



ACQUIRED
BRAIN INJURY
IRELAND

4TH ANNUAL #BRAINPOWER RESEARCH SEMINAR

BRAIN INJURY RESEARCH IN IRELAND:

How research is helping us respond during a global pandemic

SAVE
THE DATE

Friday 28th May 2021,
9.30am to 1.00pm

Live virtual event on Zoom
€30 registration

For more info:
www.abiireland.ie



SEMINAR PROGRAMME

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Seminar Feedback Form:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZZDT2CX>



Seminar Programme

09:30	Zoom link will open	
09:40	Introduction and welcome	Barbara O'Connell Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
Session 1 Chairperson: Dr Brian Waldron, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland (Q&A to follow each speaker)		
09:45	Is tech the future of rehab? Experiences during the pandemic of using technology to deliver rehabilitation	Dr Karen Foley Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
10:15	Traumatic brain injury and neurosurgery: Where are we and where are we going?	Dr Philip J. O'Halloran Royal Hospital London
10:45	Traumatic brain injury: Hope through research	Dr Rosie Mangan Stirling University and Acquired Brain Injury Advocate
11:15	Coffee Break (10 minutes)	
Session 2 Chairperson: Dr Lorraine Crawley, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland (Q&A to follow each speaker)		
11:25	Why health economic evaluation is needed for acquired brain injury research	Dr Eileen Mitchell Global Brain Health Institute, Trinity College Dublin
11:55	Measuring rehabilitation outcomes: The IRE-ROC project	Dr Amanda Carty National Rehabilitation Hospital
12:25	Developing the rehabilitation service for children in Ireland with acquired brain injury	Dr Irwin Gill Children's Health Ireland, Temple Street
12:55	Closing remarks	Barbara O'Connell Acquired Brain Injury Ireland
13:00	Ends	

Biographies of Seminar Speakers and Chairpersons

Barbara O'Connell, Chief Executive, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland



As founder and Chief Executive, Barbara O'Connell (MBA DipCOT) has built Acquired Brain Injury Ireland from an idea to a national organisation, providing specialist neuro-rehabilitation services in communities throughout Ireland. Previously Barbara worked as an Occupational Therapist across many rehabilitation settings, developing her role from the frontline to executive management level, leading and training staff to enable people with disabling conditions from all walks of life to achieve their maximum potential. Barbara has significant experience of change management in a challenging healthcare environment. She has pioneered the design, implementation and management of social re-integration programmes for people with an acquired brain injury, bridging the identified gap between post-acute services and return to the community. Using innovation and a solution-focused approach she has spent years transforming challenging systems and harnessing opportunities to bring about real change in the lives of people. Barbara established Acquired Brain Injury Ireland as a small non-profit. She has since grown it into a large national organisation and, as Chief Executive, now leads, develops and manages diverse senior management teams and external stakeholders to increase funding and implement transparent business processes. Her work and achievements have been recognised through awards including the Ulster Bank business of the year and the Women Mean Business (WMB) Social Entrepreneur of the year. In addition to holding an MBA Barbara has continued her education throughout her career, attending courses at Harvard Business School on strategic planning and organisational development and at Harvard Kennedy school on leadership and decision making. She has been a Director on many boards in the non-profit sector over the years, including large umbrella bodies and the Irish Charity Regulator. She has recently completed a post graduate diploma in Business and Executive coaching in Smurfit Business School, University College Dublin.

Dr Karen Foley, Head of Service Operations, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland



Karen has recently taken up the new role of Acquired Brain Injury Ireland's Head of Service Operations. She previously worked in the role of National Services Manager for four years, with responsibility for clinical and rehabilitation processes and standards nationally. Karen has 14 years' experience of working in the disability sector and has extensive management and clinical expertise in developing and delivering quality-driven services. Karen represents the organisation on a range of fora. She was a member of the HSE Working Group that developed the Neuro-rehabilitation Implementation Plan 2019-2021. She is also a member of the HSE's Managed Clinical Rehabilitation Network Demonstrator Project Steering Group. Karen has a PhD from Trinity College Dublin, a postgraduate qualification in Healthcare Management from the Institute of Public Administration and is a Certified Brain Injury Specialist Trainer accredited by the Brain Injury Association of America. In her role, Karen is a strong advocate for the provision of the highest quality neuro-rehabilitation services across Ireland.

