:00 **Cognitive Interventions in early-stage dementia**
Bob Woods, Emeritus Professor of Clinical Psychology of Older People, Dementia Services Development Centre Wales, Bangor University

Innovation

Session Chair: Dr John McIlvenna

- 11:00 – 11:20 **Partnership working between Primary Care & Psychiatry of Old Age – Shared Care Pathways**
Dr John McIlvenna, Consultant Psychiatrist NHSCT & Dr Ian Kernohan MRCGP
- 11:20 – 11:40 **Evaluation of a healthcare passport for people living with dementia**
Professor Gerry Leavey, Bamford Centre, Ulster University
- 11:40 – 12:00 **Updates on the development of the Dementia Research Institute and current research projects involving people with dementia**
Bernadine McCrory, Country Director - NI, Alzheimer's Society



PARALLEL SESSIONS (Afternoon)

Prevention

Session Chair: Dr Gerry Lynch

- 14:20 – 14:40 **Reducing dementia risk by targeting modifiable risk factors in the mid-life: the lessons of the IN-MINDD project**
Professor Kate Irving, Dublin City University
- 14:40 – 15:00 **Nutrition and the ageing brain: can specific foods and nutrients help to preserve better cognition in older adults?**
Professor Helene McNulty, Ulster University
- 15:00 – 15:20 **Rapid Biochip Immunoassay for Alzheimer's Disease Risk Prediction**
Dr Tara Doherty, Randox Teoranta

Intervention

Session Chair: Dr Ronan Kehoe

- 14:20 – 14:40 **Lewy body dementia**
Dr Joe Kane, Registrar in Psychiatry of Old Age, BHSC
- 14:40 – 15:00 **RAID liaison team: managing dementia and physical illness in the acute hospital**
Dr Ronan Kehoe, Consultant Psychiatrist, NHSC
- 15:00 – 15:20 **The home-based Memory Rehabilitation Programme for persons with early-stage Alzheimer's disease and other dementias; an Occupational Therapy-led service**
Mary McGrath, Advanced Clinical Specialist Occupational Therapist, BHSC

Innovation

Session Chair: Mr Eddie Lynch

- 14:20 – 14:40 **Opportunities for the use of technology and data analytics to improve dementia care**
Eddie Ritson, Programme Director, Centre for Connected Health & Social Care, PHA & Dr Brendan O'Brien, Consultant Clinical Informatics Specialist, eHealth Directorate, HSCB
- 14:40 – 15:00 **Technology adoption modelling: new approaches to improve engagement with assistive technologies**
Professor Chris Nugent, Ulster University
- 15:00 – 15:20 **Technology facilitated reminiscence: impact on people living with dementia and their family carers**
Assumpta Ryan, Professor of Ageing and Health, Ulster University



TOPICS, SPEAKERS & BIOGRAPHIES

Rapid Biochip Immunoassay for Alzheimer's Disease Risk Prediction

The E4 variant of Apolipoprotein E (ApoE) is recognised as one of the most powerful genetic risk factors for dementia and other neurodegenerative diseases. A new Randox Biochip Array allows the rapid identification of an individual's ApoE4 carrier status and therefore can enable lifestyle and therapeutic measures leading to improved quality of life and care for dementia patients.



Tara Doherty graduated with an honours degree in Biochemistry from the National University in Ireland, Galway in 2008. Subsequently, she pursued a PhD in the Tissue Engineering Research Group directed by Professor Fergal O'Brien in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, one of the largest advanced biomaterials and tissue engineering/regenerative medicine research groups in Ireland. Focussing on Bone Tissue Engineering, Tara's research led her to a secondment at Georgia Tech in Atlanta with Professor Robert Guldberg at the George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering. In 2012, Dr. Doherty joined Randox Teoranta

and became a Team Leader in the expanding Immunoassay R&D department. In this time, Tara has driven development of innovative multiplexed clinical tests using the Biochip Array Technology in gastrointestinal, endocrine and neurodegenerative disease areas.

The neuropsychological impact of dementia: A lived experience, dementia is more than loss of memory

Dementia impacts on how the person thinks, feels, behaves and their activities of daily living. Each type of dementia has different early symptoms because different parts of the brain are affected first. The person's experience will depend on the type of dementia, the stage of dementia and will change as the dementia progresses. A discussion focuses on the challenges experienced in daily life and an explanation of why these might occur.



