



Health Promotion Research Centre

Research Activities

January to December 2015



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Welcome

2015 has been another innovative and productive year for the Health Promotion Research Centre (HPRC) in the National University of Ireland Galway. The continued focus on key topics of national and international interest, such as childhood health and well-being, mental health promotion, health literacy, cancer survivorship and workplace health promotion means that the work of the HPRC is both relevant and responsive to the needs of the Irish population and health service providers and impacts on academic scholarship and Health Promotion development globally. The range of research initiatives presented in this report and the attraction of increasing numbers of overseas PhD students and scholars attests to the skills and capacity within the HPRC. We acknowledge the contribution of our research partners and funders in achieving our successes over the last year. The 19th Annual Conference held in June, 2015 on the topic of ***Health Literacy: Research, Policy and Practice*** was hugely successful with our highest ever number of delegates attending.

The on-going collaboration with the World Health Organization through our Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research, under the leadership of Professor Margaret Barry, remains a strategic focus and places us at the forefront of international health promotion scholarship. Equally, the strong outputs in terms of technical research reports, publications in high quality journals, and our success in grant acquisition, is testament to the hard work and dedication of the team and the robust and collaborative leadership which sets out the goals and objectives of the Centre. As Director of the HPRC, I wish to pay tribute to the dedication of all the team in producing another successful year of research endeavour and I look forward to further opportunities to strengthen our leadership in this field.

My thanks to you all,



Dr Jane Sixsmith
Director, 2015
Health Promotion Research Centre




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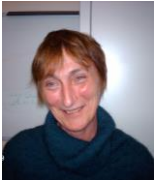



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	D'Eath, Maureen	Research Assistant
	Fox, Kathy-Ann	Research Assistant
	Gavin, Aoife	Research Assistant
	Keane, Dr Eimear	Postdoctoral Researcher

	HPRC Research Staff	Job Title
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	Morreale, Silvia	Research Assistant
	Perry, Catherine	Research Assistant
	Slattery, Triona	Research Assistant
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	Thomas, Dr Audrey	Postdoctoral Researcher
	Vaughan, Elena	Research Assistant
	Walker, Larri	Research Assistant

World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research

The HPRC was successfully re-designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research for a further four-year period in October 2013. This designation is recognition of the international standing of the work of the Centre and formalizes its role as a member of an international collaborative network contributing to the World Health Organization's programme of work and strategic objectives in Health Promotion. Under the leadership of Professor Margaret Barry, the WHO Collaborating Centre at NUI Galway has agreed a new programme of work related to WHO priorities at WHO headquarters in Geneva and the European Regional Office in Copenhagen.

The key focus of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research is:

To support the WHO work programme in developing health promotion capacity through the translation of health promotion research into policy and practice.

The Terms of Reference are:

- To support the implementation of the WHO Health in All Policies Framework for Country Action
- To support the implementation of WHO Europe Regional Office's Health 2020 strategy
- To support the WHO European Regional Office's Action Plan for the implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases
- To support the WHO Europe Child and Adolescent Health and Development Strategy implementation
- To support cross-country collaboration on the implementation of the WHO work programme through contributing to the network of WHO Collaborating Centres.

Work has progressed across all areas in the past year, with a key focus on developing resources for intersectoral partnership working; a review of evidence on effective population health literacy interventions; developing training materials for health promotion approaches to non-communicable disease prevention; and supporting the international coordination of the HBSC study and its implications for the WHO Europe Child & Adolescent Health and Development Strategy. In addition, an evidence synthesis and policy briefing papers were produced to guide the implementation of the WHO Global Action Plan on

Mental Health (2013-2020) in the Eastern Mediterranean Region. Professor Barry served as guest editor for a special issue of the *Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal* in 2015.

The effective production, dissemination and translation of Health Promotion research that will actively inform practice and policy constitutes the core focus of the work of the Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research. The importance of translating research into practice and policy is identified as an important challenge in Health Promotion. The Centre is in a key position to fulfil this role, given its close working relationship with national level policymakers and practitioners, and its collaboration with leading Health Promotion research partners globally.

Five Year Summary of Projects: Funding and Dissemination

The HPRC Annual Reports provide information on research undertaken in one year, to put this in context a listing of research projects, funding and dissemination activities over the last five years follows. In the table below, national and international grant income over the past five years is displayed, demonstrating a cumulative income of just less than €5 million in the reporting period. In the graph that follows, the five year outputs in terms of scholarship (all publications and presentations) are presented.

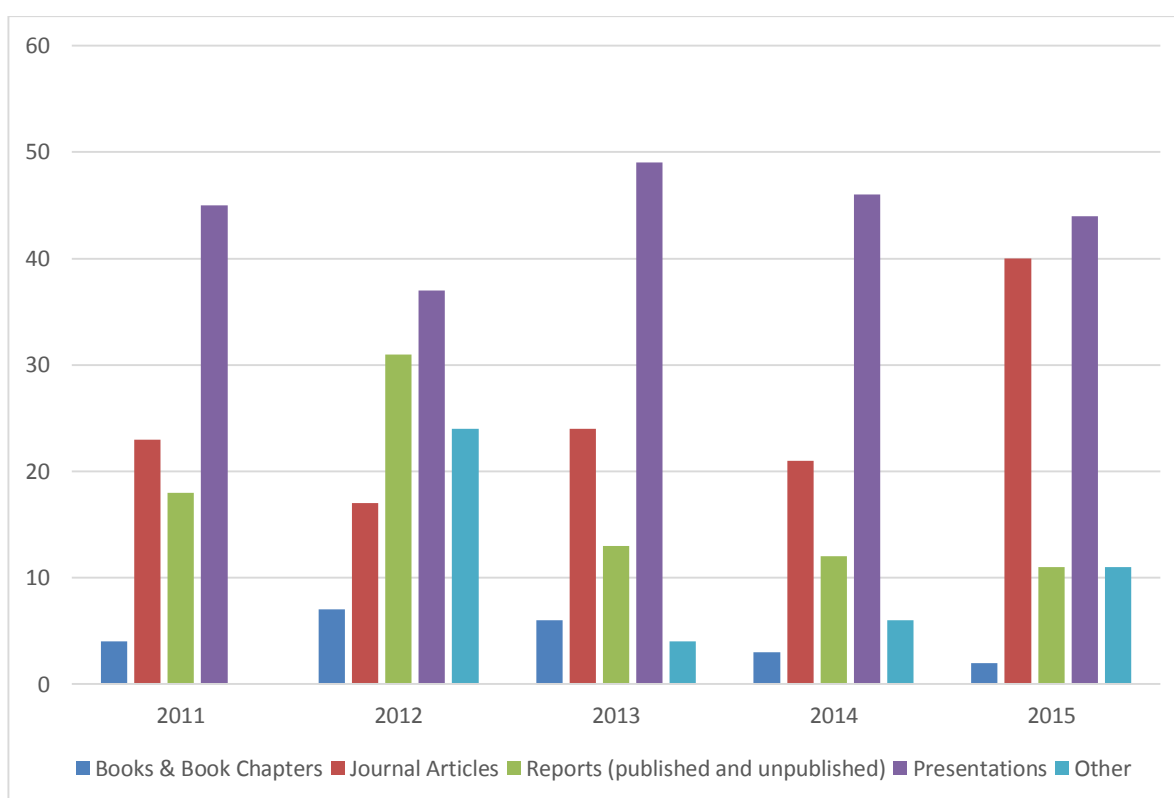
Table 1: National and International Grant Income 2011-2015

NAME	TOTAL GRANT	TOTAL AWARDED TO HPRC	FUNDER	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
INTERNATIONAL FUNDING								
Bridging the Digital Disconnect – Using Technology to Support Young People’s Mental Health Needs	202,667	202,667	Young and Well Cooperative Research Centre, Australia					
Bullying among children with disability	11,600	11,600	French Embassy					
CompHP –Developing a competency framework for Health Promotion Practice	659,542	659,542	EU Framework for Health Programme					
Connecting Health Research in Africa & Ireland Consortium (ChRAIC)	1,480,769	138,494	RCSI/Irish Aid					
Creating a Common Foundation in Social Care	299,890	21,253	Leonardo da Vinci, European Commission					
Establishing a programme for dissemination of evidence based health communication activities & innovations communicable diseases	636,180	636,180	European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)					
HEPCOMM - Local Community Initiatives to Prevent Overweight & Obesity in Children Across Europe	1,000,000	52,294	European Commission					
HEPS Schoolkits	650,000	13,669	PHEA/European Commission					
INTIMAGE Intimacy and sexual health among older in Europe	255,407	28,601	EU Erasmus					

IROHLA - Intervention Research on Health Literacy Ageing population	2,928,441	140,088	European Commission - 7th Framework Programme					
Irish Workplace Behaviour Survey	148,849	148,849	IOSH UK					
Syntheses of the Evidence in Health Promotion and Recommendations for Practice	90,000	11,520	IUHPE & Picardie Regional Health Agency, France					
IUHPE Scoping Study on HP Workforce Capacity & Education & Training Needs	4,000	4,000	International Union Health Promotion & Education					
Rapid Review of the Evidence on the Effectiveness of Mental Health Promotion Interventions	7,200	7,200	WHO Geneva & WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office					
SPAN: Science for Prevention Academic Network	595,143	37,175	European Commission – Education and Culture (EAC)					
What Works in Enhancing Social and Emotional Skills during Childhood and Adolescence?	65,196	65,196	Early Intervention Foundation, Social Mobility & ChildPoverty Commission UK					
NATIONAL FUNDING								
Adolescent Sexual Health in Ireland	112,095	112,095	Irish Research Council & Crisis Pregnancy Programme					
Cancer Survivorship - Costs, Inequalities and Post-Treatment Follow-Up	668,346	211,935	Health Research Board					
Combating childhood obesity through improving dietary and food environment measurements	10,000	10,000	NUIG Millenium Fund					
Community context for literacy	95,000	95,000	Breacadh					
Evaluation of the Real U Intervention	17,115	17,115	Foróige Best Practice Unit					
Evaluation of Zippy's Friends, An Emotional Well-being programme for children in primary schools	66,240	66,240	Irish Research Council for Humanities & Social Sciences					
Health Behaviour in School-aged Children 4, Ireland	670,939	670,939	Department of Health & Children					
Health Behaviour in School-aged Children 5, Ireland (2014-18)	697,341	697,341	Department of Health					
Inequalities in Childhood Cancer	119,290	119,290	Irish Cancer Society					

Irish Youth Health Promotion Bibliography	15,000	15,000	Department of Health & Children					
Scoping Review Case Management	15,376	15,376	Health Research Board					
Triple P Programme Population Survey	15,000	15,000	Triple P Longford & Westmeath Parenting Partnership and Archways Ltd					
Updating the MINDOUT Mental Health Promotion Programme (Phase 1 & 2)	52,182	52,182	Health Service Executive					
Young People's Awareness of Alcohol Marketing	62,929	62,929	Alcohol Action Ireland					
Total 5 Year Funding		4,338,770						

Graph1: Dissemination Activities 2011-2015



Research Project Descriptions

Promotion of Mental Health and Primary Prevention of Mental Disorders: Priorities for Implementation of the WHO Global Mental Health Action Plan in the Eastern Mediterranean Region

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry & Professor Inge Petersen, University of Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa

Researcher: Dr Aleisha Clarke

Commissioner: WHO, Geneva and WHO Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office (April, 2014- 2015)

This project concerned the development of an evidence briefing for the implementation of the WHO Global Mental Health Action Plan in the Eastern Mediterranean Region. Working in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office in the Eastern Mediterranean Region and the Department of Mental Health and Substance Misuse at WHO Geneva, the briefing paper provides evidence for policy and decision-makers of mental health promotion and primary interventions that could be implemented and sustained in the region at a reasonable cost, whilst generating clear health and social gains.

In collaboration with Professor Inge Petersen from the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal in South Africa, a review of best available evidence on priority mental health promotion and primary prevention interventions suitable for implementation in the EMRO region was undertaken in 2014. A technical evidence paper (Barry, Clarke & Petersen, 2014) and an evidence brief for policymakers (Barry & Petersen, 2014) were produced providing guidance for action for the member states in the region. The evidence briefs were synthesized into a working document identifying the cost-effective and affordable interventions (the so called “best buys”) in each of the areas identified for action in the global action plan. This work provided the basis of finalizing the regional implementation framework for global action plan. A special theme issue of the *Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal* on the WHO EMRO regional implementation of the mental health action plan was produced in 2015, on which Professor Barry served as a guest editor.

