



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

Health Promotion Research Centre

Annual Report

January – December 2009

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i. Foreword

We are pleased to present the 2009 annual report of the Health Promotion Research Centre (HPRC) at the National University of Ireland Galway. This has been an exciting and productive year in the Health Promotion Research Centre. Responding to a difficult economic and service climate in Ireland, the staff of the HPRC have shown resilience and commitment to bring us through our most successful year to date, and to ensure our position on the national and international landscape of Health Promotion Research. We have made considerable progress on many fronts, with substantial increases in research funding applications and successes, publications and other dissemination and recruitment of high quality PhD students.

In recognition of our track record and contribution to the international research community, the HPRC was in November 2009 designated by the World Health Organisation world headquarters in Geneva as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research. This is a major achievement of international recognition and the contribution of all HPRC staff should be acknowledged. This designation as a WHO Collaborating Centre will facilitate our work and help ensure the relevance of our theory development, evaluation and methodological expansion to the broader WHO mission. However, our lack of suitable accommodation remains a barrier to further expansion and recruitment and is the most important practical issue facing the HPRC in the short and medium term.

This annual report presents an overview of our research activities during 2009, including descriptions of our current projects and dissemination activities. Some 25 individual projects are grouped into the four main thematic areas of our research: Population Health Research, Programme Design and Evaluation, Health Services Research and Policy Research. Our dissemination is broken down by formal scientific publications, including peer-reviewed journal articles and reports, conference presentations – both invited and peer-reviewed, press and broadcast media coverage of our activities and includes details of the 13th Annual Health Promotion Conference, which this year was entitled ‘Closing the Gap in Child and Adolescent Health Promotion: the Settings Approach’. This years report indicates the extent of our research partnerships, with both funders and other research teams in Ireland and abroad, who we acknowledge with gratitude.

Of particular note this year are new funding for research with an international dimension, including the establishment of a programme for the dissemination of evidenced-based health communication activities in the EU and EEA (funded by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control), developing competencies and professional standards for health promotion capacity building in Europe (funded by the European Agency for Health and Consumers), creating a common foundation in social care (funded by the European Commission), reviewing evidence-based mental health promotion and primary/secondary interventions (funded by the Department of Health, UK) and the latest round of the WHO-Europe collaborative study – Health Behaviours in School-aged Children (funded by the Department of Health and Children). Also important have been developing relationships with local and national funders such as the Western Region Drugs Task Force, the National Academy for Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (NAIRTL) and Mental Health Ireland.

This year, alongside our on-going dissemination activities, we have been centrally involved in special issues of a number of key journals in our field, all stemming from our growing international reputation and collaborations. The International Journal of Public Health published a special supplement drawing on cross-national dimensions of the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children study in Europe and North America. Health Education and Behaviour published a special section on achieving excellence in credentialing for global health promotion and the journal Global Health Promotion published a special issue on the development of the Galway Consensus Conference (held in NUI Galway) and the Galway Consensus Statement on capacity building and competencies for Health Promotion and Health Education in association with the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE).

This year we continued with our conference series addressing topical and strategic issues in Health Promotion, with a focus on child and adolescent health. This 13th health promotion conference held in NUI Galway in June 2009 included 7 keynote speakers, 49 presenters in 12 parallel sessions and 16 poster presentations, drawing the largest ever registration to our annual event. It included 12 groups of young people from around Ireland presenting on their own initiatives to improve young lives, the launch of a new publication on the Ethics of research with children in Ireland and a special symposium on Zippy's Friends – an emotional well-being programme for children in primary schools.

It has a busy and productive year in the HPRC, and the contribution of all staff and research students must be acknowledged. As we continue to develop and periodically review and re-focus our work, the vision and motivation of all project leaders, researchers and administrators is vital. We wish to acknowledge all our funders, research partners and particularly the members of the International HPRC Advisory Board who have collaborated, supported and guided us over the past year. We look forward to 2010 with a renewed sense of purpose and enthusiasm for our overall aim, which is:

to produce high quality research, of national and international significance, that supports the development of best practice and policy in the promotion of health.



Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn

Director of the Health Promotion Research Centre

ii. Introduction



a. Health Promotion at NUI Galway

The Discipline of Health Promotion at NUI Galway was established in 1990 as part of revised national infrastructure for Health Promotion in Ireland. The original goals of the Discipline were to provide training, education and research in Health Promotion to support national developments. Over the past 19 years the Discipline has grown and developed both in relation to teaching programmes and research endeavours. We now occupy a key role in national and international developments around teaching, learning and research in Health Promotion and the Discipline is thriving in a difficult climate. The current staff complement includes 13 academic and teaching staff and 2.4 administrators.