Frances Duffy is Consultant Lead Clinical Psychologist for Older People in the

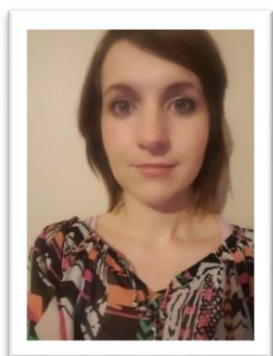
Northern Health and Social Care Trust. Frances completed a DPhil investigating Memory Deficits in Alzheimer's disease. Following a number of years lecturing in Neuropsychology at the Universities of Bristol and Glasgow, she trained as a Clinical Psychologist and subsequently completed a Diploma in Clinical Neuropsychology. Before moving back to Northern Ireland she worked in epilepsy, acquired brain injury and alcohol related brain injury services in Glasgow. Frances is presently clinical lead for the Northern Trust Memory Service and the Dementia Home Support Team (DHST). She is a committee member of the BPS Faculty for the Psychology of Older People (FPOP) and BPS Dementia Advisory Group (DAG). Frances developed CLEAR Dementia Care ©

with the DHST, an innovative model to help understand behaviour and address identified unmet need in people living with dementia.



Experience of a dementia diagnosis among family care givers

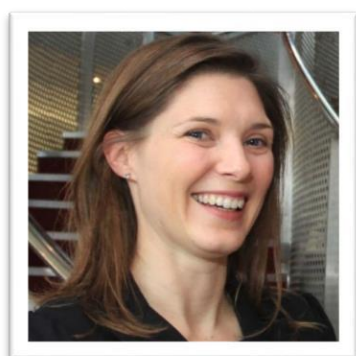
This presentation will provide an overview of the experience of a Dementia diagnosis from the perspective of family caregivers. This research highlighted five key areas from interviews undertaken with carers; the issues surrounding a dementia diagnosis, sources of support for the family following diagnosis, family concerns about caring responsibilities, health and wellbeing of not only the patient, but the carers and the stigma associated with the diagnosis. This will be supported by a carer's account of their lived experience of dementia.



Gemma Fields is a postgraduate from Ulster University with personal and professional experience in the Dementia field. Gemma has been a volunteer with the Alzheimer's Society for four years and is passionate about empowering people living with Dementia to maintain independence during the Dementia journey. Gemma has worked as an Activity Therapist and as a Dementia Support worker and has seen the dedication carers provide to their loved ones and believes they too need support.

Reducing dementia risk by targeting modifiable risk factors in the mid-life: the lessons of the IN-MINDD project

Dementia has been described as the condition of our time. Its prevalence is high and increasing. It is the condition of ageing most likely to create fear and existential dread in the population. Associations between neuropathology and the clinical condition are not fully understood. Such fear, coupled with uncertainty, has led to an industry of products and services claiming to 're-wire your brain' or 'delay dementia by 10 years'. Much of this industry has no grounding in research evidence. In-MINDD sought to take the best available evidence and integrate this within a communication and support tool to help communicate reliable and important messages to the public and the health and social care community via a website designed with this purpose.



Kate Irving is currently working in Dublin City University, where she is a lecturer in Mental Health Nursing and teaches a range of modules including; person-centred dementia care (Dementia Champions). Previously she worked at University College Dublin as a post-doctoral research fellow. She completed her PhD in 2001 at Curtin University of Technology, Western Australia. This thesis was entitled: Case studies in restraint use. Kate is clinical lead in the Memory Works clinic in the Healthy Living Centre, an initiative to decrease stigma and access to information about cognitive health promotion for all. Kate is a partner on an Erasmus programme 'Positive about Dementia' to establish a European Multidisciplinary Masters in dementia. Kate is leading a national

Dementia training initiative: Elevator, aiming to develop dementia skills capacity in services and communities. Kate is the Lead in Partnership with Mary Manning in the HSE partnership project Dementia Skills elevator aiming to develop capacity to care for people with dementia in communities and workplaces.

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Lewy body dementia

Dementia with Lewy bodies and Parkinson's disease, together classified as Lewy body dementias, are common subtypes of dementia that pose unique challenges to patients, carers, clinicians and services. In this presentation Dr Kane will discuss recent developments and future challenges in clinical diagnosis, biomarkers, and therapeutics.



