



RCSI

INSTITUTE OF
GLOBAL SURGERY



FORUM

OF IRISH
POSTGRADUATE
MEDICAL
TRAINING BODIES

#GHEI2020

Global Health Education Ireland Symposium 2020

Friday 23 October 2020

**Learning From COVID-19 –
Improving Health For All Through
Global Health Education**

Free registration here



4 CPD credits by RCSI

<https://www.rcsi.com/globalhealthsymposium>

Introduction

In 2018, the Forum of Irish Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies established a Global Health Strategic Working Group. This brings all the medical specialities together with a shared vision and ambition to improve healthcare in less developed countries as well as in Ireland. Our primary focus is on the education and training of health professionals in low and middle income countries. We also seek to educate health professionals in Ireland with global health competencies so as to better serve patients in our own health service.

In October 2019, we held our inaugural global health symposium and launched 'Global Health Education Ireland'. In 2020, we have been confronted by a new challenge with the COVID-19 pandemic. With restrictions on travel and major disruptions to normal activities and health care services, we need new approaches and strategies for global health education. The symposium will examine some of the current challenges of working with partners in far off countries when we cannot meet face to face. It will also reflect on the growing need for our health workforce in Ireland to be better equipped with global health skills due to global issues such as migration, climate change and the pandemic.



Session 1: (9:00 – 10:15)

Global health education and the pandemic

This session opens the symposium and provides a high level introduction and overview of training and education for health professionals in the current global health context with COVID-19. The Minister of State for Overseas Development Aid and Diaspora has been invited to give opening remarks. The session will provide an update on Global Health Education Ireland following its launch at the inaugural symposium last year. Speakers from WHO, Irish Aid and the HSE will provide global and national perspectives on the challenges presented by COVID-19, both in tackling the pandemic and in dealing with its wider impact on health services and people's general health and wellbeing. This will speak about health care during the pandemic, supporting at a distance, addressing inequalities and deficiencies highlighted by COVID-19, and how to 'build back better'. They will address the implications for education and development of the health workforce globally and in Ireland.

Moderator:

Mr Eric O'Flynn, Programme Director (Education, Training and Advocacy),
CSI Institute of Global Surgery

Speakers:

- Welcome from **Prof Ronan O'Connell, RCSI President**
- **Mr Colm Brophy TD**, Minister of State for Overseas Development and Diaspora
- **Dr Mike Ryan**, Executive Director, Health Emergencies Programme, WHO
- **Dr David Weakliam**, Chair, Global Health Strategic Working Group, Forum of Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies
- **Dr Colm Henry**, Chief Clinical Officer, HSE
- **Ms Michelle Winthrop**, Policy Director, Policy Unit, Irish Aid, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Session 2: (10:20 – 11:35)

Partnerships for education and training in a changing world

This session involves presentations from a number of medical training bodies and health partnerships working with low and middle income countries on initiatives to educate and train health workers and improve quality of care. The majority of speakers will come from low and middle income countries.

Presenters will explore areas such as:

1. What is the focus of your partnership in terms of education and training?
2. What are the challenges during COVID-19 for education and training in your partnership and how have you overcome them?
3. Are there things you want to do in the future based on your experience to date?
4. How might trainees in your country and Irish trainees be involved in or benefit from such initiatives?

Moderator:

Dr Brian Kinirons, President, College of Anaesthesiologists of Ireland

Speakers:

- **Dr Doreen Mashava**, Registrar, College of Anaesthesiologists of East, Central and Southern Africa
- **Ms Stella Itungu**, Chief Operating Officer, College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa
- **Dr Joe Gallagher**, General Practitioner, Gorey Malawi Health Partnership
- **Dr Desalegn Bekele**, A/Coordinator, Health Service Quality Improvement Team, Ministry of Health, Ethiopia
- **Dr Jonathan Sitali**, Registrar, Zambia College of Medicine and Surgery

Session 3: (11:40 – 12:55) Global health education in Ireland – what next?

Within undergraduate and postgraduate medical training curricula in Ireland, education in global health competencies is limited. The aim of this session is to learn about developments in global health education that are currently underway. Our speakers will draw on developments from across the continuum of medical education and training, different specialty areas and include doctors in non-training posts.

Additionally, as COVID-19 delineates the landscape of our lives, the Irish Doctors for the Environment will draw our attention to how pressing and relevant it is to direct training efforts towards the interdependent domains of population, and planetary health. This will provide an opportunity to share ideas and generate a discussion about how best to progress global health education in Ireland. We hope to explore considerations such as:

1. What are the core-competencies in global health that are considered important for medical education and training in Ireland?
2. Should global health competencies be incorporated into the core curriculum in all postgraduate specialty training programmes?
3. If so, how might this be achieved? Should this be made a compulsory part of postgraduate training or should it take the form of an elective module? And, should this include the expansion of overseas training placements as a recognised part of postgraduate training across specialties?

Moderator: Dr Nadine Ferris France, Executive Director, Irish Global Health Network

Speakers:

- Prof Diarmuid O'Donovan, Professor in Global Health, Queen's University Belfast
- Undergraduate education speaker
- Dr Niamh McCarthy, Co-chair, Subgroup on Incorporating Global Health into Postgraduate Medical Training Programmes, Forum of Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies
- Prof Mark Shrimme, O'Brien Chair of Global Surgery, RCSI
- Prof Frank Murray, Director, National Doctors Training Programme, HSE
- Dr Sandra Green, Co-founder, Irish Doctors for the Environment