Our Mission is to promote health and wellbeing, and to reduce inequities in health by:

- a. providing high quality and innovative education and training
- b. stimulating, conducting, and disseminating exemplary research
- c. contributing to the development of healthy public policy and best practice in health promotion
- d. working in the University and the wider community in ways that reflect and support the principles and values of health promotion .

As the sole core academic unit in Ireland dedicated to Health Promotion we contribute to programmes and initiatives across the country and internationally designed to further the training and education of graduates in the core skills, competencies and theoretical underpinnings of Health Promotion. We welcome students from across Ireland and abroad to a range of degree programmes designed to meet these objectives. Our flagship programme is the Higher Diploma/MA in Health Promotion, which is offered full-time in Galway and on a part-time basis in both Dublin and Galway. We also offer a four-year part-time programme in Social Care, with Certificate, Diploma and BA Degree options. Undergraduate and post-graduate degree programmes in Occupational Health, Health and Safety and Ergonomics are offered in

collaboration with colleagues from the Disciplines of Industrial Engineering, Law, Management and Physics, while the BA Connect in Childhood Studies is offered in collaboration with colleagues in Italian, Psychology, Sociology and Political Studies, History and the Irish Centre for Human Rights.

Uniquely, we work with a range of external partners to offer Specialist Certificates in Health Promotion, including in Oral Health (Dental Health Foundation), Settings Approach to Health (HSE Mid-Leinster), Youth Health (National Youth Council of Ireland) and Sexual Health (AIDS West). As a Discipline we contribute to the undergraduate Medical curriculum through modules such as 'Understanding health and illness in society', 'Public health and health promotion' and 'Global health'. Other teaching contributions within NUI Galway include to the post-graduate programmes in Family Support, Social Work, Health Psychology, and Primary Care. Further details are available from www.nuigalway.ie/hpr.

b. The Health Promotion Research Centre

The aim of the HPRC is to *build health promotion capacity through the generation and application of health promotion research into practice and policy*. As the only dedicated health promotion research centre in Ireland, the HPRC has played an important role over the past 19 years in providing the research and knowledge base for the development of national policy, programme planning, implementation and evaluation. Our focus is also on the local, regional and international and we conduct research and develop partnerships relevant to practice and strategic development at all these levels.

The HPRC works in close collaboration with policymakers, practitioners and research partners in documenting the changing population health needs and developing and evaluating health promotion policies and strategies in line with best international practice. The strategic role of the Centre in supporting national capacity building and informing best practice and policy places the Centre in a unique position.

In addition to this applied focus, theoretical and methodological developments in health promotion research are disseminated through scholarly publications and in collaboration with leading research partners in Europe and globally. The Centre works in partnership with both knowledge producers and knowledge users in the international health promotion community. HPRC has an active multidisciplinary research programme of work, and is supported by an experienced team of 31 staff,

including 13 core academic, 1.6 administrative staff and 16 contract researchers. HPRC staff have expertise in both quantitative and qualitative research and employ experimental, survey, participative, review and evaluation research methods as appropriate to specific projects. Research clusters are formed around the key health promotion settings, topics and population groups based on staff expertise, areas of interest and commissioned work.

The Centre has dedicated administrative staff as well as a clear management structure comprising its Director, Project Leaders, Internal Steering Committee and an Advisory Board comprised of national and international experts in the field. Staff of the Centre also contribute to educational programmes in Health Promotion and the supervision of Doctoral and Masters research dissertations.

