

## Speakers



### Marie Lalor

Marie Lalor is the Operations Manager for the National Healthlink Project. She has worked on Healthlink since 1997 and has seen it develop and grow over that time in terms of technology, growth, range and size. The goal has always been the same, that Healthlink would be the National Messaging service for Ireland: and now it is. There are 48 live hospitals and 3365 GPs registered to use Healthlink.

There are a range of messages being delivered out to GPs from those participating hospitals including laboratory & radiology results, discharge summaries and death notifications via Healthlink. There are also a number of ways in which a GP can communicate with the hospitals via Healthlink including electronic referrals and electronic lab ordering. These messages can then be integrated into the GP's practice management systems. Healthlink works with many stakeholders to achieve the work that it does including the HSE, ICGP, GPIT group, the GP Software Vendors, NCCP, NCSS and many more.



### Dr Thomas H Bak

Born in Cracow (Poland), Dr Thomas Bak obtained his medical doctorate with a thesis on acute aphasia at the University of Freiburg (Germany). He worked clinically in psychiatry, neurology and neurosurgery in Bern, Berlin and Cambridge and in 1996 established there the Clinic for the Disorders of Movement and Cognition (DMC). In 2006, he moved to Edinburgh where his work

focuses on the interaction between motor and cognitive functions, aphasia and cognitive aspects of bilingualism. He is president of the World Federation of Neurology Research Group on Aphasia, Dementia and Cognitive Disorders (WFN RG ADCD).



### Dr Niall Pender

Dr Niall Pender is currently Head of the Department of Psychology and Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist at Beaumont Hospital, Dublin. He is an honorary Senior Clinical Lecturer in the Dept of Psychology at the RCSI and Visiting Research Fellow in the Academic Unit of Neurology, TCD. He was previously Consultant Neuropsychologist to the Neuro-behavioural Rehabilitation Unit

(NRU) at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, London. He was also Clinical Leader of the NRU and developed a special interest in patients with Huntington's disease, Locked-in-Syndrome and those in Vegetative and Minimally Responsive States. Prior to this appointment, he was Clinical Neuropsychologist at the Lishman Brain Injury Unit, Maudsley Hospital, London. Dr Pender is a past President of the Psychological Society of Ireland and is a past Chair of the Psychological Society of Ireland's Special Interest Group in Neuropsychology. He is a Fellow of the Psychological Society of Ireland. Dr Pender obtained his undergraduate degree in Psychology from University College Dublin and trained in Clinical Psychology at the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London. He also holds an MSc in Experimental and Clinical Neuropsychology from the University of Wales, and a post-graduate Diploma in Clinical Neuropsychology from the Institute of Psychiatry. He completed his PhD on Neuropsychological Aspects of Huntington's Disease at the University of London, Institute of Psychiatry.



### Dr Tony Foley

Dr Tony Foley is a GP working in Kinsale, County Cork. He is a Lecturer in the Department of General Practice in UCC and is a GP Trainer and an Examiner for the Irish College of General Practitioners (ICGP).

Tony's interests include dementia in the primary care setting and interprofessional education in multidisciplinary teams. He is educational lead for one of Genio's community-based dementia projects, Kinsale Community Response to Dementia (KCoRD). This primary care based project has developed services and supports for people with dementia, living at home. He is PI for PREPARED (Primary Care Education, Pathways & Research of Dementia), a new 3-year national Primary Care dementia initiative, which seeks to support GPs and Primary Care Team members in the delivery of dementia care in the community. Tony was an Advisor on the Working Group for the Irish National Dementia Strategy and has co-authored a dementia reference guide for the ICGP.

## Speakers



### Professor Adam Zeman

Professor Adam Zeman trained in Medicine at Oxford University Medical School, after a first degree in Philosophy and Psychology, and in Neurology in Oxford, at The National Hospital for Neurology in Queen Square, London, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge and The Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. He moved to Edinburgh in 1996, as a

Consultant and Senior Lecturer in the Department of Clinical Neurosciences. Between February 2003 and August 2004 he was supported by a Health Foundation Mid-Career Award with the aim of 'building bridges between neurology, psychology and psychiatry'. Adam's specialised clinical work is in cognitive and behavioural neurology, including neurological disorders of sleep. His research interests include amnesia associated with epilepsy and disorders of visual imagery. Adam has an active background interest in the science and philosophy of consciousness, publishing a wide-ranging review of the field in *Brain* (2001;124:1263-1289) and an accessible introduction to the subject, intended for a general readership (*Consciousness: a user's guide*, Yale University Press, 2002). He moved to the University of Exeter Medical School in September 2005 and has recently written an introduction to the brain for the general reader, 'A Portrait of the Brain' (Yale, 2008), and edited 'Epilepsy and Memory' (OUP, 2012) with Marilyn Jones-Gotman and Narinder Kapur. He was Chairman of the British Neuropsychiatry Association from 2007-2011.