Dissemination:

Petersen, I. & Barry, M.M. (2014). Mental health promotion and prevention and mental health literacy. Presentation to the *Inter-country Meeting to Scale Up Action on Mental Health in the Eastern Mediterranean Region*, Cairo Egypt, 15-17 September 2014.

Barry, M.M. & Petersen, I. (2014). *Promotion of mental health and primary prevention of mental disorders: priorities for implementation. An Evidence Brief*. Paper prepared for the Inter-Country Meeting on Implementation of Global Mental Health Action Plan in the Eastern Mediterranean Region. June, 2014 WHO EMRO.

Barry, M.M., Clarke, A.M. & Petersen, I. (2014). *Priorities for implementing the promotion of mental health and primary prevention of mental disorders. Technical Evidence Paper*. Inter-Country Meeting on Implementation of Global Mental Health Action Plan in the Eastern Mediterranean Region. June, 2014 WHO EMRO.

Barry, M.M. (2015). Guest Editor on a Supplement on Mental Health in the *Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal* – Saraceno, B., Saxena, S., Patel, V., Rahman, A., Gater, R., Barry, M.M., Mandil, A. & Saeed K. 2015, Vol 21(7) July.

Barry, M.M., Clarke, A.M. & Petersen, I. (2015). Promotion of mental health and prevention of mental disorders: priorities for implementation. *Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal*, 21(7), 503-511.



**Syntheses of the Evidence in Health Promotion and Recommendations for Practice
- Psychosocial Skills Thematic Area: A review of the evidence on enhancing
psychosocial skills development in children and young people.**

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry
Researchers: Ms Katherine Dowling
Funder: International Union for Health Promotion and Education and
the Picardie Regional Health Agency, France (July 2015 - April
2016)

This project synthesizes the findings from international evidence reviews on the effectiveness of psychosocial skills development programmes for children and young people. A rapid review of the effectiveness of interventions related to parenting, preschool, school and community-based programmes that aim to enhance social and emotional skills development was conducted.

Searching a range of electronic databases, reviews published in the last ten years were identified, which provided evidence on social and emotional skills programmes employing RCTs and quasi-experimental study designs. The search process produced over 5000 articles, 26 of which were included in the review. This included three reviews of reviews, five Cochrane reviews and 18 systematic reviews and meta-analyses.

Of the 26 reviews that were included, 11 relate to parenting programmes, 3 to preschool interventions, 6 to school-based programmes and 6 out-of-school interventions. Collectively, the review findings show that there is good quality evidence that both universal and targeted social and emotional skills-based interventions can lead to a range of positive outcomes for young people across emotional, social, educational, health and behavioural domains and reduce the risk for mental health problems, violence and aggressive behaviour, risky health behaviours and substance misuse. The review findings support a number of well-evidenced interventions that have produced consistent evidence of their effectiveness across multiple robust studies in diverse settings and countries. These include interventions aimed at strengthening children, young people and families at an individual and community level and promoting healthy policies.

Based on the review findings, the second phase of the project will identify priority interventions for implementation in the Picardie Region.

Dissemination:

Barry, M.M. & Dowling, K. (2015). *A Review of the Evidence on Enhancing Psychosocial Skills Development in Children and Young People*. A report produced by the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research, National University of Ireland Galway.

Updating the MINDOUT Mental Health Promotion Programme for Post-Primary Schools

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry and Ms Anne Sheridan HSE West
Researchers: Dr Aleisha Clarke and Ms Katherine Dowling
Funder: Health Service Executive (November 2014- December 2015)

This project was commissioned by the HSE to update the MINDOUT Mental Health Promotion Programme. MindOut was developed in 2004 to support the social and emotional wellbeing of young people aged 15-18 years in senior cycle in post-primary schools. The programme consists of a thirteen session mental health promotion programme delivered in 5th and 6th year. The programme aims to promote the positive mental health of young people through an exploration of stress and coping, sources of support (family and friends as well as support services in the community, emotions (anger, conflict, rejection and depression), relationships, understanding mental health and the importance of supporting others. Teacher training is a pre-requisite of teaching the programme and teachers are provided with a structured programme manual.

Working in collaboration with the HSE Health Promotion Service, the programme materials were updated in partnership with teachers and young people through a process which included the following:

- establishment of a project Working Group to oversee the revision process
- review of the international evidence of school-based mental health promotion programmes
- review of overall programme and each individual session in consultation with students and teachers with experience of the programme
- specialist inputs from mental health and health promotion professionals
- re-draft of each session with input from young people
- piloting each session in post-primary schools in the 2015/16 academic year
- further amendments to programme following classroom testing
- re-drafted MINDOUT programme completed and printed.

An interim report was produced in June 2014 and a final report is currently being prepared.

Phase 2 of this project, due to commence in January, 2016, will adapt the MindOut programme for use in the youth sector setting.

Dissemination:

Dowling, K., Clarke, A.M., Sheridan, A. & Barry, M.M. (2015). *MindOut Teacher's Manual – Promoting social and emotional wellbeing: A programme for post-primary schools*. A programme developed by the Health Promotion Research Centre, National University of Ireland Galway & the Health Service Executive (Due for print in 2016).

What Works in Enhancing Social and Emotional Skills during Childhood and Adolescence? A Review of the Evidence

Principal Investigator:	Professor Margaret Barry
Researchers:	Dr Catherine Anne Field, Ms Silvia Morreale, Ms Katherine Dowling, Dr Yomna Hussein Ms Triona Slattery
Project Manager:	Dr Aleisha Clarke
Funder:	Early Intervention Foundation, the Cabinet Office, Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission, UK (October 2014-February 2015)

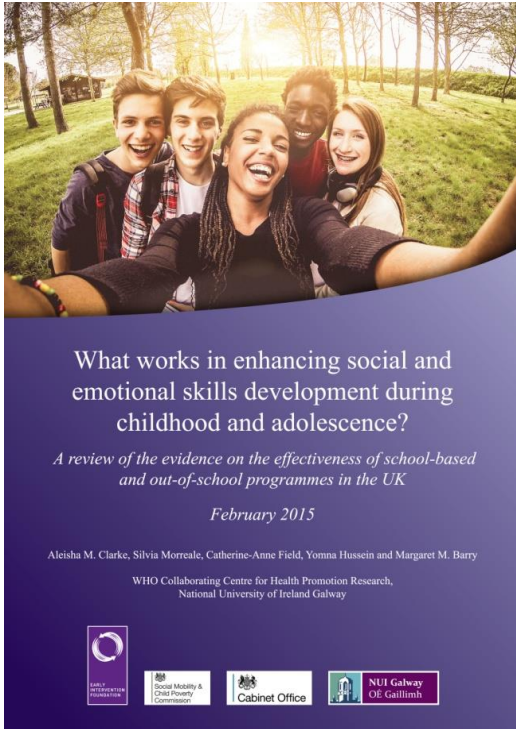
This project examined the evidence on the effectiveness of interventions implemented in the UK aimed at enhancing social and emotional skills during childhood and adolescence. Based on the findings, a report evidence-based school and community based youth programmes was produced.

The objective was to systematically review international peer review literature, policy documents and grey literature examining evidence on the effectiveness of school and out-of-school interventions in the UK for enhancing children and young people's social and emotional skills.

In reviewing the evidence, specific questions were addressed including:

- what programmes are effective in enhancing social and emotional skills in (i) school setting and (ii) out-of-school setting?
- what are the key characteristics of effective programme?
- what are the implementation requirements for these programmes / what implementation factors are important in achieving programme outcomes?
- what interventions are effective according to age / gender/ ethnicity/socio-economic background and level of vulnerability
- what is the evidence on the costs and cost-benefits of these interventions?

A narrative synthesis of the evidence from 2004-2014 was undertaken. The EIF Standard of Evidence Quality Assessment Tool was used to assess the strength of evidence and impact of programmes. An EIF programme template was also used to document information on interventions' theory of change, requirements for implementation, monitoring systems and costs. A final report was launched in the House of Commons, London on the 11th March 2015.



Dissemination:

Barry, M.M. & Clarke, A.M. (2015). What works in enhancing social and emotional skills development during childhood and adolescence? A review of the evidence on the effectiveness of school-based and out-of-school programmes in the UK. *Presentation at Report Launch by the Early Intervention Foundation and the UK Cabinet Office, House of Commons, London 11th March 2015.*

Clarke, A.M., Morreale, S., Field, C-A., Hussein, Y. & Barry, M.M. (2015). *What works in enhancing social and emotional skills development during childhood and adolescence? A review of the evidence on the effectiveness of school-based and out-of-school programmes in the UK.* A report produced by the World Health Organization

Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research, National University of Ireland Galway.

Clarke, A.M., Morreale, S., Field, C-A., Hussein, Y., Dowling, K., Slattery, T. & Barry, M.M. (2015). *What works in enhancing social and emotional skills development during childhood and adolescence? Programme Templates.* A report produced by the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research, National University of Ireland Galway.

IROHLA - Intervention Research on Health Literacy among the Ageing population

Principal Investigators:	Dr Jane Sixsmith and Professor Margaret Barry
Researchers:	Ms Priscilla Doyle and Ms Triona Slattery
Partners:	21 partners from across Europe co-ordinated by the University Medical Centre, Groningen, Netherlands.
Funder:	European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n°305831.

The Intervention Research On Health Literacy among the Ageing population project (IROHLA), is a three-year European collaborative research project. The purpose of IROHLA is to introduce in European Member States evidence-informed guidelines for policy and practice for a comprehensive approach to improving health literacy in the ageing population. The project systematically identified twenty promising health literacy interventions for improving health literacy in the aging population of which a subset were selected for further investigation. These included two intervention studies explored by the HPRC with partners.

The aim of the first study was the systematic development and evaluation of theory based training on health literacy communication for health professionals in Europe. A mixed methods approach was used. Following a review of the literature a series of three focus groups with health professionals in Ireland, the Netherlands and Italy was undertaken to investigate experiences and needs regarding training. Results showed that professionals recognized the importance of health literacy for practice. Findings identified that training should be provided to multidisciplinary groups, address patient needs, be evidence based, with an opportunity to practice communication skills learnt. As a result, a prototype training programme was developed. A second series of three focus groups was undertaken and participants reviewed the proposed training. From the results the training programme was further developed, implemented and evaluated through pre and post training questionnaires and three final focus groups. Professionals indicated their awareness, knowledge and skills on health literacy and communication strategies had increased as a result of taking part.

The aim of the second study was to undertake an implementation evaluation of health literacy interventions (HLIs) in healthcare settings. These interventions (HLEI)

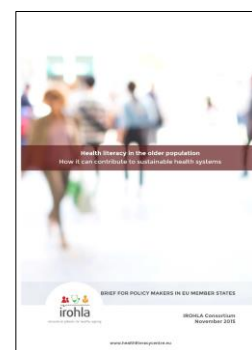
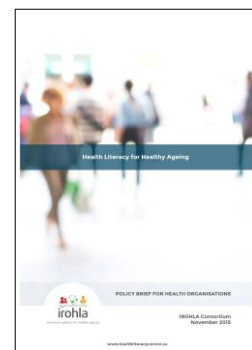
comprehensively evaluate the health literacy environment of healthcare settings; including written, online and oral communication and signage to identify high literacy demands and instigate and sustain actions that reduce these demands. Three country specific tools were identified, implemented and evaluated in The Netherlands, Ireland and Finland. A mixed methods approach with questionnaires and, one-to-one and group interviews were used with key stakeholders including patients and healthcare professionals. The results indicate that gaining access to complex healthcare settings such as hospitals requires substantial time, resources and planning. Identification and active engagement of relevant stakeholders at all levels in the healthcare setting to support the implementation process is essential. It was found that the health literacy environmental interventions were generally implemented as planned and if changes were made it was to the format of the tools such as changing to online formats from paper based assessments. Health literacy environmental interventions show promise in addressing the disadvantage experienced by patients with low health literacy in their access to and use of healthcare.

Dissemination

Doyle, P., Sixsmith, J., Kaper, M., de Winter, A., Vervoordeldonk, J., Reiman, J. & Mackiewicz, K. (2015). Implementation evaluation of three country specific health literacy environmental assessment tools in healthcare settings across three European countries (Ireland, Finland and the Netherlands). Paper presented at the *3rd European Health Literacy Conference: Developing Health Literacy During the Life Course*. Brussels, November 2015.

Kaper, M., de Winter, A., Sixsmith, J., Doyle, P., Giammarchi, C., Bevilacqua, R., Jansen, J., Paans, W., Veenker, H. & van Twillert, S. (2015). Development and pilot-testing of a health literacy focused communication training in co-creation with European health professionals. Paper presented at the *3rd European Health Literacy Conference: Developing Health Literacy During the Life Course*. Brussels, November 2015.