Dr Rosie Mangan, Postdoctoral Researcher, Stirling University, and Acquired Brain Injury Advocate



Dr Rosie Mangan is an integrative researcher in the fields of entomology, botany, and conservation biology. She is a postdoctoral researcher in the Biological and Environmental Sciences Department at Stirling University. During a research expedition she suffered an acquired brain injury in November 2019. Her research reveals answers enabling more successful and sustainable biological control of insect pests. She received her BSc in Environmental Biology in 2008 and was the recipient of the UCD Environmental Biology Medal. She then received a PhD in Entomology in 2013 in the same institute. She has been awarded Irish research grants including the prestigious IRCSET 'Embark Initiative' Postgraduate Scholarship (2009), the Thomas Crawford Hayes Research Grant (2010) and the Irish Heritage Council Grant (2012). Her research career began as a summer intern and has grown to involve national and international collaborators. She has been involved in a number of community engagement programmes, including the socio-economic strengthening of people with disabilities, promoting STEM to inspire future generations to consider careers in STEM, and regeneration projects focused on cleaning up urban environments. She regularly participates in science communication exchanges: Stirling University's *Pint of Science*, a weekly meeting bringing scientists together to discuss research findings; *Stirling University Coding Club*, a weekly Biology and Environmental Science collaborative statistical group to discuss techniques/publications; and *500 women scientists Dublin pod*, a monthly science discussion group for women in science. Rosie is a member of the Acquired Brain Injury Ireland Research Ethics Committee, an acquired brain injury advocate and podcaster.

Dr Philip J. O'Halloran, Neurotrauma Fellow, Royal Hospital London and RCSI



Dr Philip O'Halloran is currently the UK's first Royal College (England) approved Neurotrauma Fellow at the Royal London Hospital, one of London's major trauma centres and one of the largest trauma centres in Europe. After graduating with a BSc in physiology from UCC, he completed his medical degree in RCSI in 2008. In 2017, during his neurosurgical training in Beaumont Hospital, he was awarded a PhD from RCSI to examine the molecular biology of high grade brain tumours, during which time he conducted translational studies at the European Institute of Molecular Imaging in Germany. In 2020 he completed the highly prestigious Neuro-Oncology/Skull base surgical fellowship at the University of Toronto. He has over 30 peer reviewed publications in the fields of traumatic brain injury and brain tumours as well as being the recipient of numerous awards/grants at international and national level. Dr O'Halloran also founded the Brain Tumour Biobank, enhancing the molecular understanding of a variety of brain tumours. He is a principal investigator in many brain tumour and traumatic brain injury projects and is an honorary lecturer in RCSI.

Dr Eileen Mitchell, Postdoctoral Researcher, Trinity College Dublin and QUB



Eileen is an academic health economist with dedicated interests in brain injury, dementia, mental health and aging. She is currently conducting research on the health care utilisation of people with acquired brain injuries as well as their caregivers. Eileen holds a PhD in Behavioural Economics from Queen's University Belfast and a BSc in Economics with Spanish. Previously she worked with the Basque Centre for Climate Change (BC3) to use behavioural economic methods to lower obesity levels, improve physical activity levels, and help mitigate climate change in the Spanish population. Following the completion of her PhD she joined the Global Brain Health Institute at Trinity College, Dublin as a research academic. She is working in collaboration with Trinity College Institute of Neuroscience and the Centre for Public Health at Queen's University Belfast to examine the cost-effectiveness of various non-pharmacological interventions targeting people living with a brain disorder and their caregivers, to help policymakers make informed decisions.

