Dr Cathal Cadogan was awarded a joint seed funding award from the Irish Cancer Society and AIIHPC in 2018 for a project on ‘Medicines optimisation for patients living with cancer and receiving palliative care’. This project aims to develop and validate criteria for identifying potentially inappropriate prescribing in patients living with cancer and receiving palliative care. The project consists of three key phases; Phase 1 will involve developing and validating a list of criteria for identifying potentially inappropriate prescribing in patients living with cancer and receiving palliative care using a Delphi consensus exercise with palliative care experts. Phase 2 will involve a retrospective analysis of prescribing practices using medical record data within a hospice. Phase 3 will involve testing the feasibility of applying the criteria (developed in Phase 1) to the hospice data. To date, a systematic scoping review has been undertaken to characterise prescribing practices and identify methods used to evaluate prescribing practices in patients receiving palliative care. The Delphi study is ongoing.

Dr Frank Doyle has received recent funding for projects indirectly related to palliative care, including an Irish Cancer Society Psycho-Oncology Research Award “Managing depression among patients with cancer: Identifying what works best through Network Meta-Analysis and Stakeholder consultation” (Principal Investigator: Dr Maria Pertl) and is the Republic of Ireland lead for an ongoing Cross-border Healthcare Intervention Trials in Ireland Network study entitled: “Anticipatory Care Planning Intervention for Older Adults at Risk of Functional Decline: A Primary Care Feasibility Study” (Principal Investigator: Professor Kevin Brazil, Queen’s University Belfast).

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland is a proud member of AIIHPC Palliative Care Research Network #PCRN @AIIHPC.

### Our PCRN Members

- **Dr Cathal Cadogan**, Lecturer, School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences
- **Dr Frank Doyle**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology

### The Benefits of AIIHPC PCRN Membership

AIIHPC PCRN has allowed us to stay informed about relevant developments in palliative care research, policy and practice on the island of Ireland and internationally and has given us a community of health professionals to share health research challenges and solutions.

AIIHPC PCRN has allowed us to build our network of collaborators and extend our fields of research, with real potential for all-Ireland policy and practice impact.

AIIHPC PCRN provides outstanding opportunities for the dissemination of information relating to our palliative care research to both patients and practitioners.

### Our Research Highlights:

We would like to connect with researchers at any stage in their career who might consider undertaking research into any aspect of palliative care or a specific life-limiting condition, or healthcare provision for same.

We have expertise in a range of quantitative and qualitative methodologies, including systematic reviews, theory-based interventions, psychometrics, randomised trials, qualitative studies and so on.

We especially welcome any queries regarding postgraduate research opportunities within the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.