iii. Profiles



M. Barry

C. Connolly

B. Griffin

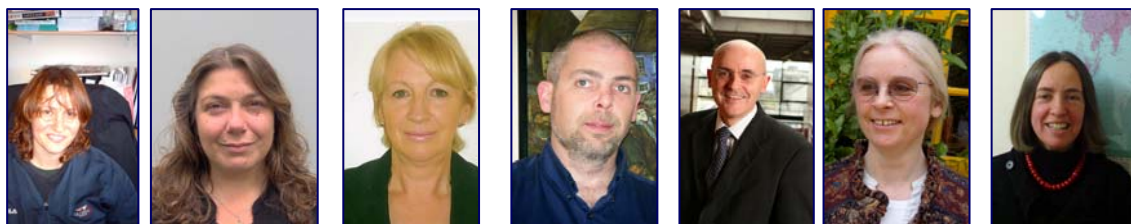
M. Hodgins

V. Hogan

V. McKenna

a. Academic Staff

| Staff Member | Title & Qualifications | Research Expertise |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Dr Margaret M. Barry</p> <p>Professor of Health Promotion & Public Health</p> <p><i>(on sabbatical leave September 2009-August 2010)</i></p> | <p>Head of WHO Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research</p> <p>Project Leader</p> <p>MA, PhD</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health promotion • Evidence-based practice • Evaluation research in health promotion • Capacity building & health promotion competencies. |
| <p>Dr Claire Connolly</p> <p>Lecturer in Health Promotion</p> | <p>Project Leader</p> <p>MB, Bch BAO, FFARCSI, MA</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breastfeeding • Childhood immunisation • Communication skills of health professionals • Experience of hospitalisation. |
| <p>Dr Barbara Griffin</p> <p>University Teacher</p> | <p>Project Leader</p> <p>SRN, HV, MSc, PhDMB</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health promotion in social care • Health promotion evaluation • Visual sociology • Participation research in communities. |
| <p>Dr Margaret Hodgins</p> <p>Lecturer in Health Promotion</p> | <p>Project Leader</p> <p>BA, MA, PhD, Reg. Psychology</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The health promoting university • Workplace health promotion • Healthy ageing. |
| <p>Ms Victoria Hogan</p> <p>Lecturer in Health Promotion (Occupational Health)</p> | <p>Project Leader</p> <p>BA, MSc, CMIOSH, RSP</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational stress • Work life integration • Occupational health psychology • Quality of working life. |
| <p>Ms Verna McKenna</p> <p>Lecturer in Health Promotion</p> | <p>Project Leader</p> <p>BA, MA</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence based policy & practice • Implementation guidance for health promotion • Health service access & health inequalities. |



Michal Molcho S. Nic Gabhainn G. Nolan M. Power D. O'Donovan L. Pursell J. Sixsmith

| Staff Member | Title & Qualifications | Research Expertise |
|---|--|---|
| Dr Michal Molcho Lecturer in Health Promotion | Project Leader BA, MA, PhD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adolescents health • Social inequality • Injury & violence prevention • Immigrants' health. |
| Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn Senior Lecturer in Health Promotion | Director, HPRC Project Leader BA, MA, PhD, C.Psychol, AFBPsS, C. Sci. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & health behaviour in childhood & adolescence • Methodologies for health promotion research • School health education & promotion. |
| Ms Geraldine Nolan Lecturer in Health Promotion (part-time) | Project Leader BSc, MSc, Dip (Nut & Dietetics) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective nutrition interventions • Best practice for eating disorder services • Nutrition needs of asylum seekers. |
| Dr Martin Power University Fellow | University Fellow BA, PhD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk & blood • Epistemic communities • Social policy • Adult education. |
| Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan Senior Lecturer in Social & Preventive Medicine (part-time) | Project Leader MD, MSc, FFPHMI, DCH, DTM&H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health inequalities & health policy • Communicable disease control & environmental health • STIs & HIV/AIDS • Health & human rights. |
| Dr Lisa Pursell Lecturer in Health Promotion | Project Leader BSc, PhD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health impact assessment process & methodology • Evaluation of impact assessments • Development of indicators for measuring health inequalities. |
| Dr Jane Sixsmith Lecturer in Health Promotion | Deputy Director - HPRC Project Leader RGN, HV, BSc, MA, PhD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & the media • Qualitative methodologies for health • Health services research. |



V Batt C Costello R. Canavan A. Clarke M. D'Eath C. Dempsey P. Doyle

b. Administrative Staff

| Staff Member | Title & Qualifications | Research Expertise |
|--|--|---|
| Dr Vivienne Batt (part-time) | Research Administrator BA, PhD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's counselling provision • Infant feeding practices & policies. |
| Ms Christina Costello | Research Secretary | |

c. Research Staff

| Staff Member | Title & Qualifications | Research Expertise |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| Mr Reamonn Canavan | Researcher BSc, MA, P Grad Dip | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health promotion • Workplace health promotion • Mental health & social marginalisation. |
| Ms Aleisha Clarke | Researcher & PhD student BEd, MEd | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child & adolescent mental health • Schools mental health promotion • Suicide prevention. |
| Ms Pauline Clerkin | Researcher BSc, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary & social care • Health inequalities • Children & young people's health. |
| Ms Maureen D'Eath | Researcher & PhD student BA, LLB, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health inequalities • Health needs assessments • Disability. |
| Ms Colette Dempsey | Researcher BA, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health promotion competencies & capacity building • Mental health promotion • Promoting mental health in the early years. |
| Ms Priscilla Doyle | Researcher BA, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people & health • Nutrition, obesity & physical activity • Media & health. |