Joe Kane is a registrar in Psychiatry of Old Age, currently employed by Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. His research interests include the epidemiology of dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) and the use of neuroimaging to diagnose DLB in clinical care. Since 2014 Dr Kane has also worked with Newcastle University as part of the DIAMOND-Lewy research programme, a project aimed at improving DLB diagnosis and management in NHS clinical services through evidence-based toolkits.

Rapid Assessment, Interface and Discharge (RAID) liaison team: managing dementia and physical illness in the acute hospital

RAID is a specialised multidisciplinary liaison psychiatry team that works in joint partnership with the acute hospital care team. It brings together rapid, timely and high quality interventions in the form of diagnosis, treatment and management for older patients with delirium, dementia, depression and/ or complex psychosocial issues within the acute hospital setting. It aims to support the mental health and cognitive wellbeing and recovery of our patients, their carers and our acute hospital colleagues to ensure the best outcomes for all.



Ronan Kehoe is a consultant Old Age Liaison Psychiatrist in the Northern Trust currently working with The RAID liaison team and he is the lead clinician for Older People within the Northern Trust's Mental Health Directorate.

Dr Kehoe also held a clinical teaching fellowship for two years where he achieved a distinction in a Masters in Clinical Education from QUB, 2016 and his research won both regional RQIA and National, Royal College of Psychiatrist, prizes for this work.



Partnership working between Primary Care & Psychiatry of Old Age Shared Care Pathways – Dr Ian Kernohan & Dr John McIlvenna

Integrated Care Partnerships (ICP) are collaborative networks of care providers, bringing together healthcare professionals across all specialties to design and coordinate local health and social care services. In 2014 the local ICP group led by Dr Ian Kernohan began a project alongside Mental Health Older People Services to revise the current pathways for the initiation of medication for dementia.

Approximately 500 new cases of dementia are diagnosed annually across the Northern Trust with many of these service users being prescribed medication for dementia. Up until 2016 the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines stated that these medications must be initiated by a secondary care specialist and followed up by an appropriate specialist team. Since 2016 the scope for medication prescription has broadened but responsibility for the role remains largely within the remit of the psychiatrist. The challenge for Mental Health Services for Older People has been to continue to provide an efficient and timely diagnosis for service users whilst also being responsive and accessible during times of crisis. The Integrated Care Partnership in conjunction with Mental Health Services for Older People have developed a pathway that has led to greater partnership working between primary and secondary care and a robust shared care pathway for service users prescribed medication for dementia.



Ian Kernohan is a General Practitioner in Greenisland, Co. Antrim with over 20 years' experience. He has been a GP trainer for 15 years. Ian is a member of the British Medical Association, a member of the Local Medical Council, Director of the East Antrim GP Federation and Chairperson and GP Lead for the Northern Integrated Care Partnership. He has a special interest in the frail elderly population.

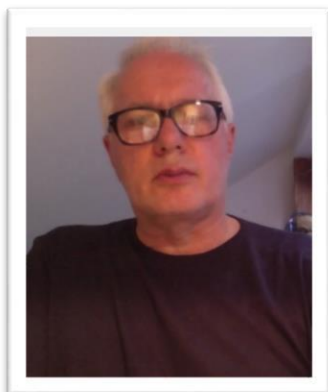


John McIlvenna is a consultant psychiatrist based in the Northern Health and Social Care Trust. He is passionate about improving services for older people and has been part of a number of trust service improvements and projects in recent years. He has enjoyed working across a number of care settings including inpatient services for dementia, functional inpatient services for older people and the community mental health for older people. He is currently working within the Antrim and Ballymena community mental health team for older people as the medical lead.



Evaluation of a healthcare passport for people living with dementia

There is an urgent need for the development of simple communication tools that convey the strengths, assets and healthcare needs of people living with dementia. A Healthcare Passport may improve communication with a range of health and social support services, enhancing quality and continuity of care, and permitting a consideration of the challenges and how these might be managed effectively and compassionately. This study aims to evaluate the acceptability and use of this type of intervention for people living with dementia and their carers.



