



NATIONAL
DOCTORS
TRAINING
& PLANNING

ANNUAL REPORT
2024

HSE MIDWEST TRAINING LEAD OFFICE



TrainingLeadULHospitals@hse.ie



A message from the Postgrad Medical Training Team

The Postgraduate Medical Training Team is delighted to publish its inaugural Annual Report. This is a snapshot of some of the many initiatives that we have been involved in during 2024.

The Mid West offers unique training opportunities for NCHDs and the role of our office is to ensure NCHDs who train here have the best possible training experience. We are grateful to all of our colleagues, local stakeholders and the NDTP who support us in ensuring that our NCHDs experience high-quality training during their tenure here.

Our priority pillars are Education, Training, Research, Innovation and Simulation. We look forward to building on the strong progress made in 2024 over the next twelve months. Our NCHDs are one of our greatest assets and we are grateful to you for your help and support in ensuring that they have positive memories of their time training with us in the Mid West.

John Mc Manus

Dr John Mc Manus
NDTP Training Lead/
Consultant Physician

Ms Verity Hayes

Ms Verity Hayes
NDTP & HSA Coordinator
HSE Midwest

Mairead de Brun

Mairead de Brun
NDTP & HSA Coordinator
HSE Midwest



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HSE Midwest Medical Training Lead Office 2024



From left:

Ms Dovile Lee – RCPI Coordinator,
Ms Mairead de Brun – NDTP Coordinator,
Dr John Mc Manus – NDTP Training Lead,
Ms Miriam McCarthy – Health Sciences
Academy Manager and
Ms Verity Hayes – NDTP Coordinator

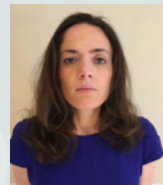
Dr Sarah Carroll – Senior Technical
Officer in Simulation

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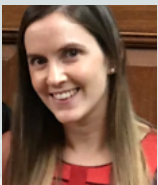
NCHD Leads – HSE Mid West Acute Hospitals 2024–2025



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If you have any queries, suggestions or would like to get in touch for whatever reason please don't hesitate to do so using the above contact details.

MEDICAL COUNCIL

Following the Council's 2019 inspection of HSE Midwest sites under the regional approach to clinical training site inspections, an update was requested in 2023 on the recommendations outlined in the inspection reports. In 2024 61 recommendations were converted to fully compliant and there were also 61 recommendations being advanced across the six hospitals. Documents and guidance have been provided to assist with completing the first returns are being submitted in January 2025, followed by subsequent submissions on 17th July 2025. UHL, UMHL, Croom, Ennis, Nenagh and St John's Hospitals continue to progress in actions converting to full compliance on the recommendations from the Medical Council.

NCHD CONFERENCE

The 2024 NCHD Conference was held on the 16th May 2024 at University Hospital Limerick. Over 150 research abstracts were submitted, with 99 displayed as electronic posters, and 12 Specialty winners presented to a large audience.



Professor Tony Holohan, Dr. Gideon-Phil Meyer, overall Platform Presentations winner and Dr John Mc Manus, NDTP Training Lead

Specialty winners, Judges and Conference organising committee pictured with special guest speaker Professor Tony Holohan.



Congratulations to **Dr. Susan Giblin**, winner of the Intern Network Lightning Round, and **Dr. Gideon-Phil Meyer**, overall Platform Presentations winner. Thank you to everyone who attended this year's NCHD Conference, which introduced a General Practice category, an intern lightning round, and keynote speaker Professor Tony Holohan on resilience. Well done to all finalists and winners!

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING COMMITTEE

In 2024, the Training Lead Office re-established the Postgraduate Medical Training Committee at HSE Midwest hospital sites, chaired by the NDTP Training Lead. The committee provides governance and strategic direction for NCHD training and education, focusing on funding, high-quality training environments, and compliance with national standards. Key roles include enhancing training quality, monitoring action plans, supporting initiatives, promoting the ULHG NCHD App, and collaborating with Lead NCHDs and stakeholders.

NCHD CAREERS EVENING

The annual NCHD Careers Evening took place in CERC, UHL on 10th October 2024. It was a great success with over 100 NCHDs and medical students in attendance. 32 specialties were represented including BST, HST and GP Schemes. NCHDs had the opportunity for one on one career discussions and 8 specialties were showcased by Consultants and senior clinicians in more detail in our auditorium.