C. Kelly

M. Lavelle

S. Mahmood C. O'Keeffe

E. Van Lente

D. Vaughan

L. Walker

| Staff Member | Title & Qualifications | Research Expertise |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Ms Cliona Fitzpatrick | Researcher BA MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child health • Food poverty. |
| Dr Paddy Gillespie | Post Doctoral Researcher BComm, MSc, PhD | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health economics • Health technology assessment. |
| Dr Colette Kelly | Senior Researcher BSc, MSc, PhD, RPHNutr | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health & health behaviour in childhood & adolescence • Pre-school nutrition & health • Nutrition & young people. |
| Ms Mary Jo Lavelle | Researcher BA, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health behaviours; motivators & barriers • Media & risk assessment • Social care & health • Mental health promotion. |
| Dr Samir Mahmood | Researcher MBBS, MPH, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building in health promotion (Global/National) • Health communication for communicable diseases. |
| Ms Clíonadh O'Keeffe | Researcher | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender development & governance • The right to health. |
| Ms Maeve O'Sullivan | Researcher MB, BCh, BAO, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health promotion • Whole school approach to social and emotional learning. |
| Mr Eric Van Lente | Researcher BE, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-based health promotion/social & emotional learning • Mental health promotion & theory. |
| Ms Deirdre Vaughan | Researcher RGN, MA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIV/AIDS & sexual health promotion • Global health, conflict & development. |
| Ms Lorraine Walker | Research Assistant | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health behaviour in school-aged children. |

d. Doctoral Students

| Name of PhD student: | Name of Supervisor | Proposed Title |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| Mr Brendan Dineen | Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan | Identification of prevalence, causes and the need for eye care services. |
| Ms Clare Carroll | Dr Jane Sixsmith | Understanding early intervention services in Ireland. |
| Ms Aleisha Clarke | Professor Margaret Barry | An evaluation of Zippy's Friends, an emotional literacy programme for children in primary school. |
| Ms Maureen D'Eath | Dr Jane Sixsmith | Does participation on the Diploma phase of the BA in Social Care enhance the self efficacy of the graduates as social care practitioners? |
| Dr Khalifa Elmusharaf | Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan | Strengthening health system in Africa to improve reproductive health during and post conflict. |
| Mr Declan Flanagan | Dr Michal Molcho | Fun & games & health; a mixed methods study measuring the impact of government health initiatives & recommendations in the North West of Ireland. |
| Ms Aoife Gavin | Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn | Understanding the lives of children with disability/chronic illness. |
| Ms Susan Hennessy | Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan | Determining the future service needs for cardiovascular patients in the West of Ireland, using cardiovascular epidemiological modelling tools. |
| Ms Victoria Hogan | Dr Margaret Hodgins | An analysis of work life balance & occupational stressors within the Irish university system. |
| Ms Jacky Jones <i>(graduated 2009)</i> | Professor Margaret Barry | Health promotion partnerships: An analysis of the factors that contribute to successful partnership functioning. |

| Name of PhD student: | Name of Supervisor | Proposed Title |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Ms Patricia McSharry | Dr Margaret Hodgins | The effects of a physical activity intervention programme on a group of undergraduate students' short & long term knowledge & behaviours with regard to physical activity. |
| Ms Teresa Meaney | Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn | An exploration of Irish mothers experience of persisting with breastfeeding: a phenomenological study. |
| Ms Christina Murphy | Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn | From paper to practice: An analysis of teacher-delivered relationship and sexuality education in Ireland. |
| Ms Mary O'Hara | Dr Margaret Hodgins | Quality of life issues: Juvenile idiopathic arthritis & young people in Ireland. |
| Ms Siobhán O'Higgins | Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn | Why do young people wear condoms? An exploration of positive sexual health behaviours using participative methodologies to create a workable resource for schools. |
| Ms Lisa Shanahan | Professor Margaret Barry | The implementation and evaluation of Mental Health Aid in an Irish context. |
| Ms Leigh-Ann Sweeney | Drs Saoirse Nic Gabhainn & Michal Molcho | An exploratory study of sex workers psychosocial experiences of the Irish healthcare system. |

| Name of MD student: | Name of Supervisor | Proposed Title |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| Dr Breda Smyth <i>(graduated 2009)</i> | Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan | Mortality inequalities in Ireland 2000-2006. |

e. Doctoral Students' Abstracts

Congratulations to the two doctoral students, Jacky Jones and Breda Smyth who graduated this year with a PhD and MD in Health Promotion, respectively. The thesis abstracts of these two graduates are presented below.