Gerry Leavey took up the post of Director of the Bamford Centre at Ulster University in September 2012. Prior to this, he was the Director of Research for Barnet, Enfield & Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust and a researcher in the Department of Mental Health Sciences, University College London. His research career has focussed on mental health services, particularly in the field of illness and help-seeking behaviour. He has published widely on service pathways and access by minority and disadvantaged populations. His work ranges from epidemiological studies on ethnic elders and refugee children to qualitative investigations of community level agencies such as schools and faith based organisations, and their role in the recognition and management of mental illness. He is the lead on a EU funded project on the use of intergenerational exchange to combat social exclusion in rural and isolated regions of Europe.

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A life course approach to potentially modifiable risks in dementia

While the numbers of people with dementia have increased, the age specific incidence rates have decreased in many countries but not all. This presentation explores this and future possibilities with a life course approach to the prevention of dementia.



Gill Livingston is an academic psychiatrist at University College London and works clinically in Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust. She is deputy director of the division of psychiatry in UCL and specialises in studies which investigate the reasons why people with dementia and their carers have particular problems, building on this knowledge with research that has practical implications in improving the lives of and clinical care of people with dementia and their families. [Read More](#)



Dementia and Down syndrome: Awareness, hope and service transformation

This presentation will provide an overview on the increased risk of dementia for people with Down syndrome (DS). Using a systems analysis and transformation approach, it will document the process, experience and outcomes of a dementia specific service in addressing the health and social care needs of people with DS across the spectrum of dementia, including at end of life.



Mary McCarron PhD RNID, RGN BNS. F.T.C.D. is Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Chair of Ageing and Intellectual Disability at Trinity College Dublin. Professor McCarron is a committed ageing research leader and an international expert in the fields of intellectual disability, ageing, dementia and palliative care. [Read More](#)

Updates on the development of the Dementia Research Institute and current research projects involving people with dementia

The UK Dementia Research Institute (UK DRI), a joint £250 million investment from the Medical Research Council (MRC), Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK, breaks new ground by bringing together world-leading expertise in biomedical, care and translational dementia research in a national institute. Alzheimer's Society is determined to not only find a cure and treatments for dementia, but to support research that improves the lives of people living with a dementia now. Bernadine will outline how Alzheimer's Society involves people with dementia in research, with examples of current research projects.



Bernadine McCrory is Country Director of the Alzheimer's Society in Northern Ireland. Bernadine has worked in the private and voluntary health sector in the North and South of Ireland for more than 20 years and is a Registered Nurse with additional qualifications at Post Graduate level in Health Service Management. Currently Bernadine is studying at the University of Ulster for a Post Graduate Diploma in Sustainable Investment in the Third Sector. After initially volunteering with Alzheimer's Society, Bernadine took on an operations management role in 2009.



The home-based Memory Rehabilitation Programme for persons with early stage Alzheimer's disease & other dementias; an Occupational Therapist-led service

The home-based Memory Rehabilitation Programme is designed for persons with early-stage Alzheimer's disease and other dementias aims to teach people with dementia strategies to compensate for their everyday memory difficulties. Environmental adaptations are also undertaken to support these strategies in order to maintain independence and reduce caregiver burden.



Mary McGrath is the Advanced Clinical Specialist OT in the Memory Clinic of the Belfast City Hospital. She qualified from St. Joseph's College of Occupational Therapy, Dublin in 1981. The first 9 years of her career were spent in the National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dun Laoghaire. Following positions in St Vincent's Hospital, Beaumont Hospital and the Adelaide Hospital, Mary moved to Belfast City Hospital in 1995. While working in the Elderly Care Unit, Mary observed that although there was an established Memory Clinic prescribing the latest dementia medication, there was no follow-up support to help with memory difficulties at home. She thus proposed the combination of rehabilitation and medication for better outcomes. After winning a Research Bursary to undertake and complete an MPhil, Mary established a new evidence-based Memory Rehabilitation Service

within the Memory Clinic. The home-based Memory Rehabilitation programme commenced as a clinical service in January 2007. The role of the OT at the Memory Clinic is both diagnostic and clinical. The programme involves the teaching of strategies to compensate for everyday memory difficulties to maintain independence and reduce caregiver burden. Memberships: Former Chairperson & President -Association of OTs of Ireland; currently a Director of this Association; NI Regional Memory Services Implementation Group; & NICRN for Dementia. Awards: Ann Beckett Memorial Award (2007) & Innovation in Practice Award (2012).