Project information can be found at the Health Literacy Centre Europe <http://healthliteracycentre.eu/>



Intimage: Intimacy and Sexual Health amongst Older People in Europe

Principal Investigators: Dr Jane Sixsmith and Dr Martin Power
Researcher: Ms Elena Vaughan
Funder: EU (Erasmus+)

Intimage is an Erasmus+ funded project undertaken in collaboration with education and training providers across Europe (Visoka sola za zdravstvene vede Slovenji Gradec, Slovenia; Integra Institut, Institut za razvoj cloveskih virov, Slovenia; ECC Association for interdisciplinary education and consulting, Austria; Friedrich-Alexander-Universitat Erlangen, Germany; The University of Sheffield, UK; Universita delle LiberEta del Fvg, Italy and National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland). The project seeks to raise awareness amongst health and social care professionals of the importance of intimacy and sexual health for older people. While people are living longer and older people make up an ever growing proportion of the population in many European countries, an ageist approach that views older people as largely asexual is a common feature of many European societies. More importantly, many older people report that they would like more information from health and social care professionals, but that they frequently encounter barriers in this area. Common barriers can include a lack of privacy, gender and/or age differences between a care provider and the older person and/or reluctance on behalf of the older person to raise queries. As such barriers suggest, communicating in a positive and empowering manner is key in such circumstances. With this in mind, the Intimage project is focused on developing a range of educational and training materials for health and social care professionals. These will be arranged in units and modules and will be available online. The materials are designed to facilitate professionals in accessing the most relevant materials, as they will be able to 'dip in' to units when needed, while also being able to build up particular knowledge and understanding through engaging with all units of a module.

Throughout 2015 work on the project has been on-going. Initially, needs assessments were completed in a number of countries, so as to identify clearly barriers and opportunities. Armed with the knowledge from these assessments, the project partners assembled a suite of unit titles, which were grouped into modules. Work on developing the module materials has now been completed and the project partners are currently focused on editing and formatting the materials for embedding in the online platform. Once this is completed, health and social care professionals will be invited to access the materials and offer feedback and suggestions for improvement.

Scoping Review of Case Management in the Treatment of Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Principal Investigator: Drs Saoirse Nic Gabhainn and Jane Sixsmith
Researchers: Ms Maureen D'Eath
Funder: Health Research Board (HRB)

This is a scoping study commissioned by the Evidence Generation and Knowledge Brokering Unit of the Health Research Board of Ireland. To understand how case management can be used to support people in recovery from substance addiction, the Health Research Board (HRB) commissioned a review of the peer-reviewed literature on case management. The HRB is helping to build evidence to support stakeholders in implementing certain actions of the National Drugs Strategy 2009–16 (NDS) and to encourage the use of research in decisions around the selection, implementation and evaluation of interventions.

The objective of the study is to examine the peer-reviewed empirical literature on Case Management and Substance Use between 2003 and 2013 and to answer specific research questions based on the literature. The research questions concern the nature of Case Management, the nature of the published literature in the area, the outcomes that have been studied and gaps in the literature. Case Management is a model of working with medical, social services and criminal justice service clients that goes beyond the provision of a single service with a single goal at the point of delivery. In a Case Management approach to service provision, clients are typically offered and receive a range of services, tailored to meet their specific, individual needs. The rationale is that clients frequently present with multiple needs or complications which impact on their recovery or rehabilitation.

The scoping review methodology adopted comprised a series of iterative searches of electronic databases and academic peer-review journals applying a suite of inclusion and exclusion criteria. Potentially appropriate articles were screened and subsequently charted based on individual study objectives and reporting of the study procedures and outcomes. Each article was also assessed for methodological quality. A final report was submitted to the Health Research Board in December 2015.

Dissemination:

Nic Gabhainn, S., D'Eath, M. & Sixsmith, J. (2015). *Scoping review of case management in the treatment of drug and alcohol misuse, 2003-2013*. Report submitted to the Evidence Generation and Knowledge Brokering Unit, Health Research Board, Dublin.

Children's Views on Understanding Their Lives: A Participation Initiative

Principal Investigators: Drs Saoirse Nic Gabhainn and Colette Kelly
Researchers: Ms Aoife Gavin, Ms Catherine Perry

We continue to involve children directly in the Health Promotion research process - including data collection, analysis, presentation, and dissemination. In partnership with the Participation Hub of the National Government Department of Children and Youth Affairs, we have developed a policy on child participation in the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) Ireland study, and a memorandum of understanding and joint work plan with the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. Together, we have had four national consultation events, two each for primary and post-primary school students. The aim was to collect information from children on the important dimensions of their lives, and what should be known about children to understand their lives. The intention is that future research with children includes the items identified and prioritised by children themselves.

Subsequently a participative collaborative approach was developed and implemented to engage young people at primary and post-primary level to develop questionnaire items for inclusion in the HBSC Ireland survey 2014. The questions were thoroughly piloted and tested and included in the full survey protocol. During 2015 these data were fully analysed and we have commenced reporting on them. This included the presentation of data from the child-developed questions alongside the more traditional HBSC items in the first national report from the 2014 study which was launched by the Minister for Health, Dr Leo Varadkar in December 2015.

We have also been working closely with international colleagues to develop the role of children in the wider HBSC study; collaborating to identify the myriad of methods that researchers across Europe and North America employ to facilitate child participation in their research programmes; and to promote further positive and direct engagement with children within research programmes.

Dissemination:

Gavin, A., Keane, E., Callaghan, M., Molcho, M., Kelly, C. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). *Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Ireland 2014*. Dublin: Department of Health.

Health Behaviour in School-aged Children, Ireland

Principal Investigators: Drs Saoirse Nic Gabhainn, Michal Molcho and Colette Kelly
Researchers: Ms Aoife Gavin, Ms Mary Callaghan, Dr Eimear Keane, Ms Catherine Perry, Ms Lorraine Walker
Funder: Department of Health

Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) is a cross-national research study conducted in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The HBSC study runs on an academic four-year cycle (www.hbsc.org). HBSC collects information on the key indicators of health, health attitudes and health behaviours, as well as the context of health for young people. The study aims are to gain new insight into, and increase our understanding of young people's health and wellbeing, health behaviours and their social context.

The HBSC study is school-based with data collected through self-completion questionnaires administered by teachers in classrooms. The survey instrument is a standard questionnaire developed by the international research network.

This year we have been focused on two separate activities, the continuing dissemination of findings from 2010 survey, including our work on journal articles, conference presentations and short reports to a range of public and community bodies in Ireland, and the preparation of the 2014 dataset for dissemination. The Irish 2014 dataset has been accepted into the international HBSC datafile and the first national report of the 2014 Irish study was launched in December 2015 by Minister for Health, Dr Leo Varadkar. More information on HBSC Ireland and all of our reports and publications can be downloaded from www.nuigalway.ie/hbsc.

Dissemination:

Gavin, A., Keane, E., Callaghan, M., Molcho, M., Kelly, C. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). *Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Ireland 2014*. Dublin: Department of Health.



Local Community Initiatives to Prevent Overweight and Obesity in Children across Europe (HEPCOM)

Principal Investigators: Drs Saoirse Nic Gabhainn, Michal Molcho and Colette Kelly
Researchers: Ms Maureen D'Eath, Ms Catherine Perry
Funder: European Commission

This project is a cross-national European collaboration with the acronym HEPCOM and is supported by the EU's Health programme (2008-2013), the European fund for protecting and improving human health. HEPCOM aims to develop a European learning platform that assists local communities in their work for preventing obesity among children and young people.

The project objectives are to work with local communities in twenty participating countries to identify and explore information and support needs in relation to action on overweight and obesity. We have been engaged in the analysis of interviews conducted at community level and the setting of objectives for the development of a European Learning Platform. The Learning Platform includes examples of positively evaluated examples of good and best practice initiatives that could be used or borrowed by local communities to direct and inform their own interventions to prevent overweight and obesity among children and young people at local levels.

Following the development of the learning platform it is intended to conduct pilot testing of the platform – again in local community settings within participating countries. The overall intention is to gather and create synergy across countries and communities to identify and implement good health promotion practice with the maximum potential to improve health and health opportunities for children and young people across the region. Training on the Learning Platform has been developed locally to target potential users in the region. In addition a full dissemination event was held during the 2015 Annual Health Promotion Research Centre conference, designed to introduce attendees to the overall project and the Learning Platform (<http://www.hepcom.eu/>).

Irish Workplace Behaviour Survey 2015

Principal Investigators: Dr Margaret Hodgins, and Dr Patricia Mannix-McNamara, and Dr Sarah McCurtain University of Limerick, and Professor Duncan Lewis, University of Plymouth

Funder: Institute of Occupational Health and Safety, UK (IOSH)

Workplace bullying has been extensively researched over the last 20 years, highlighting its negative impact on health. It is a pervasive problem, directly affecting a significant proportion of working population in terms of physical and mental health and potentially having a negative impact on organisational productivity, efficiency and the economy. A national survey on workplace bullying was conducted in Ireland in 2007. This survey employed a self-labelling method, which has since been identified as yielding the lowest prevalence estimates. Self-labelling requires the respondent to self-identify as a victim, which, may be defended against, confounding the estimation of prevalence with personality factors. The Irish Workplace Behaviour Study aims to measure the prevalence of workplace bullying in a nationally representative sample of Irish workers.

To date, a survey has been administered to 1,764 Irish workers, with a response rate of 74%. The survey instrument was based on the British Workplace Behaviour Study, conducted in 2010, with minor adjustments. Data are currently being analysed in order to establish the prevalence of negative acts, comparisons for gender, age and occupational sector, and relationships with indicators of organisational stress and culture.

The study also includes three case studies, including a voluntary organisation, a public sector organisation and a private company. The voluntary organisation case study has yielded 7 interviews and data in under analysis. Data collection is underway in the public sector organisation, and contacts are being pursued for the private company case study.

Two abstracts have been accepted for the 10th International Conference on Bullying and Harassment in the Workplace in Auckland (April, 2016).

Study on Bullying and Incivility in the University Setting

Principal Investigators: Dr Margaret Hodgins & Dr Patricia Mannix McNamara
(University of Limerick)

Workplace mistreatment includes incivility, defined as low-intensity, deviant behaviour with ambiguous intent to harm the target, in violation of workplace norms for mutual respect (Andersson and Pearson, 1999), and bullying, defined as ‘the systematic exhibition of aggressive behaviour at work directed towards a sub-ordinate, a co-worker or even a superior, as well the perception of being systematically exposed to such mistreatment while at work’ (Einarsen et al., 2010, p.5).

The negative health effects of workplace bullying and incivility are well established and include lowered psychological well-being, anxiety, depression and insomnia (e.g. O'Moore et al., 1998; Einarsen and Mikkelsen, 2003; Cortina and Magley, 2008; O'Driscoll et al., 2010). Workplace mistreatment not only costs organisations through absenteeism. Around one fifth of the targets of workplace mistreatment leave the organisation, (e.g. Silvia et al., 2010; O'Connell et al., 2007), with resultant replacement and retraining cost. Drawing from a wide range of studies, over a period of 20 years, Zapf et al., (2011) estimate that between 3% and 4% of workers experience serious bullying, between 9% and 15% of workers experience occasional bullying and at least 10 – 20% experience negative social behaviour at work, which may not meet strict criteria for bullying but nonetheless cause stress and impact negatively on health (Zapf et al., 2011).

Some studies have explored mistreatment within the University sector, although few offer comparisons with other parts of the educational sector or outside the sector. Nonetheless, and allowing for the differential effects of measurement technique, estimates from these studies reveal worrying levels of mistreatment for both academic and support staff. Bjorkqvist et al., (1994) found that 24% of female and 17% of male employees of a Finnish University experienced bullying, which compared unfavourably with their national estimate at that time of 10% (Vartia, 1996). Spratlen (1995) found varying rates per occupational group, ranging from 11% to 38%. Keashley and Neuman (2008) found an overall rate of 23%, while Lewis (1999) reported 18% in a University in Wales. Incivility does not appear to have been previously measured in the University setting.

This study aims to explore workplace mistreatment in the University setting, looking in particular at employee experiences of mistreatment, including incivility, which has not been explicitly explored in Universities, and examine organisational response in order to identify possible avenues for meaningful intervention.

Using non-random, purposive sampling strategies, 14 semi structured interviews have been conducted, across three Universities. Data analysis is underway. The analysis is exploring the lived experience of bullying and incivility in Universities and the perceived organisational response to the problem.

