**OUR PCRN MEMBERS**

- **Dr Nicola Cornally**, is a Senior Lecturer at the School of Nursing and Midwifery in University College Cork. Her research interests include; pain management in older adults, dementia palliative care and contemporary end-of-life care issues. She is the Irish Partner Lead on a JPND funded project exploring end of life decision making for advanced dementia. She led the development of the first Online Postgraduate Diploma in Gerontology in Ireland, which commenced in 2013, in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, UCC. She represents UCC on the AIIHPC Strategic Scientific Committee.

- **Dr Siobhán Fox**, Lecturer and Post-doctoral Researcher, Centre for Gerontology and Rehabilitation. Her research focuses on palliative care for people with neurodegenerative diseases, in particular dementia and Parkinson’s disease. She is currently managing the ‘the Model for Dementia Palliative Care Project’, developing a new care model for the HSE. She previously coordinated the Irish Guidelines for Palliative Care for People with Parkinson’s Disease.

- **Dr Suzanne Timmons**, Senior Lecturer and Geriatrician, Centre for Gerontology and Rehabilitation. Her research programmes span palliative care, psychotropic prescribing, health service evaluation, delirium and exercise interventions. She is co-investigator on 3 EU projects, and PI on numerous national projects and a key influencer of dementia policy in Ireland. She is clinical lead for the HSE’s National Dementia Office since 2017.

**OUR RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS**

Collaborations between UCC PCRN members and AIIHPC include:

- **CONCORDAT**: This project addresses the knowledge and skill gap of HCPs on the palliative care needs of people with COPD, supported by GSK Ireland funding. The aim is to design, deliver and evaluate an evidence based educational guidance document and online module for HCPs.

- **MySupport Study**: This project is part of a six country consortium to up scale the Family Carer Decision Support (FCDS) Intervention. The FCDS intervention has been designed to inform family carers about end-of-life care options available to a person living with advanced dementia. Website: [http://mysupportstudy.eu/](http://mysupportstudy.eu/)

- **Design and Dignity Project**: The aim was to independently evaluate the Design and Dignity programme, using a post occupancy evaluation framework, with a focus on establishing impact on patients, their families and acute hospital staff. Report (March 2019) available: [http://tiny.cc/73j3zf](http://tiny.cc/73j3zf)

- **The Model for Dementia Palliative Care Project**: The aim of this HRB-funded study is to develop a service delivery-model for people living with dementia in the community in Ireland. More information, and monthly blogs, can be found on our website: [www.pallcare4dementia.com](http://www.pallcare4dementia.com)

- **Irish Guidelines for Palliative Care for People with Parkinson’s Disease (PD)**: This project, funded by HRB, involved a survey of HCPs, interviews with HCPS, and interviews with people with PD and their families, to explore palliative care needs in PD. National guidelines, available: [http://tiny.cc/zw4zf](http://tiny.cc/zw4zf)

- **Palliative Care in Neurodegeneration Workshop**: Working with AIIHPC, we secured IRCHSS funding to host a targeted workshop in Cork to promote interdisciplinary collaboration in this area.

**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 with.

- Being part of the PCRN has led to the development of research teams, with common interests, who have successfully applied for numerous research grant applications, including JPND, HRB Collaborative Doctorate Awards, HRB KEDS and CHITIN, to name a few.

- Previously, being part of the AIIHPC ECRF supported Siobhán to link in with other palliative care researchers and to collaborate on larger projects.

- AIIHPC/Voices4Care – public patient involvement group has provided us with an opportunity to connect with people with life limiting conditions. This has been an invaluable resource and has helped the research team to shape participant information leaflets for the Design and Dignity project, supported the development of branding and logo design for the MySupport study, and provided feedback and oversight on the key deliverables of the Model for Dementia Palliative Care Project.

- AIIHPC has supported other Knowledge Transfer and Exchange activities on many of our projects, including designing and hosting the website for The Model for Dementia Palliative Care Project, mySupport study, advising on blog posts, on branding and marketing.

**WE ARE KEEN TO COLLABORATE ON:**

We would like to connect with researchers at any stage in their career who are interested in researching end of life decision making in advanced dementia.

We would also like to connect and collaborate with researchers and health care professionals to support the development of evidence-based guidance in the area of pain management, hydration & nutrition and medication that meet the needs of people with dementia living in long-term care.

We wish to support researchers in the early stages of their career in the area of dementia palliative care by becoming involved with our early career researcher forum in the JPND MySupport study. We are particularly interested in working with future Marie Curie fellow applicants. For further information, email [info@mysupportstudy.eu](mailto:info@mysupportstudy.eu)

We would also like to connect and collaborate with researchers and health care professionals involved in providing dementia palliative care services, to support the development of a new Model.

We would be delighted to hear from researchers at any career stage looking to collaborate on projects exploring palliative care needs of people with Parkinson’s disease.

**Contact Information:**

Name: Dr Nicola Cornally, Senior Lecturer, School of Nursing and Midwifery  
Email: n.cornally@ucc.ie  
Phone No: 021 4901478

University College Cork is a proud member of AIIHPC Palliative Care Research Network #PCRN @AIIHPC

*Please note this poster was created for AIIHPC 8th Annual PCRN Symposium held in Dublin, Nov 2019.*