Nutrition and the ageing brain: can specific foods and nutrients help to preserve better cognition in older adults?

By 2050, it is estimated that there will be 2 billion people aged 60 years and over worldwide, of which 131 million are projected to be affected by dementia. This talk will explore the emerging evidence linking dietary patterns and specific nutrients with cognitive function in ageing, with the potential to develop strategies that could prevent dementia and thus improve quality of life in our ageing population.



Helene McNulty is Director of the Nutrition Innovation Centre for Food and Health (NICHE), a centre of excellence for nutrition research at Ulster University. She is an elected Member of the Royal Irish Academy and Fellow of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences. Having graduated from Trinity College Dublin (BSc and PhD in Nutrition) and the Dublin Institute of Technology (Diploma in Dietetics), Helene joined Ulster University in 1992 and was promoted to her current academic post, Professor of Human Nutrition & Dietetics, in 2001. The purpose of her research is to provide greater understanding of nutrition related health issues, to achieve tangible impact to facilitate policy aimed at disease prevention and to drive innovation activities. Nutrition and Ageing is a particular area of research interest. Apart from managing a large nutrition research group, Helene is actively involved

In lecturing in Food, Nutrition and Dietetics at undergraduate and masters levels, and in supervising research students to PHD level. [Read More](#)



Intervening in 'Behaviours that Challenge' in Dementia care

There is a promising evidence-base for individually formulated 'case-specific' approaches to intervening in 'Behaviours that Challenge' within both family and 24-hour dementia care settings. This presentation will summarise a briefing paper from the British Psychological Society, which outlines how a psychological understanding of the complex causes of 'Behaviour that Challenges' contributes to interventions to meet the needs of the person with dementia and those of the supporting care giver system.



Esme Moniz-Cook is a practising NHS Clinical Psychologist for over thirty-five years, having trained in Leeds and South Wales with PhD at Bangor, North Wales. She worked in the NHS with children, children and adults with learning disabilities and specialised with older people with dementia and their families in 1987. Her PhD was on staff training and the management of Challenging Behaviour and Dementia in care homes. She led a thriving memory clinic at the interface of primary care until 2016. Esme is Professor of Clinical Psychology, Ageing and Dementia, at the University of Hull, School of Health and Social Care; and an Honorary Consultant Clinical Psychologist at Humber NHS FT. She is also Clinical Speciality Lead (Dementia) for the Yorkshire and Humber Clinical Research Network, founder chair (now co-chair) of *INTERDEM*, a pan-European interdisciplinary applied research network which partners

Alzheimer's Europe and publishes widely on European on psychosocial approaches to dementia care (<http://www.interdem.org/>). She currently consults on complex clinical cases across the region and beyond.

Delivering a Memory Assessment Service in the Western Health and Social Care Trust (WHST)

The WHST memory assessment service uses a multi-disciplinary approach to ensure a unified, accurate and prompt decision is reached regarding diagnosis. The service model is unique within Northern Ireland and the team has been recognised both regionally and nationally for demonstrating an exceptionally high quality of care to dementia patients and their families. The WHST memory service model will be presented.



Gillian Mullan is Consultant Lead Clinical Psychologist for Older People in the Western Health and Social Care Trust. Gillian completed her clinical psychology training at the University of Edinburgh, where she qualified in 2000. She spent the first 7 years of her career working with people with severe and enduring mental illness in NHS Fife (Scotland), where she developed and delivered training and supervision programmes for nurses on managing and treating psychosis. She returned to Northern Ireland in April 2007, to take up the post as Older Adult Psychology Lead within the WHST. Gillian has spent the last 11 years developing and running a busy psychology service, providing clinical leadership within the memory assessment service and ensuring that Psychology plays a key role in the service reform and modernization of both acute and community mental health services for older people.



Technology adoption modelling: new approaches to improve engagement with assistive technologies

This presentation will investigate the challenges of using technology based solutions as a new means to offer support for both people with dementia and their care givers. Specifically, it will investigate the notion of technology adoption modelling and the benefits this offers for long term engagement with technology based solutions.



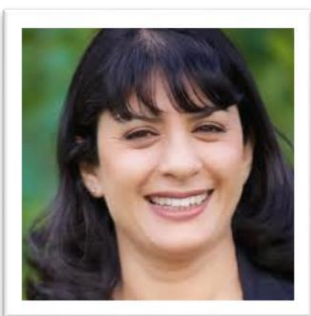
Chris Nugent is the Head of the School of Computing and holds the position of Professor of Biomedical Engineering.