| | |
|---|---|
| Dr Breda Smyth | Mortality Inequalities in Ireland 2000-2006 |
| <p><i>Objectives:</i> To investigate inequalities in mortality in the population of the Republic of Ireland, for the period 2000-2006 at national and local authority area, in order to improve the understanding of socio-economic inequalities in mortality, inform national and local authority policy, and facilitate informed change in health inequalities in Ireland.</p> <p><i>Design:</i> Secondary analysis was carried out on national mortality datasets and census data.</p> <p><i>Population:</i> The population of the Republic of Ireland, for the period 2000-2006 at national and local authority area.</p> <p><i>Methods and Analysis:</i> Population data was obtained from the Central Statistics Office (CSO), for the census years 2002 and 2006. Population mortality data was obtained for the period 2000-2006. This was subcategorized by local authority area, socio-economic group, and by age for those 15-64 years and 65 years and over. Social Determinants of Health were examined. Mortality differentials were examined using age-standardised mortality rates and ratios. Bayesian analysis was carried out on spatially distributed data. Multivariate analysis was carried out to investigate independent effects of social determinants of health.</p> <p><i>Results:</i> Socio-economic inequalities in mortality in Ireland have increased substantially in the period 2000-2006. The rate of mortality in the lower social class is 300% higher for all causes of death, 368% higher for cardiovascular deaths, 153% higher for cancer deaths and 400% higher for death from injuries and poisonings compared to the higher social class. For the first time in health research in Ireland, Farmers are classified as lower social class. Poverty and small farm size had a strong independent effect on mortality among Farmers ($R^2 = 0.56$). Spatial analysis confirms the co-existence of poverty and increased mortality. In addition significant mortality inequalities exist among the elderly.</p> <p><i>Conclusions:</i> Despite economic prosperity during the period 2000-2006, socio-economic inequalities in mortality have significantly increased in Ireland. Health inequality policy is currently largely ineffective and needs to be addressed urgently.</p> | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Dr Jacky Jones | Health promotion partnerships: An analysis of the factors that contribute to successful partnership functioning. |
| <p>Intersectoral collaborations and partnerships have been identified as a way of addressing the health challenges facing society. But are they the most effective way of solving health problems? In theory, partnerships achieve synergistic outcomes which are more than can be achieved by individual partners working on their own. It is unclear what factors create this synergy or whether it leads to extra and better outcomes. This study aimed to determine the key factors that influence partnership functioning and their relationship with partnership synergy and outcomes.</p> <p>A mixed methods approach was used which combined findings from a mapping study with chairs/leads of 129 partnerships, five focus groups with 36 partners, a postal survey of 337 partners in 40 partnerships and four workshops attended by 48 partners. The postal questionnaire incorporated a number of specifically designed and validated multi-dimensional scales to assess the contribution of factors that influence partnership functioning and synergy. New validated scales were developed for synergy, trust, mistrust and power. Multiple and logistic regression analysis was used to identify the significance of each factor to partnership synergy and outcomes.</p> <p>Trust and leadership were shown to be the most important determinants of partnership synergy. Community assets, efficiency and boundary-spanning skills were also significant predictors of synergy. Expert assets and mistrust had a negative relationship to partnership synergy. Although synergy was a significant predictor for outcomes investigated in the postal survey, it explained only a small percentage of the variance in outcomes. Community assets and trust were also significant predictors of many outcome categories. There was little or no relationship between synergy and outputs or outcomes reported by the chairs/leads for partner or partnership level data.</p> <p>Synergy is predicated on trust and leadership. Trust-building mechanisms need to be built into the partnership forming stage and this trust needs to be sustained throughout the collaborative process. We need to develop systems where the best leaders are put forward for intersectoral partnerships. This should be consistent across all sectors and organisations. Successful partnerships need synergy if they are to achieve outcomes. Achieving synergy is not enough, however, and partnerships must also be outcome-focused if they are to be successful in tackling the health challenges facing society.</p> | |

f. Masters in Health Promotion Theses

The MA in Health Promotion is a taught programme with students having to complete four core modules and four optional modules, together with a minor dissertation based on original research. The course is taught in NUI Galway full-time over one year or part-time over two years. The MA dissertation list for 2009 is detailed below and dissertations are available from the discipline secretary.