Cancer Survivorship - Costs, Inequalities and Post-Treatment Follow-Up. Building Capacity to Meet the Challenges to the Health Service and Society

Principal Investigator: Prof Linda Sharp (National Cancer Registry Ireland), Dr Michal Molcho NUI Galway, Prof Ciaran O’Neil, Prof Pamela Gallagher, University College Dublin.

Researchers: Dr Audrey Alforque Thomas, Dr Leigh-Ann Sweeney

Funder: Health Research Board (HRB)

Cancer is increasingly recognised as a chronic illness. The number of people diagnosed with cancer in Ireland is rising year-on-year. Survival for many cancers has improved over the past 2-3 decades and two-thirds of those diagnosed now survive five years or longer. These trends mean that almost 100,000 people are living with cancer in Ireland. This number is projected to increase significantly in coming years with population ageing and further developments in treatment.

Therapeutic advances mean that many people with cancer successfully complete primary treatment and can, potentially, resume everyday activities – transitioning from a “patient” to “survivor”. However, many survivors have multiple complex health conditions. Many also experience significant physical, psychosocial and cognitive problems and limitations and have considerable on-going needs for medical and non-medical support and care. While it is generally accepted that specific services to meet these needs are lacking, survivors have increased healthcare utilization, beyond the level that would be expected to accommodate regular cancer follow-up visits and investigations. This raises serious questions about the ability of health services to meet survivors’ needs in the future. Cancer survivorship, therefore, presents significant challenges to survivors, health services and society.

This programme focuses on three key emerging areas of importance in the cancer survivorship arena, which will be addressed in the form of three areas: acceptability, preferences and costs for alternative models of post-treatment follow-up; costs, and epidemiology, of lost productivity due to cancer, with a focus on absenteeism, presenteeism and premature mortality; and impact of rural residence on cancer-related expectations, attitudes, beliefs, behaviours, experiences and outcomes.

Using both quantitative and qualitative methods, the work at NUI Galway focuses on rural and urban differences in cancer-related expectation, attitudes, beliefs and outcomes.

Dissemination:

Timmons, A., Gooberman-Hill, R., Gallagher, P., Molcho, M., Thomas, A.A., Pearce, A. & Sharp, L. (2015). Health professional's views about the acceptability and implementation of alternative models of prostate cancer follow-up. *BJU International*, 116, 34-34.

Thomas A.A., Gallagher P., Ó Céilleachair A., Pearce, A., Sharp, L. & Molcho, M. (2015). Distance from treating hospital and colorectal cancer survivors' quality of life: A gendered analysis. *Supportive Care in Cancer*, 23(3), 741-751.

Inequalities in Childhood Cancers

Principal Investigator: Dr Michal Molcho
Researchers: Dr Audrey Alforque Thomas, Ms Maureen D'Eath and Dr Myles Balfe, National Cancer Registry Ireland
Funder: Irish Cancer Society (ICS)

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Ireland. Each year, on average, 30,000 new cases of cancer are diagnosed, an increase of 56% in 20 years. The current cancer incidence rate is 423 cases per 100,000 per year and in 2010, cancer-related mortality rate was 175 deaths per 100,000 per year, indicating that 60% of cancer patients survive. Overall, survival is increasing by 1-2% per year. Similarly, survival rates from childhood cancers have increased with 80% of patients now surviving childhood cancers. The risk of developing childhood cancers is known to vary by social factors (such as social class), however, there is little understanding of social inequalities in childhood cancer outcomes, or childhood cancer survivors' health and supportive care needs.

This study aims to explore inequalities in childhood cancer survival rates, stage of diagnosis, and long-term health outcomes. The 3-stage study will (1) review the international evidence on health inequalities in childhood cancer outcomes; (2) analyse routinely-collected data on prevalence and outcomes of childhood cancers in Ireland by gender, family SES, area-level SES, and area of residence (urban or rural); and (3) survey childhood cancer survivors to assess their self-reported health outcomes, wellbeing and health and social support needs. The study will assess the needs of cancer survivors who are least well-off or live in remote areas and devise recommendations for advocacy activities, practice and policy. It will inform advocacy and will provide valuable evidence for improved access and support for those who need it most.

Dissemination:

Molcho, M., Thomas, A.A. & Sharp, L. (2015). Inequalities in childhood cancers. *Pediatric Blood and Cancer*, 62, s306.

SPAN: Science for Prevention Academic Network

Principal Investigators: Dr Michal Molcho & Professor Margaret Barry
Funder: European Commission – Education and Culture (EAC)

Prevention Science is a new and growing multidisciplinary scientific field which is concerned with new developments in the theory, research and practice of prevention. A common characteristic of Prevention Science is the importance of human behaviour as a determinant of the problems faced by society, particularly amongst at-risk and vulnerable groups. Whilst the roots of Prevention Science can be traced back to the development of policy interventions which were designed to overcome particular social and health related societal problems, the discipline is broadening its scope to increasingly address a range of environmental and economic challenges that society is facing. The subject itself covers issues such as aetiology, epidemiology, intervention design, effectiveness and implementation of prevention programmes.

This project aims to develop a comprehensive education and training portfolio for prevention theory, research and practice, which would clearly define the scope of prevention research and practice; undertake a mapping exercise to identify and categorise existing provision; develop a model of prevention science education and training that creates new, agreed education and training curricula (with both core and additional elements) at Masters and PhD level; work to embed prevention education and training in already established scientific disciplines and professional groups; and establish a more effective training and education network to take forward the prevention education and training agenda.

To date, a survey of the educational needs of educators, researchers and practitioners has been conducted, identifying gaps that exist in Prevention Science. Additionally, a survey of existing relevant modules was undertaken. Modules were mapped according to the area they cover, the language in which they are taught and their ECTS or equivalent. This was followed by developing a curriculum for Prevention Science and a quality plan, identifying how the quality of the modules should be assessed. The findings from the project were presented in the 6th EUSPR conference in Ljubljana.

The HPRC leads the dissemination work package of this project <http://www.span-europe.eu/>

The Injury and Violence Secondary Data Analysis Project

Principal Investigator: Dr Michal Molcho
Collaborator: Dr Eli Yafe, MDA, Israel

Injuries are the leading cause of death and disability among young people and one of the leading causes of death across all age groups. Globally, more than 5 million people die of injuries every year. It is estimated that for every death, injuries send 30 people to hospital, 300 others to emergency departments for outpatient treatment, and many more are treated for injury in the community. The magnitude of this public health problem led the WHO and the EU Council to declare violence and injury prevention as a key area for action. Overall in Ireland, injuries are the fourth leading cause of death and the first leading cause of death in young people with an estimated 1,500 deaths in Ireland. Yet, to date, there is a lack of concentrated national efforts that are multi-disciplinary in nature. Despite the clear recommendation of the EU Council and the WHO, Ireland still lacks research in the area, and policies, although in existence, are not being evaluated for their implementation and their effectiveness.

This research explores the different aspects of fatal and non-fatal injuries.

Currently, a new collaboration has been established with the ambulance services in Israel. The services collected data on all injuries in all schools in Israel. The analysis looks to explore the characteristics of school injuries including seasonality, timing, severity and associations with various medications that children report to be taking.

Young People's Awareness of Alcohol Marketing

Principal Investigators: Drs Michal Molcho and Colette Kelly
Researcher: Ms Kathy Ann Fox
Funder: Alcohol Action Ireland

Alcohol consumption is a major risk factor for mortality and morbidity. Adolescence is a vulnerable period, during which alcohol consumption can have serious adverse health effects. For instance, studies have suggested that the developing adolescent brain is particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of alcohol. Furthermore, it has been shown that the earlier adolescents start drinking, the more likely it is that they will develop alcohol related problems in adulthood. Therefore, it is desirable to monitor drinking behaviour of adolescents to estimate adverse health effects and assess the effectiveness of current alcohol regulations.

A growing body of evidence suggests that alcohol marketing influences drinking behaviours and drinking intentions of adolescents. A recent review concluded that exposure to alcohol marketing reduces the age at which adolescents start drinking. The literature also indicates that for adolescents that already drink, exposure to alcohol marketing increases alcohol consumption. It is, therefore, important to estimate the amount of alcohol marketing adolescents are exposed to, investigate its impact on alcohol consumption and to assess the effectiveness of current alcohol marketing regulations in protecting youth against alcohol advertisement.

Using a self-reported questionnaire and an alcohol marketing diary, this project investigated the exposure of young people to alcohol marketing in printed, electronic and cyber media, and its association with drinking behaviours, and intentions to drink alcohol in the future. The study found strong associations between some types of marketing (specifically through social media and the ownership of branded items) drinking, problem drinking and drinking intentions.

Dissemination:

Fox, KA., Kelly, C. & Molcho, M. (2015). *Alcohol marketing and young people's drinking behaviour in Ireland*. Dublin: Alcohol Action Ireland.

Combating Childhood Obesity Through Improving Dietary and Food Environment Measurements

Principal Investigator: Dr Colette Kelly
Researcher: Ms Mary Callaghan
Funder: Millennium Fund, NUI Galway

The food environment, or 'foodscape', encompasses any opportunity to obtain food and includes physical, socio-cultural, economic and policy influences at both micro and macro-levels. Based on the socio-ecological models of behavior, foodscapes surrounding communities, towns, workplaces and schools have been the focus of considerable research, helped by methodological advances in measuring the food environment.

School food environments are important determinants of health and nutrition among young people. Food available within and in close proximity to schools can impact on dietary choices. This project aims to characterize the school food environment of post-primary schools that took part in the 2010 Health Behaviour in School aged Children (HBSC) survey in Ireland, and to link this information with student dietary habits and geographic information. In addition, this project will explore children's perception and use of their school food environments.

To date, 64 post-primary schools that took part in the 2010 HBSC survey completed a school level questionnaire which included questions on nutritional policies and the school food environment. Geographic data on the food environment around these schools were visualized in a Geographic Information System (GIS). We have also undertaken validation work on a sample of food premise categories using images captured in Google Street View.

The findings highlight school differences in nutritional policies and food availability within schools. The external school food environment is also complex with 75% of schools with 1 or more fast food business within 1 kilometre of the schools. Linking this data to individual student level data is on-going. Qualitative data from young people in 6 schools has been collected, using mapping tool exercises and focus groups to illuminate their perception of the school food environment. Data has been transcribed and analyses will commence in 2016. It will be important to distinguish between what young people are exposed to and what food outlets they visit and engage with. This work will contribute to the debate on the location of food businesses around schools and the need for school food standards.

Dissemination

Callaghan, M., Molcho, M., Nic Gabhainn, S. & Kelly, C. (2015). Food for thought: analysing the internal and external school food environment. *Health Education*, 15(2), 152-170.

Kelly, C. & Callaghan, M. (2015). School foodscapes - challenges and opportunities for student health? Presented at the *Irish Heart Foundation Food Provision in Post Primary Schools seminar*. Dublin, April 2015.

Callaghan, M., Molcho, M., Nic Gabhainn, S. & Kelly, C. (2015). The food environment of post-primary school children. Oral presentation at the *GIS & Spatial Modelling in Research Seminar, NUI Galway*. Galway, June 2015.

Kelly, C. & Callaghan, M. (2015). School food environments: Are we making the healthy choice the easy choice? *Institute of Public Health Open Conference*. Croke Park, Dublin, October 2015.

Kelly C., Callaghan, M., Nic Gabhainn, M. & Molcho, M. (2015). School food environments and adolescent dietary habits: time for action? Poster presentation at *International Society of Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity*. Edinburgh, Scotland, June, 2015.

Interprofessional Education

Principal Investigator: Professor Dympna Casey, Discipline of Nursing and Midwifery
Collaborator: Dr Martin Power

The Interprofessional Education project is a collaboration between the School of Health Sciences at National University of Ireland, Galway, and the School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Population Science at University College Dublin. This project is funded by the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. The Interprofessional Education project engages students from a range of disciplines in completing an online programme of study. Students interact in mixed multidisciplinary groups (between 11 and 15 students per group) to learn about interprofessional education and to work together in their groups to respond to specially developed case studies. The project is in its second year and in semester one of 2015/2016 students from a range of disciplines completed the six-week online programme. The disciplines included, medicine, nursing (general and psychiatric), midwifery, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and social care.