DOCTORS CAREERS EVENING
10 OCTOBER, 2024

Topic	Speaker	Time
Introduction	Dr John McManus , Consultant Physician and NDTP Training Lead	5.45 pm
Emergency Medicine	Professor Alan Watts , Consultant in Emergency Medicine, Senior Lecturer in Emergency Medicine	5.55pm
Surgery	Professor Calvin Coffey , General and Colorectal Surgeon ULHG, Foundation Chair of Surgery (CEMS) UL	6.05pm
Anaesthesiology	Dr Sean Farrelly , Specialist Registrar Anaesthesiology	6.15pm
Medicine	Dr Cara Weldrick , Specialist Registrar, Medicine	6.25pm
Psychiatry	Dr Ana Bastos , Clinical Tutor in Psychiatry University of Limerick	6.35pm
General Practice	Dr Brian McEllistream , GP & Scheme Director ICGP Specialist Training Scheme Mid-West	6.45pm
Paediatrics	Dr Daryl Butler , Consultant Paediatrician specialising in Respiratory	6.55pm
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	Dr Nicola O'Riordan , Specialist Registrar in Obstetrics and Gynaecology	7.05pm

ALL ARE WELCOME

- All Specialties Represented
- BST, HST, GP Scheme
- One to one career discussions
- Speakers including Surgery, Paediatrics & Emergency Medicine
- Pizzas & Refreshments

10 OCTOBER 2024
5PM - 7PM

2 CPD Credits

CERC, UHL
Contact Us: TrainingLead@UHospitals@Hse.ie

NCHD TASKFORCE LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

Enhanced Clinical Skills Workshop For International Medical Graduates

In line with the National NCHD Taskforce Final Recommendations Report, The Training Lead Office with support from the Simulation Technician at University of Limerick, organised the first Enhanced Clinical Skills Training for International Medical Graduates at the CERC Simulation Lab on 9th July 2024. Featuring Urinary Catheterization, IVL, Phlebotomy, Blood Culture, ABG, Haemovigilance & ECG. It was a great success with 92% would like to attend more practical clinical skills training and simulation training in the future. This will be run again in January 2025 with new cohort of NCHDs.



Bleep Policy Review and Restructure

To address NCHD Taskforce recommendations on protected time and work-life balance, a Bleep Policy subgroup was formed, including Training Lead Office, NCHD Leads, and Nursing and Operational Directorate representatives. The group reviews bleep policies, allocations, and lunchtime bleep-free periods. Aiming to reduce personal mobile use for clinical issues, a pilot program is underway in the Medicine Directorate.

SPR Hub & Healthy Eating Options

Specialist Registrars Hub, Ground Floor, Nurses Home, UHL is now operational. Thanks to funding provided by NDTP and coordination by the Operational Directorate and Training Lead Office at HSE Midwest. The purpose of this hub is to provide additional hot desks and meeting room with smart TV screen for SPR's to facilitate work, meetings, online training and research that would also enhance patient care.



To accommodate healthy and convenience meals available after hours to staff the HSE Midwest Operational Directorate have installed SMART fridge vending machines in University Hospital Limerick and Croom Hospital

NCHD NETWORKING EVENT

January 25th 2024 NCHD Leads held the first NCHD Networking Event in the CERC Auditorium.

This was an ideal opportunity for NCHDs to engage with the Leads of their directorate and discuss any challenged or opportunities and to also speak with Medical Manpower and NiSRIP representatives to attend/present/provide relevant information to NCHDs eg transferring expenses, any other relevant topical items.



UNIVERSITY MATERNITY HOSPITAL LIMERICK NCHD ROOMS REFURBISHMENT

Thanks to generous funding provided from NDTP and National NCHD Taskforce, a recent refurbishment was completed of the NCHD Study and On call rooms at UMHL. NCHD's were heavily involved in the redesign and special thanks goes to Dr Anthony Sheppard (NCHD), Megan Rohan (Project Support), Dr Mendinara Imcha (Clinical Director of Maternal & Child Health) and Verity Hayes (NDTP Coordinator) for coordinating this project. The purpose of this refurbishment was to aid in improving morale, reducing fatigue, reducing burnout and assist with staff retention of NCHDs. Supplying a suitable working environment where NCHD's could undergo online training, research and education that would also enhance patient care.

AFTER

BEFORE



EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT REFURBISHMENT

Thanks to generous funding provided by the NDTP Training Lead Office, a recent refurbishment of furniture was completed in the Emergency Department kitchen. With NCHD numbers increased significantly in the ED Department over the past 18 months, it is essential to have sufficient facilities to support their rest and recuperation.

