



Patron: Michael D. Higgins President of Ireland

GLOBAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM Friday 25th October 2019

<u>Programme overview – updated 2 September 2019</u>

Launch of 'Global Health Education Ireland' - towards quality health care for all

1. Introduction

In 2018 the Forum of Irish Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies established a Global Health Strategic Working Group. This unprecedented initiative brings all the medical specialities together with a shared vision and ambition to improve healthcare in less developed countries as well as in Ireland. We are concerned at the global shortfall of trained health workers which is estimated to reach 18 million by 2030 and seek to play a role in addressing this challenge.

Building on existing engagement by some of the Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies, the Group will harness their combined expertise and collaborate in new initiatives to educate and train health professionals and improve quality of services in low and middle income countries. We will be seeking to collaborate with nursing and other health and social care disciplines. By working together we can contribute to universal health coverage and *'reaching those furthest behind first'*, in line with *'A Better World'*, Ireland's new International Development Policy.

The Group will launch its initiative as 'Global Health Education Ireland' on the 25th October 2019, at a Symposium in the College of Anaesthesiologists of Ireland. The symposium will address key challenges facing health workforce development in low and middle income countries and how to incorporate sustainable solutions into medical education and training in those countries and here in Ireland. We are inviting international and national experts in the areas of health workforce development and medical training.

Objectives

- Launch 'Global Health Education Ireland' and discuss strategy and vision
- Examine ways of collaborating with low and middle income countries to strengthen education and training
- Discuss how Irish training bodies can incorporate global health education and training into their programmes

Session 1: Opening Session

This plenary sets the scene for the symposium. It gives participants the background to the event and describes the establishment of the Forum Global Heath Strategic Working Group. It presents an overview of the global health workforce situation and the particular challenges facing low and middle income countries. It gives a perspective from Irish Aid on addressing this issue in the context of Ireland's new international development policy, 'A Better World'. The Health Workforce Department at WHO will share a message by video. There will also be a perspective from the HSE on engagement by the Irish healthcare service. The Minister for Health has been invited to open the event and launch 'Global Health Education Ireland'.

Session 2: Partnering with Low and Middle Income Countries for Health Workforce Development

This session presents a range of experiences involving the Medical Training Bodies, medical specialists and other health disciplines working with less developed countries on initiatives to educate and train health workers and improve quality of care. There will be some speakers from low income countries. The discussion will focus on how Global Health Education Ireland can bring the training bodies and other stakeholder organisations together to collaborate on new initiatives.

Lightning Presentations

This is a short session to give Training Bodies and registrars an opportunity to make a brief presentation on something about their current work. Registrar presentations will be drawn from the abstracts submitted (5 minutes each).

Session 3: Developing a Global Health Workforce in Ireland

This session focuses on education and training programmes here in Ireland. Health is Ireland is part of global health and health professionals need certain 'global health' skills whether they work in Ireland or abroad. The session will share existing opportunities for global health training provided by the Irish Training Bodies. It will discuss whether there are core global health capabilities that could be incorporated into the curricula of postgraduate health professionals. Current SpRs will share their perspectives and the session will invite suggestions on potential new education and training opportunities.

Closing Session

The session will start with prize giving for the poster presentations. It will summarise the day and discuss key points that will inform the vision and future strategy of Global Health Education Ireland. It will highlight next steps in the initiative and finish with concluding remarks.