Dr Amanda Carty, Out-patient Programme Manager and Programme Manager IRE-ROC, National Rehabilitation Hospital



Amanda is currently the Out-patient Programme Manager in the National Rehabilitation Hospital and Project Manager for the Irish Rehabilitation Outcomes Collaborative with the National Clinical Programme for Rehabilitation Medicine. Amanda qualified in Physiotherapy from University of Ulster in 2000 and worked in neuro-rehabilitation, specialising in paediatric neuro-rehabilitation and spinal cord injury until 2014. She completed her MSc by research in 2001 and her PhD in 2011 in fitness and electrical stimulation training in spinal cord injury. Amanda's areas of clinical interest are health technology and fitness and health for lifelong wellbeing in neurological conditions. She has presented at various national and international conferences and has lectured in Irish Universities in these areas. Her current research interests include Telehealth Innovation including the European ROSIA project, patient experience and outcomes of telehealth in a rehabilitation population, and long-term rehabilitation outcomes.

Dr Irwin Gill, Consultant Paediatrician, Children's Health Ireland, Temple Street and UCD



Dr Irwin Gill is a Consultant Paediatrician working in Disability and Rehabilitation in CHI at Temple Street, and Clinical Lecturer/Associate Professor at University College Dublin. He will soon take up a role in the National Rehabilitation Hospital. Areas of clinical practice and research interest include acute rehabilitation after acquired brain injury, interdisciplinary care, patient-focused outcome measures, and access to disability and rehabilitation services for children.

Dr Lorraine Crawley, Senior Clinical Psychologist, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland



Dr Lorraine Crawley has held the position of Senior Clinical Psychologist with Acquired Brain Injury Ireland for the past seven years, having previously worked in the HSE. She is a member of the Psychological Society of Ireland and the British Psychological Society. Lorraine is the current Chair of the Acquired Brain Injury Ireland Research Ethics Committee and a member of the service's Research Prioritisation project. She has provided clinical supervision and input for Masters and Doctoral psychology research on topics including executive functioning, loneliness and critical psychology, which have involved collaborations with University of Limerick, Trinity College Dublin and Maastricht University. She is currently researching the effectiveness of Compassion Focused Therapy groupwork in brain injury. Lorraine is also collaborating with Manchester Metropolitan University and University of Limerick on a neuro-rehabilitation longitudinal outcomes study.

Dr Brian Waldron, Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist, Acquired Brain Injury Ireland



Brian is a Principal Clinical Neuropsychologist with Acquired Brain Injury Ireland. He has worked with the organisation since 2006. He previously held the post of Locum Senior Clinical Psychologist with the National Rehabilitation Hospital for four months. Brian has also worked as a Clinical Psychologist for the HSE over five years and was involved in the assessment and treatment of a variety of problems occurring in children, adults and families. Prior to his doctorate training he worked for Headway Ireland in 1999 as a Vocational Training Officer and was involved in research on adjustment to spinal cord injuries from 1996 to 1998. He has been developing expertise in working with people with neurological damage over the last two decades. Brian holds a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from University College Dublin and Masters degrees from University College Dublin and Trinity College Dublin. He is a former chair of the Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) Division of Neuropsychology and was the PSI rep on the National Clinical Programme for Rehabilitation Medicine Working Group for several years. Brian teaches on the Trinity College Dublin Doctorate in Clinical Psychology Programme and on the University College Dublin Masters in Rehabilitation and Disability Studies. Brian has been appointed President of the World Congress on Brain Injury and will lead the Scientific Committee for the Dublin 2021 World Congress event from 23-26 March, 2022.



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SAVE THE DATE!

The International Brain Injury Association presents the

14TH WORLD CONGRESS ON BRAIN INJURY

March 23rd - 26th 2022

The Convention Centre Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

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