BEFORE



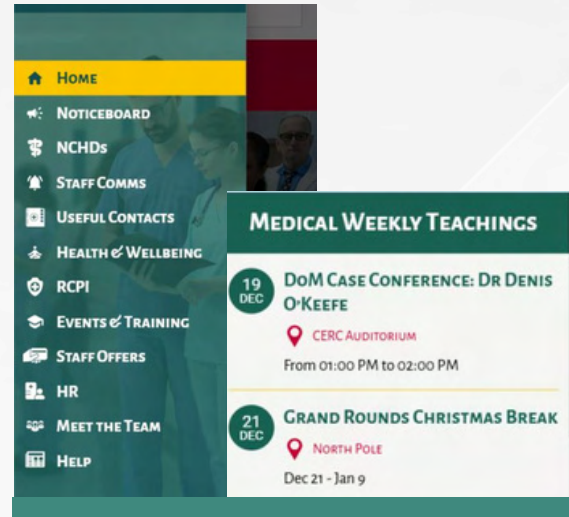
AFTER



NCHD APP

Following the success of the “Highly Commended” NCHD App at the HSE Excellence Awards in 2023, it continues to be a valuable resource for all NCHDs on placement across HSE Midwest sites.

Enhancements for 2024 include updated and more comprehensive contact details, dial-in information for Medical Case Conferences and BST Teaching, as well as staff offers.



WINTER SIMULATION SCHOOL SERIES

The year concluded with a ‘Winter Sim School’ on December 9th, held in collaboration with the National Simulation Office. This full-day event was an excellent introduction for healthcare providers and educators to learn how to deliver high quality simulation-based education and understand core aspects of modern simulation. Led by Prof. Dara Byrne (Professor of Simulation), the session welcomed 21 attendees, who gained a great introduction to task trainers, manikins, and moulage techniques.



Multidisciplinary attendees from HSE Midwest sites who attended the workshop.

EFFECTIVE MEDICAL INTERVIEW SKILLS TRAINING

In December 2024, 36 NCHDs (SHO/REG) across HSE Midwest acute sites attended the annual Effective Medical Interview Skills workshops expertly facilitated by Jo Irwin i4 Training. This impactful session focused on refining interview techniques to support and advance their medical careers. These workshops are organised annually ahead of the scheme & non scheme interviews. These popular workshops are organised by the Training Lead Team with sponsored by NDTP



NCHDs from HSE Midwest sites attending the Effective Medical Skills workshop in Dec 2024

SUPPORT FOR THE RESUS TRAINING DEPARTMENT

In November 2024, HSE Mid West Resuscitation Training Department based within the NPDU, UHL received a new high fidelity, Resus Annie manikin sponsored by NDTP and provided by the Training Lead Team. This manikin will be used to support Interdisciplinary Advanced Life Support Training throughout HSE Mid West. This resource allows us to facilitate more realistic, interactive Simulation based training sessions. The Resuscitation Training Department/NPDU are very grateful for this resource.



Verity Hayes, Marie O’Hora (CNS Resuscitation Training), Anne Mc Nulty (CNM2 Resuscitation Training), Katie Tierney (Nurse Practice Development Co-ordinator), Juliette Mc Sweeney (CNM2 Resuscitation Training), Dr John Mc Manus, Deirdre Mc Donagh (CNM3 Simulation Nurse Educator)

NEW LAPAROSCOPIC COURSES FOR NCHDS

A full-day workshop on groin hernia surgery took place on August 31st, followed by a bowel anastomosis techniques course on November 22nd. Both events were well attended, with surgical trainees earning 8 CPD credits for each session. Organized by Mr. Nasir Ahmad, Consultant General and Colorectal Surgeon, these courses provided valuable hands-on training. A special thanks to the NDTP office at UHL for sponsoring the synthetic models used for the bowel and hernia simulations.



NEW BUTTERFLY POINT-OF-CARE ULTRASOUND DEVICE FOR PAEDIATRICS

Dr Atif Kahlil, Consultant Paediatrician and Dr Ciara O’Shea, Paediatric SpR and training lead applying the Butterfly point-of-care ultrasound device. The Paediatrics Team were “very grateful to the NDTP for funding this device. It has been great to have on the unit for clinical/educational needs” Dr Daryl Butler, Consultant Paediatrician HSE Mid West.



Dr Atif Kahlil, Consultant Paediatrician and Dr Ciara O’Shea, Paediatric SpR conducting training at UHL.



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