| Name of MA student: | Thesis Title |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Patrick Barry | Physical activity levels and barriers in males. |
| Derina Bourke | To determine the knowledge, preparedness and skill level of GAA Clubs in Ireland to deal with a sudden cardiac arrest. |
| Siobhan Margaret Brennan | Developing primary care services for adolescents: A participatory approach. |
| Natasha Clarke | Primary school travel survey. |
| Ann Marie Coen | A review of the implementation of a subset of the recommendations of the report of the National Taskforce on Obesity. |
| Fergal Fox | Complex experiences of social exclusion: The health needs of Traveller men in the midlands. |
| Niamh Grainger | Health and risk behaviours in six occupational groups: Secondary analysis of the SLAN data. |
| Brid Greenan | A qualitative study of social support among Traveller women. |
| Linda Hannon | The management of childhood obesity: public health nurses' and community registered general nurses' practices, beliefs and attitudes. |
| Emily Just | Social networking sites as a supportive environment for health: An exploration of health-related Facebook groups. |
| Samir Mamhood | National Capacity Building in Pakistan. |
| Maria McBrearty | Mother's knowledge of and attitudes towards the human papillomavirus vaccination in the north west of Ireland. |
| Brenda McNicolas | The meaning of health for male farmers in the west of Ireland. |
| Brenda Murphy | A community health needs assessment. |
| Caroline Murray | Female participation in a team sport in Ireland: Factors involved in initiating and maintaining participation. |
| Marie Louise Neary | Implementation of Zippy's Friends in two multi grade classes |
| Ailish Oneill | To explore the effectiveness of a health education leaflet designed specifically for men, entitled 'the manual'. |
| Amber Osborn | Bullying and school connectedness, secondary analysis of HBSC data. |
| Ola Rowaiye | Exploring the health experience of new (African) communities in Galway, Ireland using the social determinants approach. |
| Paraic Shrahan | Sizing up the situation. A study of male body shape in Ireland. |

g. Research Contribution to Community

Staff contribute to both national and international health promotion research, practice and policy development through management, committee and editorial board membership, as listed below:

International

- International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) Capacity Building, Education and Training (2007-2010) (Global Vice President)
- WHO Technical Implementation Group on Benchmarking Progress on the Bangkok Charter for Health Promotion in a Globalized World (WHO, 2005) (Member)
- International Union for Health Promotion and Education 2004-2010 (Elected Board Member)
- IUHPE/EURO Sub-Committee on Training and Accreditation in Health Promotion 2004-present (Chair)
- Public Health Agency of Canada, Healthy Communities Division, Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention Branch (2009) (Temporary Expert Advisor)
- International Steering Group for the WHO Collaborating Centre for Mental Health Promotion, Prevention and Policy at STAKES, Finland (2007-present) (Member)
- Clifford Beers International Centre for Mental Health Promotion (Board Member)
- European Commission funded project 'Developing Competencies and Professional Standards for Health Promotion Capacity Building in Europe' (CompHP) September 2009- August 2012 (Project Leader)
- EC funded project 'Best practice in promoting mental health in socially marginalised people in Europe' (PROMO) September 2007-August, 2010 (Workpackage Leader)
- European Platform for Mental Health Promotion (Member)
- Research Advisory Board of HEMIL, the Health Promotion Research Centre, University of Bergen, Norway (2008-present) (Consortium Member)
- Scientific Council for the Ludwig Boltzman Institute for Health Promotion Research, Vienna (2008-present) (Member)
- Scientific Committee of the Sixth World Conference on the Promotion of Mental Health and the Prevention of Mental and Behavioural Disorders, Washington, November 2010 (Member)
- Global Scientific Committee of the IUHPE 20th Global Conference in Geneva 2010 (Member)
- Board of European Malaria Vaccine Initiative (Member)
- International Co-ordinating Committee of the WHO-HBSC study (Member).

National/Regional

- Advisory Board of the National Office for Suicide Prevention, Ireland (Member)
- Medical Committee of the Irish Cancer Society (Member)
- National Steering Group for the Child Safety in Alliance in Ireland (Member)
- Steering Group for the Galway Refugee Support Groups 'Health Information Promotion Project and Intercultural Mediation Project' (Member)
- Technical Advisory Group on Global Communicable Diseases, Irish Aid (Member)
- Faculty Public Health Medicine of Ireland Board (Member)
- Education Examinations Committee, Faculty Public Health Medicine of Ireland (Member)

- Expert Advisory Committee of the Tallaght Child Development Initiative (Member)
- Steering Committee for the Development of a Data Strategy for Children in Ireland (Member)
- Scientific and Policy Advisory Committee of the National Longitudinal Study of Children in Ireland (Member)
- Research Development Advisory Group of the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (Member)
- Child Health Research Forum (Member)
- Research Advisory Group of the Western Region Drugs Task Force (Member)
- Board of Directors, AIDS West (Member)
- Board of Directors, Centre for Support and Training in Analysis and Research (Member)
- Executive Board of the Association for Health Promotion, Ireland (Chair).