A series of focus groups were conducted in the wake of the programme, both with student groups and with academic staff who had acted as facilitators for the interprofessional groups. Preliminary data from these focus groups suggests that the programme was very positively received. Students particularly liked the insights into the roles and responsibilities of other professions that the programme provided, as well as the manner in which the online format facilitated equality of input and diminished the traditional tendency toward hierarchical arrangements that often surround interdisciplinary working. At the same time, a number of suggestions for improvement were advanced by the focus groups and the project team will work toward incorporating these for the next iteration of the programme in semester one 2016/17.

19th Annual Health Promotion Conference

The 2015 annual Health Promotion Conference '**Health Literacy: Research, Policy and Practice**' took place on Thursday 18th June 2015 and was a very successful event.

The aim of the conference was to explore the importance of health literacy and how it can be enhanced as a priority area for Health Promotion. The conference brought together policy, research and practice perspectives on how health literacy can be strengthened, including the implementation of health literacy interventions across sectors that will promote the health of the citizens of Ireland.

The presentations from the conference speakers are available to download from the conference website (www.nuigalway.ie/hprc).



Front row from left to right: Dr Jane Sixsmith, NUI Galway; Dr Rima Rudd, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Professor Margaret Barry, NUI Galway; Ms Bidy O'Neill, HSE; Dr Cate Hartigan, HSE.
Back row from left to right: Professor Tim O'Brien, NUI Galway; Mr Owen Metcalfe, IPHI; Dr Gerardine Doyle, UCD; Dr Kevin Kelleher, HSE; Dr Graham Kramer, Scottish Government, Mr Tony O'Brien, Director General, HSE.

Postgraduate Programmes in Health Promotion

We have a thriving community of Health Promotion MA, MPhil and PhD students, undertaking a wide range of studies in various topic areas using a range of methodologies as demonstrated in the thesis abstracts provided by our current PhD students below.

Doctoral Research Students in Health Promotion

Yousef Albalawi (y.albalawi1@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Agenda setting through Twitter: influencing the agenda on road traffic accidents (RTAs) in Saudi Arabia.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Jane Sixsmith

This study aims to explore the impact of new media and its uses in health promotion programmes and projects. The study examines the influence of new media, specifically Twitter, in relation to road traffic accidents in Saudi Arabia. The study is informed by Agenda Setting and Diffusion of Innovation Theories. Agenda Setting is examined in relation to the interactions between the media, public and policy agendas. Diffusion of innovation is used to assess the dissemination and distribution of Twitter messages.



Hayam Al-Riyami (h.al-riyami1@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Mapping the Capacity of Health Promotion Interventions for Non-Communicable Diseases in Oman

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Lisa Pursell

This study examines the level of: knowledge, skills, commitment, system, structure and leadership that exist for promoting interventions (including policies, organizational and community level strategies) that are integrated into the existing structures for reducing non-communicable diseases in Oman. This is in order to identify gaps to determine where further health promotion capacity is required. This study will use a mixed methods approach to health promotion capacity mapping.

Lorraine Burke (l.burke2@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: The contexts and circumstances of early sexual initiation among adolescents in Ireland: A mixed methods investigation

PhD. Co-supervisors: Dr Colette Kelly & Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn

This study aims to investigate the context and circumstances surrounding early first sexual intercourse. The methodology will include quantitative analysis of sexual behaviour data collected from 15-17 year olds through the 2014 Health Behaviour in School-aged Children Ireland study. The study will also qualitatively explore the views of adolescents through a series of participative workshops discussing findings arising from the quantitative phase of the research. The study will provide an up-to-date understanding of the factors influencing Irish adolescent sexual initiation and could potentially identify risk factors of early sexual initiation that may be amenable to intervention.



Maura Burke (m.burke25@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: The experience of primary care team professionals in Ireland: interdisciplinary teamwork in practice.

PhD. Supervisors: Dr Margaret Hodgins & Dr Lisa Pursell

In 2001 the Irish Primary Care Strategy highlighted that current service provision was fragmented and outlined a plan to create a more integrated, people-centred service. One objective was to introduce an interprofessional teamwork model for health and social care professionals. Currently there are 417 in operation nationally. Research suggests that considerable work still remains to be done to achieve cohesive functioning with teams reported to be functioning 'poorly' and remaining problematic in the practice setting. This study will establish the current level of function and explore the experiences and perceptions of primary care team professionals in relation to interprofessional teamwork.



Mary Callaghan (m.callaghan5@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Exploring bullying and victimisation among post-primary school students in Ireland.

PhD. Co-Supervisors: Dr Michal Molcho & Dr Colette Kelly

The aim of this study is to investigate the determinants of bullying among post-primary school students in Ireland. Differences between traditional bullying and cyber bullying will also be explored. This study will provide insight into factors influencing bullying and victimisation at the individual and school level in Ireland.



Clare Carroll (c.oshaughnessy4@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Understanding early intervention services in Ireland: a conceptual evaluation developed from a case study.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Jane Sixsmith

This study explores different people's views of an early intervention disability service in Ireland. This study investigated one team's view and the experience of the people who are involved with this team. The study used a grounded theory approach within an in-depth qualitative case study design. It involved interviews with all stakeholders including the use of a variety of participatory methods with the children with disabilities.



Saintuya Dashdondog (s.dashdondog2@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Determinants of healthy eating among preschool children attending childcare settings located in disadvantaged areas

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Colette Kelly

Preschool years are a critical period for growth and development with children still growing rapidly and with high nutritional requirements. Healthy or unhealthy habits formed at this age may persist in later years; therefore, preschools may serve as an important setting for health promotion. Research shows that there is a strong relationship between low socioeconomic status and poor quality diets. The aim of this study is to identify factors that influence healthy eating among pre-schoolers attending childcare settings in disadvantaged areas. This project will examine staff, children and parents' perceptions and behaviours toward healthy eating at childcare settings, measure children's dietary intake, and develop recommendations for promoting healthy eating in preschools in disadvantaged areas.



Kathy Ann Fox (kathyann.fox@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Changes in attitudes towards alcohol use and drinking behaviours in early to mid-adolescence

PhD. Supervisors: Dr Michal Molcho & Dr Colette Kelly

This study investigates the changes in drinking behaviours and intentions, focussing particularly on adolescent attitudes and perceived norms towards alcohol, while utilizing a prospective design that will allow follow up of 13-15-year-old adolescents, an age range where dramatic change in drinking behaviour has been identified. Applying Social Norms Theory, this study will provide insight into the complex mix of influencing factors that could explain changes in drinking behaviours, thus informing the development of interventions aimed at reducing adolescent alcohol use in Ireland.



Aoife Gavin (a.gavin2@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Exploring trends in health behaviours among children in Ireland: 1998-2010.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Michal Molcho

The aim of this study is to explore the trends in health behaviours among school-aged children in Ireland between 1998 and 2010 primarily utilising the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study. The study will involve secondary data analysis, with methodological considerations for analysing cross-sectional trends data. A systematic review of peer-reviewed papers presenting trends data is underway to identify appropriate statistical approaches.



Helen Grealish (h.grealish1@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Assessing the impact of research on the development of policy in child and youth affairs.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn

This study is assessing the use of research in developing policy in the area of drug and alcohol misuse among adolescents in Ireland over a ten-year period. This research project is using a triangulation of methods. Interviews will be conducted with participants from the research institutions who produce research and with policy makers whom the researchers seek to influence. Documentary analysis will be undertaken to identify how much of the published research is referenced in policy documents and in other documents relating to the decision making process. It is also testing the conceptual model, the Research Impact Framework (Kuruville et al., 2006).



Ursula Kenny (u.kenny2@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Peer influences on adolescent body image

PhD. Supervisors: Dr Colette Kelly & Dr Michal Molcho

The aim of this research is to investigate the influence of peers on body image, among adolescents aged 13-17 years in Ireland. Specifically, this study aims to explore: (i) adolescents' perceptions on the mechanisms through which peers influence body image; (ii) other factors that influence adolescent body image relative to peers; and (iii) the impact of cyber-bullying and peer support on body image among youth in Ireland. This study should provide an insight into the magnitude of and mechanisms through which peers influence body image among youth in Ireland.



Nurul Kodriati (n.kodriati1@nuigalway.ie)

PhD topic: Men's health and gender specific behaviours toward health in Indonesia



PhD Supervisor: Dr Lisa Pursell

Statistically, men's life expectancy is less compared to women. Moreover, men have a higher death rate for the top five causes of death. The main explanations for the data are that men have a tendency to undertake more risky behaviours such as, smoking, alcohol and drug misuse. Men also pay less attention to their health as evidenced by lower attendance at screening programmes, delaying going to health professionals or having poorer dietary habits. The overall aim of this study is to explore how masculinity influences behaviour choices and decisions about health among men and how health promotion interventions and health policy can be developed according to the specific needs and values of men.

Tuuli Kuosmanen (t.kuosmanen1@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: The use of online technologies to promote the mental health and wellbeing of young people in an alternative education setting in Ireland.



PhD. Supervisor: Professor Margaret Barry

Computerised mental health promotion and prevention programmes have been shown to be both acceptable and effective with young people. However, the majority of existing studies have been conducted with university students or in the school setting, and their use with more vulnerable young people remains relatively unstudied. This study explores the use of computerised mental health promotion programmes in an alternative education setting, Youthreach, in Ireland. The study consists of two phases. The first phase incorporates semi-structured group discussions with Youthreach staff (n=12) and students (n=38) from four centres. The discussions are based on a review of two existing cognitive behavioural therapy based programmes (MoodGYM and SPARX). The transcripts will be translated into values and requirements employing the Requirements Development Approach (Van Velsen et al., 2013) to guide programme implementation in the next phase of the study. The second phase is a cluster randomised controlled trial (N=32 Centres) with integrated implementation research examining the effectiveness and acceptability of the programmes. Their impact on mental wellbeing, coping, emotional regulation and symptoms of depression and anxiety will be examined. Process evaluation will be conducted after each module and at the end of the programme and will examine user satisfaction and acceptability, perceived helpfulness and frequency of use of the techniques introduced by the programmes. Post-intervention focus groups and interviews will be conducted to further explore programme acceptability and implementation.

Verna McKenna (v.mckenna2@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: An investigation of the development of health literacy over time for persons attending a structured risk prevention programme.

PhD. Supervisor: Professor Margaret Barry

Health literacy is an essential component of pursuing health and well-being in modern society. Health literacy includes peoples' knowledge, motivation and competencies to assess, understand, appraise and apply health information to promote their health and those of family/community. It is relevant for making decisions in everyday life in terms of healthcare, disease prevention and health promotion. To date little is currently known or understood about how it might develop over time or the processes by which people might become more health literate. The aim of this study is to investigate and describe how individuals participating in a structured cardiovascular risk prevention and health promotion programme develop and practice health literacy in the management of their health. The study will use a longitudinal qualitative study design to explore changes in health literacy practices over a 12 month period.



Teresa Meaney (teresa.meaney@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Irish mothers experience of persisting with breastfeeding.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn

Despite the accepted social, emotional and health benefits associated with breastfeeding the incidence of breastfeeding in Ireland is at an alarmingly low level (56% ERSI 2012). In fact when compared with its European counterparts such as Great Britain (81%) and the Scandinavian States (90%), Ireland has the lowest breastfeeding rate in Europe. The aim of this study is to use a qualitative phenomenological longitudinal research approach to understand and gain insight into Irish mother's experience of breastfeeding. It is anticipated that this study will provide a meaningful understanding of mother's experience of persisting with breastfeeding. Knowledge may be generated to inform policy makers and health professionals on necessary areas for development in the promotion and support of breastfeeding.



Christina Murphy (c.murphy1@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: From paper to practice: an exploration of teacher-delivered relationships and sexuality education in Ireland.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn

This study explores the implementation of Relationships and Sexuality Education in-service training and how this training translates into practice in the classroom. This exploration aims to provide insight into what helps or hinders RSE implementation in a real world context. A mixed method approach was employed at both training and school-level.



Éamonn Ó Bróithe (e.obroithe2@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Riachtanais agus dearcadh cainteoirí dúchais Gaeilge sa nGaeltacht i leith litearthacht sa nGaeilge agus meicníochtaí chun scileanna litearthachta Gaeilge a thomhas i réimse an aosoideachais (*Literacy needs and attitudes and measuring literacy of adult native Irish speakers*).

PhD. Co-Supervisors: Dr Jane Sixsmith & Dr Conchúr Ó Giollagáin

Sa staidéar seo, táthar ag scrúdú riachtanais, dearcadh agus scileanna cainteoirí dúchais Gaeilge Gaeltachta i dtaca le litearthacht sa nGaeilge i gcúinsí casta teangeolaíochta na Gaeltachta comhaimsire. Ina theannta sin, táthar ag aimsiú mhodhanna chun scileanna litearthachta i nGaeilge a thomhais. Leis an staidéar seo, cuirfear lenár dtuiscint ar fheidhm na Seirbhíse Litearthachta d'Aosaigh i dtaca le litearthacht i nGaeilge sa nGaeltacht agus déanfar moltaí maidir le soláthar na seirbhíse sin.