### Dr David Robinson

Dr Robinson graduated from Trinity College, Dublin in 1996 and completed his basic and specialist training in Queensland, Australia and the South Dublin Geriatric Training Scheme. He was the first Watts Clinical Fellow in the Mercer's Institute for Research on Ageing where his MD thesis examined vitamin B12 deficiency and its relevance to

falls and cognition. He is principal investigator on the Local Asset Mapping Project – an urban asset mapping exercise designed to promote healthier ageing. He represents the Irish Society of Physicians in Geriatric Medicine at the National Programme Office for Traffic Medicine. He works as a consultant physician in St James' Hospital, Dublin.



### Anuraj Varshney

Anu has been working as a Consultant Practitioner/Centre Manager for South East DriveAbility in Kent since 2008. His role mainly involves providing specialist clinical input into the medical fitness to drive following a medical condition/disability and leadership to the service.

Anu has over 20 years' experience of working with patients with a variety of physical and neurological conditions.

He was appointed as a Chairman of the Board for the Forum of Mobility Centres in 2013 and, as a chairman, works alongside the chief executive and a small board of non-executive directors. Anu is responsible for the day-to-day running of the Forum board as well as decisions concerning service provision, policy-making and future service delivery for disabled and older drivers. Anu started his Doctorate in Professional Studies (DProf) from the University of Chester in September 2013 and is looking to carry out major research in the area of Older Drivers and Driving Licences in the UK.



∴ New Directions,  
New Dimensions  
in Dementia

5th Annual  
Memory Clinic  
Conference

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015 ∴



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## Welcome

It is a great pleasure once again to welcome you all to the **5th Annual Memory Clinic Conference**.

This year the theme of the conference is 'New Directions, New Dimensions in Dementia' to reflect some of the significant changes to the dementia landscape over the last 5 years. The National Dementia Strategy, launched without fanfare in December 2014, looks set to guide government policy over the next few years. Timely diagnosis and Intervention are one of the Priority Action Areas under the strategy and the HSE has been charged with reviewing existing services to maximize GPs and hospital clinician access to specialist assessment services including old age psychiatrists, geriatricians, neurologists, intellectual disability services and memory clinics. This topic will be addressed by **Dr Tony Foley**, a GP from Kinsale in Cork who was a member of the Expert Advisory Group who helped to develop the strategy.

The contentious area of driving and dementia has also been the recipient of significant reworking. 2013 saw the publication of the new Medical Fitness to Drive Guidelines that aim to promote mobility without compromising road safety. 2013 also saw the roll out of the new National Driver Licence Service, the organisation responsible for learner permits and driver licences. The result of these Road Safety Authority initiatives have caused confusion in some quarters not least in the best advice to be given to people with dementia post diagnosis. **Dr David Robinson**, Consultant geriatrician, represents the Irish Society of Physicians in Geriatric Medicine at the National Programme Office for Traffic Medicine and will be outlining the Irish (medical) position in this area. **Anuraj Varshney** is manager of one of the UK's 17 Mobility Centres and is based in Maidstone, Kent. These mobility centres routinely assess people who have been diagnosed with dementia and who wish to continue driving. The contrasting approaches of the two countries should be of great interest to our audience.

**Dr Niall Pender** is a clinical psychologist and neuropsychologist involved in the cognitive assessment and management of patients with neurological and neurosurgical illnesses or injuries. Niall is Head of the Department of Psychology at Beaumont Hospital. He will be discussing the very topical and important area of sports concussion and its potential effects on brain health.

Professor **John O'Brien** from Cambridge is a world expert on brain imaging and vascular brain disease. We are delighted that he is able to join us this year and he will speak about vascular contribution to dementia, a potentially treatable and preventable aspect of late life dementias.

Professor **Adam Zeman** of the University of Exeter is a neurologist by training with a particular interest in memory loss associated with epilepsy. Epileptic amnesia is being increasingly recognized as a potentially reversible cause of memory loss in younger people presenting to memory clinics and has probably been underdiagnosed for years due to lack of awareness of this condition.

A late but welcome addition to our programme is **Dr Thomas Bak**. Thomas is a neurologist currently based at the University of Edinburgh. His research interests are in the relationships between language cognition and movement particularly in some of the rarer neurological conditions.

We are also delighted to have **Marie Lalor** from Healthlink and **Dr Chris Soraghan** giving an update on the proposed national electronic referral system for memory clinics.

The Memory Clinic Conference is jointly supported by the Mercer's Institute for Successful Ageing (MISA) and the DSIDC. This is a very exciting time for MISA with the new HSE/Atlantic Philanthropies supported build that is currently underway and will be completed by the beginning of 2016. The new MISA will house the Mercer's Memory Clinic, together with the research institute, the clinical services, a training and education centre, accommodating the DSIDC and a vibrant Creative Life Centre to promote the creativity and 'brain bounty' of older people.

We hope that you enjoy the educational content of the day and have an opportunity to network with colleagues and meet up with friends.