He received a Bachelor of Engineering in Electronic Systems and DPhil in Biomedical Engineering both from Ulster University. Chris joined Ulster University as a Research Fellow in 1999 and was appointed as Lecturer in Computer Science in 2000. Following this he held positions of Senior Lecturer and Reader within the Faculty of Computing and Engineering before his appointment as Professor of Biomedical Engineering in 2008. From 2015/2017 Chris was the Director of the Computer Science Research Institute. In 2016 he was awarded the Senior Distinguished Research Fellowship from Ulster University.

His research within biomedical engineering addresses the themes of the development and evaluation of technologies to support ambient assisted living. Specifically, this has involved research in the topics of mobile based reminding solutions, activity recognition and behaviour modelling and more recently technology adoption modelling. He has published extensively in these areas with papers spanning theoretical, clinical and biomedical engineering domains. He has been a grant holder of Research Projects funded by National European and International funding bodies. He is the Group Leader of the Smart Environments Research Group and also the co-Principal Investigator of the Connected Health Innovation Centre at Ulster University.

Dementia Crisis Support Team: an innovative model of dementia care

The Dementia crisis support team provides a high level of specialist expert intervention to people with dementia in the community with the aim of enabling people to live in their own homes for as long as possible. The team has achieved a big reduction in dementia admissions and has saved millions of pounds by reduced bed usage in the local health economy. In 2016 the team won the prestigious HSJ award and in 2014 the Health Innovation award from the EAHSN.



Afifa Qazi is a consultant in old age psychiatry and the Clinical lead for Dementia crisis services in Mid and South Essex Clinical Commissioning Group. She has been involved in research in dementia and has numerous publications in this field. She is actively involved in teaching and training, including lecturing at UCL. She is also the Associate Medical Director for Essex and Kent, with the North East London Foundation Trust.



Opportunities for the use of technology and data analytics to improve dementia care – Eddie Ritson & Dr Brendan O'Brien

Last year the Department of Health (DOH) approved a Business Case to take forward a programme of work entitled "eHealth & Data Analytics Dementia Pathfinder Programme". The Programme has been developed under the NI Assembly Delivering Social Change programme and is jointly funded by Atlantic Philanthropies, the Executive Office and Department of Health. The aims of the Programme are to build on existing connected health infrastructure to improve the patient journey for people with dementia & better support families and carers and to build capacity and capability to collect and use dementia data to improve the planning and delivery of efficient, effective and value for money dementia services. The Programme has a total budget of £7.3m.

This presentation will provide an update on this exciting area of work which is relevant across the spectrum of dementia care and pertinent to the themes of the conference.



Eddie Ritson has been Programme Director of the Centre for Connected Health and Social Care (part of the Northern Ireland Public Health Agency) since April 2008. He is responsible for leading the Centre's work to improve the quality and responsiveness of the NI health & social care system by assisting the faster adoption of technological innovation. Eddie has led the design, procurement, implementation and evaluation of a remote telemonitoring 'end-to-end' managed service which aims to provide telehealth and telecare services across the region of Northern Ireland to over 3,500 people per year. Eddie is currently leading on a new programme of work across Northern Ireland to bring together a range of citizen-facing health & care e-services to support people in living healthy and independent lives and to create new capacity for advanced health & care analytics. Eddie's career in health care stretches back to 1985 and previous posts include

Director of Primary Care in the Southern Health & Social Services Board and Chief Executive of a Primary Care Group in the south of England. He has extensive experience in health & social care, both in the operational management of services and in leading change from a commissioning perspective.



Brendan O'Brien, Consultant Clinical Informatics Specialist, eHealth, Health & Social Care Board. Brendan is a fellow of the Faculty of Public Health and a founding fellow of the UK Faculty of Clinical Informatics. He obtained his medical degree from the Queen's University of Belfast in 1994 and has subsequently obtained Masters Degrees in: Computer Science & Applications; Public Health; and Healthcare Informatics. He leads the eHealth Analytics team in the HSCB and also heads up the regional data quality and standards teams. He has led on secondary use of GP data in Northern Ireland and also chairs the Honest Broker Governance Board which facilitates access to health service data for approved research projects.