This study investigates the needs, motivations, attitudes and skills of adult native speakers of Irish, in respect of Irish language literacy in the complex linguistic environment of the contemporary Gaeltacht. It will also determine methods for measuring adult literacy-skills in the Irish language. The study will increase our understanding of the role of the Adult Literacy Service with regard to Irish-language literacy in the Gaeltacht and make recommendations concerning service provision.



Áine O'Brien, (a.obrien24@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Characteristics of Injury Fatalities in the West of Ireland; Investigating Coroners' Reports.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Michal Molcho

Trauma from injury and violence represents a major public health problem affecting individuals, families and communities. Annually, it accounts for 5 million deaths worldwide (9% of global mortality). In Ireland, it is the fourth leading cause of mortality, yet inadequate research has been published in this area. Death certificate records provide limited data on injury mortality; Coroner inquest reports provide case information collated from multiple sources (including police reports, witness statements, coronial autopsy and forensic pathologist post-mortem and toxicology examinations). Comprehensive information is available in these reports regarding the manner and mechanism of injury, the presence of alcohol and drugs, detailed descriptions of injuries and a narrative of the circumstances resulting in death. This study investigates characteristics of injury-related fatalities in the West of Ireland over a 5 year period through these data sources.

Lindsay Sullivan (l.sullivan2@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: An Evaluation of GAA Players and Coaches' Knowledge About Sports-related Concussion.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Michal Molcho

Concussions are a mild traumatic brain injury (TBI) that result from direct or indirect impact to the head. Sports-related concussions are now recognized as a major public health concern, and although more research is needed, the long-term effects from this injury are more widespread than previously understood. Unfortunately, despite the association of concussion with short and long-term health consequences many parents, coaches and young athletes still lack basic knowledge about concussion and seem to believe that youth is a period of invincibility and that concussions may be "toughed out" and do not require medical attention. The study proposed here aims to assess self-reported prevalence of concussion among GAA players in Ireland aged 13-18 years of age. This study also aims to assess self-reported knowledge about sports-related concussion in GAA players aged 13-18 and GAA coaches in Ireland. This study will implement a concussion education programme and evaluate its' effectiveness using process, impact and outcome evaluations. Sports-related concussion may never be totally eliminated from sport, but with an increase in knowledge about and safer attitudes towards sports-related concussion among GAA players and coaches the catastrophic short and long-term health consequences of concussion can be dramatically reduced.



Elena Vaughan (e.vaughan3@nuigalway.ie)

PhD. Topic: Sex, Stigma and Silence: Sexual Politics and the Discursive Construction of HIV in Ireland.

PhD. Co-supervisors: Dr Martin Power & Dr Jane Sixsmith

The aim of this study is to investigate the discourse of HIV and the phenomenon of HIV-related stigma in Ireland. The study draws on theories of language and ideology by theorists such as Foucault and Bourdieu and will apply a Critical Discourse Analysis framework in the analysis of media and policy texts pertaining to HIV. In addition, interviews with people living with HIV will be conducted in order to evaluate their experiences of stigma and discrimination. In doing so the study proposes to shed light on the following questions:

- What are the narratives of HIV that exist in HIV discourse in Ireland today and how does the media frame people living with HIV?
- Are there identifiable ideologies underpinning the dominant discourses of HIV and if so what are they?
- How do these discourses resonate with people living with and/or affected by HIV?
- In accordance with the GIPA principle, how can the experience of people living with HIV be used to better inform policy and practice in healthcare and other settings?



Jaroslava Veratova (j.velartova1@nuigalway.ie)

MPhil. Topic: Defining and managing risk in adult social care disability services.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Martin Power

'Defining and managing risk in adult social care disability services.'

This research will explore understandings that surround the manner in which risk is defined, perceived and operationalised by stakeholders. While risk assessment has become ubiquitous in social care, service users, social care staff and service provider managers often approach risks differently. As a consequence, there can be challenges to balancing competing demands of independence, autonomy, health, safety and duty of care.

Doctoral Student Abstract

Congratulations to Dr Leigh-Ann Sweeney, Dr Khalifa Elmasharaf, Dr Declan Flanagan, Dr Yetunde John Akinola and Dr Samir Mahmood who graduated this year with a PhD. in Health Promotion. Their thesis abstracts are presented below.

Yetunde John-Akinola



Children and parents' participation: socio-ecological perspectives

Schools are a key setting for health promotion. The development of Health Promoting Schools (HPS) draws on the settings-based approach to health promotion and includes child participation as one of its basic values. The psycho-social environment of the school is an important dimension for promoting the health and wellbeing of children but has rarely been directly investigated empirically. Parental participation is important for strengthening and sustaining the concept of school health promotion but little is written on the processes involved. This study explored the participation of children and their parents in school life and investigated the relevance of pupil participation for school environment and health and wellbeing of pupils. The study was conducted in two phases: a qualitative study was carried out in the first phase to document children (n=248) and parents' (n=39) views about participation in school life. Results from phase 1 indicated that the most common categories of what made pupils feel a part of their school were school uniforms, sports, friends, teachers and their school/classroom environment. Increase in the number of school activities, encouraging friendship and equal participation were key indicators of how pupils would ensure that everybody felt a part of the school. Parents also highlighted participation in school activities, feeling a part of school and encouraging parents to talk about how they feel as their most common categories on school participation. The findings from pupils and parents' conceptualisations of participation in school life, in the first phase, were used to develop pupil and parent questionnaires for the second phase (the quantitative study) thus linking the first phase to the second phase. A survey was carried out in the second phase to assess children (n=231) and parents' (n=218) current participation in Irish primary schools, and associations between school participation, school socio-ecological environment and health and wellbeing outcomes for pupils. Logistic regression analyses indicated positive associations between school participation and health and wellbeing outcomes, and school socio-ecological environment. Findings from the four journal articles that comprise this PhD research are discussed and references are made to the extant literature, general implications and recommendations for research, policy and practice, and implications of the findings for theory.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn

Khalifa Elmusharaf

Access to Maternal Healthcare in Post-Conflict South Sudan: Is the health system designed for the context?



The importance of understanding the cultural, social, economic, political and historical contexts when working in post conflict fragile states is well documented. Many health and development projects in post conflict South Sudan are significantly hampered by (i) the mismatch between the views of service providers and those of the community, and (ii) because of the misunderstanding of the context. It is not clear in the literature if the health systems in post conflict situations are designed for or adapted to the context, and if they are, to what extent has understanding of the context and demand side barriers been useful in planning for accessible maternal health care services that can reduce the maternal mortality in such settings.

The aim of this research is to gain an in depth understanding of the determinants of, and delays to access to, the maternal health services in a post conflict setting in South Sudan, and to investigate the extent to which health system actors take account of the context in designing a system that incorporates the health care needs of their clients in order to provide accessible maternal health care.

This research applied a qualitative participatory action research approach in two phases. Phase one was to understand the issues around access and utilization of maternal health services using qualitative methods: Participatory Ethnographic Evaluation Research (PEER), and Critical Incident Technique (CIT), and stakeholder interviews. Phase two was interventions to improve the situation through Innovative Participatory Health Education (IPHE) and Participatory Reproductive Health Project Management (PRHPM).

Access to maternal healthcare in the aftermath of conflict is complex. Maternal health is not always a priority, services do not usually match the needs of the people, most of the facilities are not functioning and many healthcare providers are not competent. Voices of hard to reach populations are usually excluded or not heard. Social determinants hugely influence access. Women often do not take decisions that prioritise their health, and even if they take healthy decisions, they do not act on them or act very late. There is a mismatch between stakeholders and service users' perspectives on access to maternal healthcare.

Maternal healthcare in South Sudan will not be optimised unless women are cared for in their communities, and are empowered to take decisions about their care at the right time, without waiting for others to make decisions for them. Participatory Health Systems Research approaches strengthen capacity at multiple levels, ensure integrated knowledge translation, engage marginalized communities, and enhance their contribution to identify health needs, plan and design future health services.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan

Declan Flanagan

Fun, Games and Health: A process evaluation of the Buntús (Play & Multi-Sport) programme

Continuous Professional Development (CPD) is essential for primary school teachers to change practices to meet the evolving demands of the education system. Current CPD models are considered consistently ineffective, if not, woefully inadequate. For effective CPD to improve both teacher knowledge and pupil learning, it needs to be current, relevant and challenging and yet, many aspects are in need of change, including the traditional practices of CPD providers, inhospitable schools and departmental structures. With these key issues in mind, this study set out to evaluate PE related CPD provision in primary schools using the Buntús (Play & Multi-Sport) programme as a test case. A triangulation of data provided different perspectives that corroborated the findings and improved validity of the data. Three key stakeholders participated in this study. Local Sports Partnership (LSP) tutors delivered this CPD programme in each county and 14 LSP tutors from seven counties provided data through semi-structured interviews. Primary school teachers and pupils from two counties provided data through group interviews. 17 group interviews with primary teachers and 15 group interviews with pupils were conducted between 2008-2011.

Analytic induction is generally used to examine hypothetical problems. Given this study was exploratory in nature and had no hypothetical explanation of a problem to examine, a general inductive approach was the most appropriate for this study as it could simply be described as a process of 'making sense of the data' (Lincoln & Guba, 1985). Data were analysed inductively from units of information to subsuming categories and themes in order to define local questions that could be further explored (Lincoln & Guba, 1985). The Buntús (Play & Multi-Sport) programme was considered by the teachers to have positively affected their perceptions of PE (in terms of their confidence in, knowledge of and enthusiasm for the subject) and, in turn, improved their practice (particularly in terms of content ideas and inclusion). Key limitations of this programme were identified as insufficient attention to specific pedagogical issues, the absence of follow-up support and a one-size-fits-all programme design. None of the aims and objectives of this programme permeated and became part of pupils' PE classes in this study.

This programme positively contributed to teachers' perceptions of physical education; however, beyond this, its impact was limited by a range of factors highlighting the continuing complexities and challenges of providing CPD programmes for physical education in primary schools.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Michal Molcho

Dr Samir Mahmood

Health promotion capacity mapping in low and middle-income countries



The present study is concerned with mapping health promotion capacity in LMIC contexts and seeks to develop a capacity mapping conceptual model and data collection process that will address these factors. The overall aim of the study is to develop and test a flexible and sensitive conceptual framework and data collection process to map health promotion capacity with specific reference to LMIC contexts.

A phased, multi-method approach was employed to develop and test a capacity mapping framework and assessment process in an LMIC context. A comprehensive review of the international literature on conceptual frameworks and methodologies for health promotion capacity mapping helped to identify a conceptual model and a set of core capacity domains appropriate for use in an LMIC context. To determine the suitability of the capacity mapping framework in an LMIC context, a layered online consensus building process was undertaken in Phase I of the study involving experts in global health promotion with experience of working in LMICs. The first round of the Delphi consultation examined the appropriateness of the conceptual framework and core capacity domains and was completed by 104 global experts from 53 countries. The Round 2 of the Delphi explored their views on the capacity mapping survey tool. In Phase II, a case study method was employed to test the revised capacity mapping framework and assessment process in a selected LMIC, Thailand. The mapping assessment process comprised the following data collection methods; a desk review of key policy and related documents, an online questionnaire and semi-structured telephone interviews, and a face-to-face discussion group with 9 senior level policymakers, academics and practitioners.

The consultation process resulted in the development of a conceptual framework comprised of four core domains; country-specific context, governance, policy environment, and infrastructure; and 10 sub-domains. In Phase II of the study, the mapping framework and the assessment process were tested in Thailand. The findings highlighted the country's unique features in terms of the Thai context including its cultural characteristics, bottom-up approach through community health promotion development and top level political buy-in. Practical and methodological challenges highlighted in the study included the need for the mapping process to take a participatory approach that will engage a wide range of key stakeholders and that will result in reliable and valid information. The study findings highlight the complexity of assessing country level capacity in an LMIC context and calls for further testing of the capacity mapping framework and data collection process in other LMIC settings.

PhD. Supervisor: Professor Margaret Barry

Leigh-Ann Sweeney

The psychosocial experiences of women involved in prostitution: an exploratory study



This exploratory research examines the barriers that prevent women in prostitution in Ireland from accessing co-ordinated health services. Through the examination of the experiences of women engaged in prostitution, by using an adapted voice centred relational model of analyses, underpinning a feminist standpoint epistemology theoretical framework, the research contributes to Irish knowledge and, in particular, pertaining to the psychosocial experiences of women involved in prostitution and the Irish healthcare service.