Editorial Boards

- International Journal of Mental Health Promotion
- Global Health Promotion
- Journal of Public Mental Health
- Advances in School Mental Health Promotion
- Proceedings of the Nutrition Society (Deputy Editor)
- Open Epidemiology Journal.

External Examining/Reviewing

- Open University
- University of Ulster
- Waterford Institute of Technology
- Leeds Metropolitan University
- Combat Poverty Agency – Poverty Research Initiative Series

h. Visiting Scholars and Students

The HPRC welcomes visiting scholars and students of health promotion and cognate disciplines. During 2009 we hosted the following visitors:

- Dana Ciccone, Research Analyst, Office of Development, Yale University, USA, ISECN, IUHPE Student and early Career network, Masters in International Affairs, graduate Institute of international and Development Studies (IHEID) Geneva Switzerland, January – February 2009.
- Linda O'Keefe, BSc. Public Health and Health Promotion placement student, University College Cork, March – May 2009.
- Helena Keller, Hamburg University of Applied Sciences, Germany, August – December 2009.
- Liam O' Halloran, BSc. Pharmacy, NUI Galway, August 2009.
- Javier Mateos Conde, Medicao Interno Residente (MIR), Universidad De Samlamanaca, Unidad Dacente De Castilla Y Leon, November 2009 – May 2010.

iv. Research Activities



Research Areas

Within the Health Promotion Research Centre four research clusters have been formed around key health promotion settings, topics and population groups based on staff expertise and areas of interest.

a. POPULATION HEALTH RESEARCH

This strand of research explores the patterns of health related behaviour, attitudes, beliefs and knowledge among members of the public and sub-groups within the population.

b. PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION

The Centre has been involved in both developing and evaluating a range of health promotion interventions carried out in collaboration with practitioners, policymakers and local communities.

c. HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

The Centre has conducted a range of studies examining health services provision, with a particular focus on equity of access.

d. POLICY RESEARCH

Policy research includes studies which provide evidence for policy-makers to develop and implement public policy which improves the health of the population.

a. Population Health Research

- **HEALTH BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN (HBSC): A WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION COLLABORATIVE CROSS-NATIONAL STUDY**
- **TRANSLATING THE HEALTH BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN (HBSC IRELAND) STUDY INTO POLICY AND PRACTICE**
- **IMMIGRATION AND HEALTH**
- **SURVEY OF LIFESTYLES, ATTITUDES AND NUTRITION 2007 (SLÁN 07)**
- **PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH PROCESSES (PRP)**
- **DATA PREV: REVIEW OF EVIDENCE BASED MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS**
- **AN ANALYSIS OF WORK-LIFE BALANCE, EMPLOYEE STRESS AND HEALTH IN THE IRISH UNIVERSITY SECTOR**
- **INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

HEALTH BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN (HBSC): A WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION COLLABORATIVE CROSS-NATIONAL STUDY

Principal Investigator: Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn
Researchers: Dr Colette Kelly, Dr Michal Molcho, Ms Aoife Gavin (PhD student), Ms Siobhán O'Higgins (PhD student) and Ms Priscilla Doyle
Funders: Health Promotion Policy Unit and Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Department of Health and Children

Background

Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) is a cross-national research study conducted in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for Europe. The HBSC international survey runs on an academic 4 year cycle and in 2005/6 there were 41 participating countries and regions (www.hbsc.org). Cross nationally, HBSC collects information on the key indicators of health, health attitudes and health behaviours, as well as the context of health for young people aged 11, 13 and 15 years.

Research Aims

The overall study aims are to gain new insight into, and increase our understanding of young people's health and wellbeing, health behaviours and their social context. Children from 3rd and 4th class in Irish schools were included in the survey for the first time in Ireland in 2006.



Methods

HBSC is a school-based survey with data collected through self-completion questionnaires administered by teachers in the classroom. The HBSC survey instrument is a standard questionnaire developed by the international research network. Children in 3rd and 4th class received a shorter questionnaire. A nationally representative sample of primary and post-primary schools from the Republic of Ireland was selected. Individual schools were randomly selected and subsequently, class groups within schools were randomly selected for participation.