**Brian Lawlor**

## Programme

Time	Title & Speaker
8.45 - 9.25am	<b>Registration, Tea &amp; Coffee</b>
9.25 - 9.30am	Welcome and Introduction <b>Professor Brian Lawlor</b>
9.30 - 10.10am	'Brain imaging for the diagnosis of people with suspected dementia' <b>Professor John O'Brien</b>
10.10 - 10.40am	'Towards a national referral system for Memory Clinics' <b>Dr Chris Soraghan / Marie Lalor</b>
10.40 - 11.10am	Dementia as a Motor Disorder <b>Dr Thomas Bak</b>
11.10 - 11.40am	<b>Mid Session Break, Tea &amp; Coffee</b>
11.40 - 12.20pm	'Neurocognitive Consequences of Sports Concussion: Clinical Issues and Controversies' <b>Dr Niall Pender</b>
12.20 - 1.00pm	'The diagnostic debate in General Practice: PREPARED for Action' <b>Dr Tony Foley</b>
1.00 - 2.00pm	<b>Lunch &amp; Networking</b>
2.00 - 2.40pm	'Accelerated long-term forgetting and autobiographical amnesia' <b>Professor Adam Zeman</b>
2.40 - 3.20pm	'Traffic Medicine' <b>Dr David Robinson</b>
3.20 - 4.00pm	'Impact of Dementia on Driving & the role of the Forum of Mobility Centres in UK' <b>Anuraj Varshney</b>
4.00 - 4.10pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b>

### CONFERENCE CHAIRS

#### **Professor Davis Coakley**

Department of Medical Gerontology, Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, St James's Hospital

#### **Professor Henry O'Connell**

Consultant Psychiatrist, St. Fintan's Hospital, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

#### **Dr. Sean Kennelly**

Consultant Geriatrician, Tallaght Hospital

## Speakers



### **Professor Brian Lawlor**

Professor Lawlor's research interests are in the early detection, diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease, the neurobiology and treatment of behavioural and psychological symptoms in dementia and mental disorders in the community dwelling elderly. Prof. Lawlor is active in clinical trials and cohort studies of Alzheimer's

disease and cross sectional and longitudinal studies of the mental health of community dwelling older people. The overarching aims of his research programmes are to develop clinical, neuropsychological and biological markers of Alzheimer's disease at the earliest possible stage, to test promising new treatments in clinical populations and to develop scalable interventions for brain health and dementia prevention. Prof. Lawlor's research is carried out in partnership with disciplines from basic science and psychology, ranging from development of animal models of Alzheimer's disease to health service development, clinical trials and prevention. Prof. Lawlor is currently participating in a number of collaborative studies in biomarker development and disease modification in Alzheimer's disease. He is lead PI and co-ordinator of NILVAD [www.nilvad.eu](http://www.nilvad.eu), a clinical trial examining the effectiveness of nilvadipine a calcium channel blocker as a disease modifying treatment in Alzheimer's disease, is the Irish co-ordinator for BiomarkAPD and has established the Irish Network for Biomarkers in Neurodegeneration (IN-BIND) [www.tcd.ie/research/inbind/](http://www.tcd.ie/research/inbind/). Before returning to Dublin in 1991 to take up his current position Prof. Lawlor was Chief of Geriatric Psychiatry at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York.



### **Professor John T O'Brien**

Professor John T O'Brien is Professor of Old Age Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Cambridge, having previously been Professor of Old Age Psychiatry at Newcastle University. He is also a National Institute for Health Research Senior Investigator and a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences. His research interests include: the application of neuroimaging in old

age psychiatry; dementia with Lewy bodies; the role of vascular factors in dementia and depression and clinical trials. He has published over 390 peer reviewed papers on these topics and been a member of the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE), British Association of Psychopharmacology and the European Federation of Neurological Sciences (EFNS) Dementia Guideline groups. He is Past President of the International College for Geriatric Psychoneuropharmacology (ICGP). Professor O'Brien's other current roles include being Deputy Editor of International Psychogeriatrics, the National Specialty Dementia lead for the Dementias and Neurodegenerative Diseases (DeNDroN) research network and Treasurer of the International Vas-Cog Society.



### **Dr Chris Soraghan**

Dr Chris Soraghan is a Senior Medical Physicist / Clinical Engineer in Technologies for Older People at the Department of Medical Physics & Bioengineering at St. James's Hospital, working at Mercer's Institute for Research on Ageing. Chris completed his BE in Electronic Engineering at NUI Maynooth and later his PhD also at NUI Maynooth

developing a multichannel optical brain-computer interface (BCI). This BCI involved irradiating cerebral tissue with near-infrared light (from the scalp) and measuring the back scattered light to determine oxygenation changes in the cerebral tissue. Functional activation in focal brain tissue lead to increased oxygenation at the focal site and could potentially be exploited for augmentative communication for users with little or no volitional motor control – i.e. stand-alone cerebral communications. His current interests are in technology design for older people, falls and frailty, community health and social prescribing, and mobile app and software development for clinical applications (e.g. for communication post-stroke and frailty assessment).