Women in prostitution in Galway and its environs were interviewed using a biographical narrative approach. A further seven agencies in the field of prostitution were interviewed using a semi-structured interview format. These agencies were local, national and European and were included to support the research in locating prostitution within a wider ecological perspective and to identify the current socio-political realities.

The findings indicate that women involved in prostitution are primarily working indoors, hold precarious legal status and are in Ireland as a response to global migration and economic necessity. The women discussed their fears in respect to clients and organisers of prostitution and the impact of minimal supports available to them. Street prostitution, too, remains evident with a strong link to family breakdown and addiction.

The research concludes that there is a need for further service development throughout the country of Ireland that is respectful to the various social determinants which impact on the lives of women in prostitution. Poverty, migration and the global trends of the sex industry can be addressed through a gendered reform of policies using an ecological framework for health. A review of current services nationally of healthcare providers in health, social work and community development fields is required. This research has profound implications for future studies in the field of Irish prostitution that will inform practice and broaden the debate on prostitution.

PhD. Supervisor: Dr Michal Molcho

Community Contribution

Through their membership of management, committee and editorial boards, the HPRC staff actively contribute to the development of national and international health promotion research, practice and policy. Staff positions on these boards are listed below.

International

- Early Careers Group of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Ms M. Callaghan
- Eating and Dieting Working Group of WHO-HBSC study (Chair) – Dr C. Kelly
- Electronic Media Work Group of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Ms M. Callaghan
- European Commission Expert Panel on Effective Ways of Investing in Health, 2013-2016, (member) – Professor M. Barry
- European Network WHP (member) – Dr M. Hodgins
- Global Working Group on Workforce and Competencies Development, International Union for Health Promotion & Education, 2012-present, (Co-Chair) – Professor M. Barry
- International Coordinating Committee of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Dr C. Kelly
- International Coordinating Committee of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Dr M. Molcho
- International Report editorial group of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Dr M. Molcho
- International Steering Group for the WHO Collaborating Centre for Mental Health Promotion, Prevention and Policy at THL, Finland, 2007-present, (member) – Professor M. Barry
- Partnership for Children, UK, 2011-2014, (Trustee Board Member) – Professor M. Barry
- Policy Development Groups of the WHO-HBSC study (elected Chair) – Dr M. Molcho
- Policy Development Groups of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Dr C. Kelly
- School Mental Health International Leadership Exchange (SMHILE), 2014-present, (member) – Professor M. Barry
- Scientific Advisor to the European Commission funded ROAMER project which aims to create a road map for the promotion and integration of mental health and wellbeing research across Europe, 2012-2014, (scientific advisor) – Professor M Barry
- Scientific Committee for the Health Promotion Chair, School of Public Health (EHESP) and the National Institute for Prevention and Health Education (INPES) France, 2011-present, (member) – Professor M. Barry
- Scientific Council for the Ludwig Boltzman Institute for Health Promotion Research, Vienna, 2008-2015, (member) – Professor M. Barry
- Scientific Development Groups of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Dr C. Kelly

- Technical Group for UNICEF Report Card 13 (member) – Dr M. Molcho
- The Children's Research Network for Ireland and Northern Ireland (member) – Ms M. Callaghan & Dr E. Keane
- Violence and Injury Prevention work group of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Ms M. Callaghan
- Visiting Healthway Research Fellow, Curtin University, Australia in 2013 (research fellow) – Professor M. Barry
- WHO Temporary Advisor in EMRO Region, 2013-15, (temporary advisor) – Professor M Barry
- The Society for Social Medicine (member) - Dr E. Keane
- Early Careers Group of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Dr E. Keane
- Eating and Dieting work group of the WHO-HBSC study (member) Dr E. Keane
- Physical Activity work group of the WHO-HBSC study (member) – Dr E. Keane

National:

- AHPI (Executive Committee Member) – Ms Priscilla Doyle
- Child Health Research Forum (member) – Dr M. Molcho
- Expert Research and Evaluation Committee of the Youth Mental Health Initiative Headstrong (member) – Dr S. Nic Gabhainn
- Inspire Ireland & Young and Well CRC National Advisory Group (member) – Professor M. Barry
- Irish Association of Social Care Workers (Executive Board Member & Membership Secretary) – Dr Martin Power.
- National Oral Health Policy Academic Research Group, 2014-2016, (member) – Professor M Barry
- Research and Evaluation Panel of the See Change Programme – the National Mental Health Stigma Reduction Partnership, 2010-present, (member) – Professor M. Barry
- SAOLTA HSE Healthy Ireland Implementation Group, 2015 – present, (member) – Professor M. Barry
- Scientific Advisory Group for Growing Up in Ireland Phase 2 (member) – Dr M. Molcho
- Steering committee member for Early Years sub-committee of the children and young people's services committee – Dr C. Kelly

Editorial Boards

- Applied Social Studies – Dr S. Nic Gabhainn
- Open Epidemiology Journal – Dr S. Nic Gabhainn
- Youth Studies Ireland – Dr S. Nic Gabhainn
- International Journal of Mental Health Promotion – Professor M. Barry
- Advances on School Mental Health Promotion – Professor M. Barry
- Health Promotion Journal of Australia – Professor M. Barry
- Journal of Public Mental Health – Professor M. Barry
- Journal of Social Care – Dr M. Power
- Public Health Nutrition – Dr C. Kelly.

Seminar Series



As part of the dissemination activities of the Health Promotion Research Centre (HPRC) we regularly hold research seminars across a broad range of topic areas. These seminars provide an opportunity for members of the HPRC to showcase their research, and for visiting scholars, academic colleagues and health promotion practitioners to share their work. PhD students on the Health Promotion programme also participate and have an opportunity to present their

studies. There is no formal format for the seminars but they are usually one hour in duration and have included presentations followed by discussion. The seminars are open to anyone interested to attend.

Monday 7th December, Dr Samir Mahmood, Discipline of Health Promotion, NUIG
Health Promotion Capacity Mapping in Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs).

Monday 9th November, Dr Eimear Keane, Health Promotion Research Centre, NUIG
Childhood Obesity in Ireland; Recent trends and modifiable determinants.

Wednesday 17th June, Dr John Comings, Education Development Center, Harvard Graduate School of Education
Insights from Research on How to Address Difficult Problems in Adult Literacy Programmes

Monday 8th June, Mayara Floss, Fellow of the programme Science Without Borders at National University of Ireland, Galway
Can we Change? Empowering communities and students

Friday 6th March, Dr Leigh-Ann Sweeney, Health Promotion Research Centre
The Psychosocial Experiences of Women Involved in Prostitution: An exploratory study.

Friday 6th February, Dr Vicky Hogan, Health Promotion Research Centre
An Examination of Working Hours, Work-Life Conflict and Psychological Well-Being in Irish Academics.

Books and Book Chapters

Clarke, A.M. & Barry, M.M. (2015). Implementing mental health promoting schools. In: V. Simovska and P. McNamarra (Eds.). *School for Health and Sustainability* (pp. 313-318). Dordrecht: Springer.

Clarke, A.M. & Barry, M.M. (2015). Supporting a whole school approach to mental health promotion and wellbeing in post-primary schools in Ireland. In: S. Kutcher, Y. Wei, and M. Weist (Eds.). *School Mental Health. Global Opportunities and Challenges* (pp. 112-124). UK: Cambridge University Press.

Journal Articles

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Other Publications

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Nic Gabhainn, S., Sixsmith, J., Kelly, C. & Molcho, M (2015). *Involving children in the research process: experiences from the Health Promotion Research Centre, NUI Galway*. Technical Publication.

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O'Hora, D.; Hogan, V. & Kelly, M. (2015). *Perception of Risk*. Workshops

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Timmons, A., Gooberman-Hill, R., Gallagher, P., Molcho, M., Thomas, A.A., Pearce, A. & Sharp, L. (2015). *Health professional's views about the acceptability and implementation of alternative models of prostate cancer follow-up*. Abstract

Presentations 2015

Barry, M.M. & Clarke, A.M. (2015). What works in enhancing social and emotional skills development during childhood and adolescence? A review of the evidence on the effectiveness of school-based [Conference Organising Committee Chairperson] Report Launch by the Early Intervention Foundation and the UK Cabinet Office House of Commons, London, 11/03/2015.

Barry, M.M. (2015). What works in promoting the mental health and wellbeing of children and youth? Keynote presentation Mental Wellbeing of Children and Youth– a shared responsibility. Tallinn, Estonia, 05/06/2015.

Barry, M.M. (2015). Mental health promotion and public policies across the lifespan. Invited Presentation Mental Health in All Policies: Supporting sustainability and growth in Europe Helsinki, Finland, 11/05/2015-12/05/2015.

Barry, M.M. (2015). Innovation in Health Promotion - has it reached its potential? Keynote presentation: Health Matters Innovation in Health Promotion - 2015 National Institute for Health Development, Budapest, Hungary, 29/09/2015-.

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Callaghan, M., Molcho, M., Nic Gabhainn, S. & Kelly, C. (2015). The food environment of post-primary school children GIS & Spatial Modelling in Research Seminar, 06/2015.

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Casey, D., Campbell, L., Hills, C., Carroll, C., Hunter, A., Meskell, P., Geoghegan, R., McDarby, G., Power, M., Burke, E., Boland, J., Tierney, M., & Schmidt-Felzmann, H. (2015). Student experiences of using values-based digital technology to enhance and evaluate inter-

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D'Eath, M., Kelly, C., Molcho, M. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). HEPCOM: Promoting healthy eating and physical activity in local communities: introduction to the Learning Platform 19th Health Promotion Research Conference: Health Literacy: Research, Policy and Practice, NUI Galway, 18/06/2015.

Doyle, P., Sixsmith, J., Kaper, M., de Winter, A., Vervoordeldonk, J., Reiman, J. & Mackiewicz, K. (2015). Implementation evaluation of three country specific health literacy environmental assessment tools in healthcare settings across three European countries (Ireland, Finland and the Netherlands). Paper presented at the *3rd European Health Literacy Conference: Developing Health Literacy During the Life Course*. Brussels, November 2015.

Durand, H., O'Higgins, S., Doherty, E., Nic Gabhainn, S. & McGuire, B. (2015). Not seeing eye-to-eye: differential reporting of chronic pain by children and their parents (PRIME-C) 29th Conference of the European Health Psychology Society Limassol, Cyprus, 09/2015.

Durand, H., O'Higgins, S., Doherty, E., Nic Gabhainn, S., Murphy, A.W., Hogan, M., O'Neill, C. & McGuire, B. (2015). Persistent and recurrent pain in childhood: patterns of childhood chronic pain over two years (PRIME-C) Irish Pain Society Annual Scientific Meeting Dublin, 09/2015.

Gavin, A., Kelly, C., Nic Gabhainn, S. & Molcho, M. (2015). Changing family structure, parental communication and children's life satisfaction in Ireland between 1998 and 2010 Excellence in Paediatrics, 12/2015.

Grealish, H. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). What kinds of knowledge and information are cited in government policy documents? 19th Health Promotion Research Conference: Health Literacy: Research, Policy and Practice, NUI Galway, 18/06/2015.

Hogan, V. (2015). Workplace health promotion: Priorities in the changing work environment [Invited Oral Presentation] INMO Annual Occupational Health Nurses Section Conference Cork, 20/05/2015.

Kaper, M., de Winter, A., Sixsmith, J., Doyle, P., Giammarchi, C., Bevilacqua, R., Jansen, J., Paans, W., Veenker, H. & van Twillert, S. (2015). Development and pilot-testing of a health literacy focused communication training in co-creation with European health professionals. Paper presented at the *3rd European Health Literacy Conference: Developing Health Literacy During the Life Course*. Brussels, November 2015.

Keane, E., Perry, C.P., Kearney, P.M., Harrington, J.M., Perry, I.J., Cullinan, J. & Layte, R. (2015). Childhood obesity, dietary quality and the role of the local food environment: cross-sectional analysis from the growing up in Ireland study, Society for Social Medicine, 09/2015.

Keane, E., Molcho, M., Kelly, C., Howell, F. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). Self-reported exposure to cigarette pack warnings in school aged children and perceptions of smoking related harm Excellence in Paediatrics, 12/2015.

Kelly, C., Gavin, A., Molcho, M. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). The first step in building relationships with young carers is identifying them. Social Care Ireland 2015: Breaking barriers and building relationships Sligo, 03/2015.

