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An Institiúid do Thrialacha Cliniciúla
Institute for Clinical Trials

Future *Trials*25 Programme Tuesday, 17 June

#futuretrials



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In partnership with **Medtronic**

Tuesday, 17 June

Welcome from Professor Fidelma Dunne

Director, Institute for Clinical Trials, University of Galway

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to FutureTrials25, our conference dedicated to advancing the future of clinical trials through collaboration, innovation, and shared learning.

At the Institute for Clinical Trials, our mission is to shape a more responsive, inclusive, and impactful clinical research ecosystem — one that accelerates discovery and delivers tangible benefits to patients. FutureTrials25 brings together leading voices from academia, industry, healthcare, and regulatory bodies to explore the challenges and opportunities ahead.

This year's themes — Discovery to Patient Impact, Fostering an Enabling Landscape, and Future Innovation: Emerging Technologies and Trends — reflect our commitment to bridging the gap between research and real-world outcomes, building capacity across the system, and embracing the tools that will define the next generation of trials.

We are proud to host this dialogue here at University of Galway and hope that over the course of the conference, you will connect, exchange, and leave inspired by what is possible when we work together across disciplines and sectors.

Thank you for being part of this important conversation.



Programme Overview

Host: Dr Ruth Freeman

8:00-8:30am	Breakfast and Registration
8:30-9:15am	Welcome Address
9:15-11:00am	Session 1: Discovery to Patient Impact
11:00-11:15am	Coffee Break
11:15am-1:15pm	Session 2: Fostering an Enabling Landscape
1:15-2:00pm	Lunch/Networking
2:00-4:15pm	Session 3: Future Innovation/Emerging Technologies and Trends

Welcome Address

8:30am	Prof Fidelma Dunne, Director, Institute for Clinical Trials
8:45am	Prof Peter McHugh, Interim President, University of Galway
9:00am	Prof Mary Horgan, Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health

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Session 1 - Discovery to Patient Impact

This theme explores how cutting-edge research and early discoveries translate into meaningful improvements in patient care, highlighting the journey from concept to clinical impact.

9:15am	Keynote Speaker: Prof Patrick Serruys , Professor of Interventional Medicine & Innovation - Coronary Revascularisation in 2040
	Case Study: Clinical Need to Guideline Transformation: The Evolution of Renal Denervation (RDN)
9:45am	Marianne Wanten , Director, Clinical Research, Medtronic
10:00am	Prof Faisal Sharif , Professor of Translational Cardiovascular Medicine and Innovation/ Interventional Cardiologist
10:15am	Prof Bill McEvoy , Professor of Preventive Cardiology
10:30am	Dr Sandra Ganly , CEO, National Institute for Prevention and Cardiovascular Health (NIPC)
10:45am	Q&A
10:55am	Big C Choir presentation to the HRB - Clinical Research Facility Galway (CRFG)
11:00am	Coffee Break

Session 2 - Fostering an Enabling Landscape

This theme examines the systems, policies, and partnerships needed to build a thriving clinical trials environment, with a focus on regulation, collaboration and infrastructure.

11:15am	Siobhan Gaynor , Patient, Researcher/Advocate
11:25am	Prof Tom Melvin : An EU Harmonised Approach to Early Feasibility Studies
11:35am	Prof Donal Brennan , Chair, National Clinical Trials Oversight Group (NCTOG)
11:50am	John Kilmartin , Adjunct Professor, Institute for Clinical Trials; Paul Devereux , Research and Development Director, Medtronic; Caroline Feeney , Independent MedTech Quality consultant - Accelerating Trials through Hypercare
12:10pm	Panel Discussion
	Dr John O'Neill , Head of Research Policy and Innovation, Department of Health
	Dr Donal O'Connor , Clinical Manager, Medical Devices, Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA)
	Dr Lucia Prihodova , Programme Manager, National Office for Research Ethics Committees (NREC)
	Dr Cepta Duffy , Head of Lifesciences & Healthtech, Enterprise Ireland
	Prof Mary Horgan , Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health
1:10pm	Q&A
1.15pm	Lunch/ Networking

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Session 3 - Future Innovation/Emerging Technologies

This theme looks ahead to the technologies and trends shaping the future of clinical trials, from artificial intelligence to decentralised models and personalised approaches.

2:00pm	Keynote Speaker: Prof Max Parmar , Director, MRC Clinical Trials Unit, University College London (UCL)
2:20pm	Q&A
2:25pm	Prof Seamus O'Reilly , Founder, National Green Cancer Clinical Trials Initiative, Cancer Trials Ireland
2:40pm	Prof Ellen Roche , Associate Professor, Institute for Medical Engineering & Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
2:55pm	Keynote Speaker: Despina Voulgaraki , Senior Director, Clinical Research & Medical Science Western Europe Enterprise Accounts, Medtronic
3:15pm	Q&A
3:20pm	Prof Noel O'Connor , CEO, Insight Research Ireland Centre for Data Analytics
3:35pm	Prof Ines Thieles , Professor in Systems Biomedicine
3:50pm	Prof Andrew Murphy , Professor of General Practice and Director, HRB Primary Care Clinical Trials Network Ireland (HRB PC CTNI)
4:05pm	Closing Remarks and Q&A

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