Technology facilitated reminiscence: impact on people living with dementia and their family carers

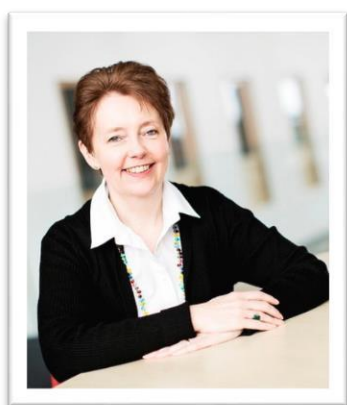
Reminiscence has been widely used as a therapeutic approach for people living with dementia (PLWD) and their carers. The literature suggests that an individualised approach, coupled with the involvement of family carers, may be associated with better outcomes. Recent studies have focused on the use of technology to support reminiscence but there remains a lack of robust research in this area.



Assumpta Ryan is Professor Assumpta Ryan is a Professor of Ageing and Health at Ulster University. Assumpta's research is focused on ageing and the care of older people. Specific interests include the needs and experiences of family carers, caregiving in dementia and quality of life in nursing and residential homes. Assumpta is Editor of the 'Journal of the All-Ireland Gerontological Nurses Association' and is on the Editorial Board of 'Dementia: The International Journal of Social Research and Practice' and 'The International Journal of Older People Nursing'. Assumpta is currently President of the All Ireland Gerontological Nurses' Association.

Predictors of help seeking intentions for early dementia diagnosis

With increased longevity, dementia is a major public health concern. Early diagnosis is thought to be essential to health care planning and to establish if early interventions can impact the course of the disease. This presentation will highlight findings from two studies that used the theory of planned behaviour to determine what would increase intentions to seek help for an early dementia diagnosis. Recommendations for effective interventions to promote help seeking will be made.



Ellen E.A. Simpson. Dr Liz Simpson is a Senior Lecturer at Ulster University, a registered Health Psychologist (HCPC), a Chartered Psychologist (BPS), a member of the School of Psychology Research Institute and Chair of the Health, Education and Well-being RRG. She has over 20 years' experience of research in health psychology and has supervised several PhD projects investigating factors that contribute to health and well-being with age. She has published high quality papers (n=28) on psychological well-being and health, presenting her work at national and international conferences. She has worked in the area of healthy cognitive ageing, looking at lifestyle factors that may impact on this such as dietary intake and physical activity. She is interested in biological mechanisms and their interplay with psychological and social factors

such as immune function and cognition. She is currently collaborating on two funded projects, one by the Alpro Foundation (The health benefits of soy products on cognition in menopausal women), and the other is the National Institute for Health Research (Walk with me study – to develop interventions to encourage walking in sedentary older adults, with chronic health conditions). She is PI on a recently funded CHSUK project using the theory of planned behaviour to gain a better understanding of e-cigarette use in secondary school children and their parents. [Read More](#)



Cognitive interventions in early-stage dementia

Several psychosocial interventions are now available with a cognitive focus. There is a growing evidence base for both cognitive stimulation and for cognitive rehabilitation approaches, and this presentation will outline their key features and consider their practical implementation and utility.



Bob Woods studied Experimental Psychology at the University of Cambridge, before qualifying as a clinical psychologist at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1975. He then worked for several years in the NHS in Newcastle, as a clinical psychologist with older people, establishing groups for carers with Age Concern, as well as developing therapeutic approaches for people with dementia. Subsequently he combined extensive clinical work with older people with academic appointments at the Institute of Psychiatry, London and University College London. Bob is Emeritus Professor of Clinical Psychology of Older People, Dementia Services Development Centre Wales, Bangor University. [Read More](#)

Launch of the British Psychological Society Dementia Advisory Group Position Paper - Psychological dimensions of dementia: *Putting the Person at the Centre of Care* - Dr Frances Duffy & Professor Bob Woods

This presentation will introduce a major report from the British Psychological Society, which sets out a psychological understanding of dementia, based on studies and practice over many years. The report makes recommendations regarding how to use a psychological understanding to improve the experiences of those affected by dementia.

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Dr Frances Duffy, Northern Health and Social Care Trust

Dr Ronan Kehoe, Northern Health and Social Care Trust

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