Kelly, C. (2015). Dietary habits in childhood: what's trending? Excellence in Pediatrics, London, 12/2015.

Kelly, C. (2015) – Nutrition from infancy to adolescence. Presentation to the Health Behaviour Change Research Group, NUI Galway, 11/2015.

Kelly, C., Callaghan, M. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). School foodscapes: challenges and opportunities for student health? IHF seminar: Food Provision in Post Primary Schools Dublin, 04/2015.

Kelly, C., Callaghan, M., Molcho, M. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). The school food environment – are we making the healthy choice the easy choice? Institute of Public Health Open Conference Dublin, 10/2015.

Kenny, U., Molcho, M. & Kelly, C. (2015) Unveiling the reality of adolescent peer cultures: Impact on body image perception. The International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, Edinburgh.

Kenny, U., Molcho, M. & Kelly, C. (2015) Adolescents involvement in the development of a body image question for use in the HBSC 2013/14 Ireland survey. The International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity, Edinburgh.

Kerins, C., Gibson, I., Cunningham, K., Jones, J., Kelly, C. (2015). Health Literacy: A User-Friendly Approach to Menu Labelling in the West of Ireland. Health Promotion Conference, Galway, 06/2015.

Kerins, C., Gibson, I., Cunningham, K., Jones, J., Kelly, C. (2015). Creating a Healthier Environment through a Novel User-Friendly Approach to Menu Labelling in the West of Ireland. International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity Annual Meeting, Scotland, 06/2015.

Kerins, C., Gibson, I., Cunningham, K., Jones, J., & Kelly, C. (2015). Addressing the obesity epidemic through a novel user-friendly approach to menu labelling in the west of Ireland. European Congress on Obesity, Prague, 05/2015.

Kerins, C., Gibson, I., Cunningham, K., Jones, J., Kelly, C. (2015). Menu labelling: the impact of heart healthy awards on consumers and food establishments. Third Annual Health and Social Care Professions Research Conference, Dublin, 04/2015.

Li, X., Kearney, P.M., Keane, E., Harrington, J.M. & Fitzgerald, A.P. (2015). Temporal and weather effects on accelerometer-measured physical activity during school days among children. Society for Social Medicine, 09/2015.

McKenna, V., Kelly, C. & Barry, M.M. (2015). A health promotion model of social care: integrating health promotion into social care practice [Oral Presentation] Social Care Ireland 2015: Breaking Barriers and Building Relationships Sligo Radisson Hotel 24-26/03/2015, 24/03/2015-26/03/2015.

McKenna, V., & Barry, M.M. (2015). Examining Health Literacy Practices: a qualitative approach [Oral Presentation] The 3rd European Health Literacy Conference: Developing Health Literacy During the Life Course The Management Centre Europe, Brussels, 17/11/2015-19/11/2015.

O'Higgins, S., Durand, H. Taheny, D., Doherty, E., Nic Gabhainn, S., Murphy, A.W., Hogan, M., O'Neill, C. & McGuire, B. (2015). Prevalence, impact and cost of chronic pain in Irish schoolchildren: results from a longitudinal study (PRIME-C) Irish Pain Society Annual Scientific Meeting Dublin, 09/2015.

Perry, C.P., Keane, E., Kearney, P.M., Perry, I.J. & Harrington, J.M. (2015). Applying the dietary approach to stop hypertension (DASH) score to children: is adherence to kiddash associated with childhood overweight or obesity? Society for Social Medicine, 09/2015.

Nic Gabhainn, S. (2015). Improving school health: using surveillance data for policy, practice and evaluation [Invited Lecture] World Health Organisation Global School Health Technical Meeting Bangkok, Thailand, 24/11/2015.

Sullivan, L. (2015). The Impact of Sports-related Concussion. Oral presentation at the Student Talks Conference, Dublin, Ireland, March 2016.

Sullivan, L., Alforque Thomas, A. & Molcho, M. (2015). An evaluation of GAA Athletes' practice of playing while concussed, knowledge and attitudes towards concussion. Poster presented at the Brain Research in Ireland: Delivering on the Potential, Dublin, Ireland, March 2015.

Sullivan, L. (2015). An evaluation of a concussion education programme for youth GAA athletes and coaches. Oral presentation at the College of Medicine, Nursing, and Health Sciences, Postgraduate Research Day, Galway, Ireland, May 2015.

Sullivan, L., Alforque Thomas, A. & Molcho, M. (2015). An evaluation of GAA Athletes' practice of playing while concussed, knowledge and attitudes towards concussion. Poster presented at the 2015 Sports Concussion Conference, Denver, Colorado, July 2015.

Sullivan, L. & Molcho, M. (2015). Sports-related concussion: what do coaches want to know?" Poster presented at the 6th European Society for Prevention Research (EUSPR) Conference and Members Meeting, Changing Behavior without Talking: automatic processes and the regulation of behavior, Ljubiana, Slovenia, October 2015.

Vaughan, E. (2015). Lost in Translation? A comparative discourse analysis of HIV information on the NHS and HSE websites. Presentation: Queering Ireland Conference, UCD, 14/08/2015

Vaughan, E. (2015). Arrested development: HIV discourse in the media and the ideological function of stigma. Invited presentation: The Project for Emerging Voices and Hidden Histories, NUI Maynooth, 02/12/2015

Funding 2015

RESEARCH PROJECT	TOTAL GRANT	TOTAL AWARDED TO HPRC	FUNDER
INTERNATIONAL FUNDING			
HEPCOMM - Local Community Initiatives to Prevent Overweight & Obesity in Children Across Europe	1,000,000	52,294	European Commission
INTIMAGE Intimacy and Sexual Health among Older People In Europe	255,407	28,601	EU Erasmus
IROHLA - Intervention Research on Health Literacy Among the Ageing Population	2,928,441	140,088	European Commission - 7th Framework Programme
Irish Workplace Behaviour Survey	148,849	148,849	IOSH UK
SPAN: Science for Prevention Academic Network	595,143	37,175	European Commission – Education and Culture (EAC)
Syntheses of the Evidence in Health Promotion and Recommendations for Practice	90,000	11,520	International Union Health Promotion & Education; Picardie Regional Health Agency, France
What Works in Enhancing Social and Emotional Skills during Childhood and Adolescence?	65,196	65,196	Early Intervention Foundation, Social Mobility and Child Poverty Commission and the Cabinet Office, UK
NATIONAL FUNDING			
Cancer Survivorship - Costs, Inequalities and Post-Treatment Follow-Up	668,346	211,935	Health Research Board
Combating Childhood Obesity Through Improving Dietary and Food Environment Measurements	10,000	10,000	NUIG Millennium Fund
Community Context for Literacy	95,000	95,000	Breacadh
Health Behaviour in School-aged Children 5, Ireland (2014-2018)	697,341	697,341	Department of Health
Inequalities in Childhood Cancers	119,290	119,290	Irish Cancer Society
Scoping Review of Case Management in the Treatment of Drug and Alcohol Abuse	15,376	15,376	Health Research Board
Updating the MINDOUT Mental Health Promotion Programme (Phase 1 & 2)	52,182	52,182	Health Service Executive
Young People's Awareness of Alcohol Marketing	62,929	62,929	Alcohol Action Ireland

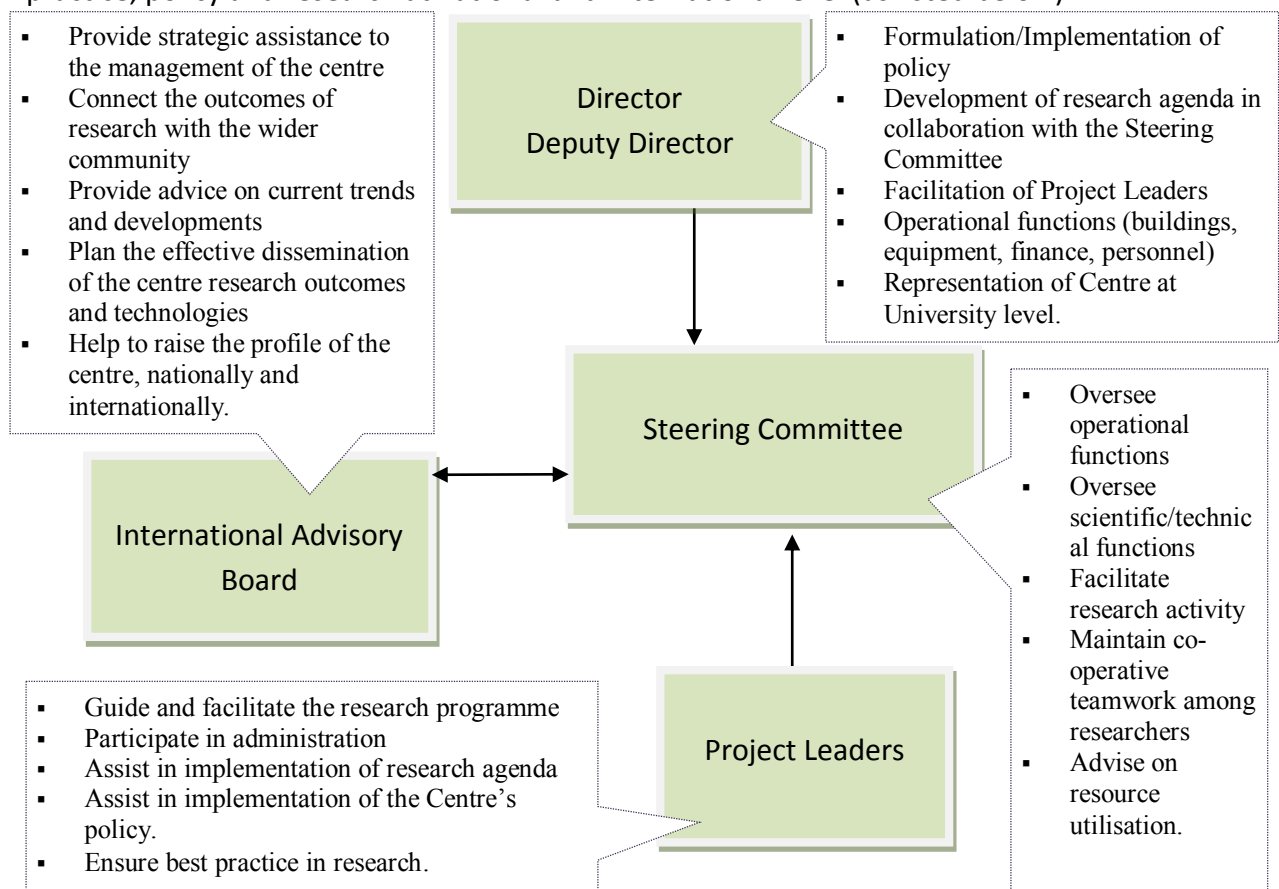
UNFUNDED			
Children's Views on Understanding Their Lives: A Participation Initiative Involving Children			
Interprofessional Education			
Promotion of Mental Health and Primary Prevention of Mental Disorders			
Study on Bullying and Incivility in the University Setting			
The Injury and Violence Secondary Data Analysis Project			
Total Funding	6,803,500	1,747,776	

Governance 2015

The management structure for research centres and units recommended by NUI Galway has been adopted by the Health Promotion Research Centre. We have an internal Steering Committee and an International Advisory Board (see diagram below). The Steering Committee is comprised of the Director, Deputy Director, and Principle Investigators, the Administrative Director and Administrative Secretary. Meetings of the Steering Committee are held bi-monthly alternating with Research Meetings which includes representation from researchers. In addition, plenary meetings are held annually open to all members of HPRC.



The International Advisory Board consists of representatives from Health Promotion practice, policy and research at national and international level (as listed below).



HPRC International Advisory Board 2015



External Members

- Professor Margaret Whitehead, WH Duncan Professor of Public Health, WHO Collaborating Centre for policy research on social determinants of health, Department of Public Health and Policy, University of Liverpool
- Dr John Devlin, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health, Dublin
- Ms Biddy O'Neill, Interim Assistant National Director Health Promotion, Health Services Executive.

University Members

- Professor Lokesh Joshi, Vice-President for Research, Research Office, National University of Ireland Galway
- Professor Tim O'Brien, Dean of the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, National University of Ireland Galway
- Dr Edward Herring, Dean of the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies, National University of Ireland Galway
- Dr Margaret Hodgins, Head of School of Health Sciences, National University of Ireland Galway
- Dr Martina Ni Chúlain, Director of Strategic Development, College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, National University of Ireland Galway.

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