Results

The dissemination phase for the 2006 study is complete. A report focusing on data collected from young people in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales was launched in November 2009. This report compares the health behaviours and outcomes, risk behaviours and the social context of health between young people and presents comprehensive and focused comparisons between the four countries. A report on middle childhood was launched in April 2009 and presents findings from children in their middle years on socio-demographic patterns in the health behaviours, risk behaviours, health outcomes and social contexts of young people's health. In June 2009 HPRC hosted the Annual Scientific Meeting of the International HBSC network.

Key Publications and Reports

Brooks, F., van der Sluijs, W., Klemmer, E., Morgan, A., Magnusson, J., Nic Gabhainn, S., Roberts, C., Smith, R. & Currie, C. (2009). *Young People's Health in Great Britain and Ireland: Findings from the Health Behaviour in School-Aged Children (HBSC) Survey, 2006*.

www.nuigalway.ie/hbsc/documents/2009_young_peoples_health_in_gb_ireland.pdf

Kelly, C., Molcho, M. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2009). *Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) Ireland 2006 Middle Childhood Study: Socio-demographic patterns in health behaviours, risk behaviours, health outcomes and social contexts of young people's health*. Dublin: Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Department of Health and Children, Government of Ireland.

www.nuigalway.ie/hbsc/documents/middlechildstudyfinal_2009.pdf



TRANSLATING THE HEALTH BEHAVIOUR IN SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN (HBSC IRELAND) STUDY INTO POLICY AND PRACTICE

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Principal Investigator: | Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn |
| Researchers: | Dr Colette Kelly, Dr Michal Molcho, Ms Aoife Gavin (PhD student), Ms Priscilla Doyle, Ms Pauline Clerkin, Ms Cliona Fitzpatrick and Ms Lorraine Walker |
| Funders: | Health Research Board and Health Promotion Policy Unit, Department of Health and Children |

Background

The Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) survey is a cross-national research study conducted in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for Europe. One of the aims of the HBSC study is to inform and influence policy and practice at local, national and international levels on issues relating to youth health.

Research Aims

Through a series of policy and methodological studies, the aim of this project is to investigate patterns and associations of child health behaviours from the 2005/06 survey and disseminate the findings to both national and international stakeholders. Involving children as equal stakeholders is a further aim of this project. In addition to contributing to scientific knowledge, this project aims to inform future policy and practice in children's health and wellbeing.

Results

Collaborative relationships with national and international partners have facilitated our work addressing the key aims and objectives of this project. Research questions and themes that have been addressed and disseminated via factsheets and short reports are varied and include some of the following: emotional well-being, school perceptions, health perceptions, patterns and frequency of substance use including alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis, food consumption, electronic communication, relationships with others and bullying. In 2009, presentations both national and international, continued to be an important dissemination vehicle and HBSC Ireland continues to offer a 'short report service' through which voluntary, community and statutory bodies can request specific analysis of the HBSC dataset. Numerous scientific papers in journal articles were published in 2009, including a supplement to the *International Journal of Public Health* that was dedicated to findings from the HBSC survey. Work on exploring children's views to how HBSC Ireland data could be disseminated as a youth friendly resource is now complete. This involved using participatory methodology to gain an insight into the HBSC topics children found most interesting, the type of information they would like and the formats to use for disseminating such information. A final report is near completion. This project has demonstrated that the successful translation of research findings into policy and practice requires a multifaceted approach with dedicated funding and resources.

Key Reports & Publications

Currie, C., Nic Gabhainn, S., Godeau, E. & the International HBSC Network Coordinating Committee. (2009). The Health Behaviour in School-aged Children WHO Collaborative Cross-National (HBSC) Study: origins, concept, history and development 1982–2008. *International Journal of Public Health*, 54, s131-139.

A full list of publications from translating the HBSC into policy and practice can be found at http://www.nuigalway.ie/hbsc/publications_reports.html

IMMIGRATION AND HEALTH

Principal Investigator: Dr Michal Molcho
Researchers: Dr Colette Kelly and Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn
Funder: Department of Health and Children

Background

Immigration is a world-wide phenomenon, involving many millions of people and most countries. In 2006, an estimated 3.5 million people settled as new residents in the 27 EU countries, with the largest increase in immigration evident in Spain and Ireland. In Ireland in 2006, 15% of the population were foreign-born. Yet, there is paucity of research in this area in Ireland. The national profile of immigrants in Ireland reveals that about half of the non-Irish Nationals are from the UK and the rest are from countries in Central and Eastern Europe, the Americas, Asia and Africa. It is estimated that many immigrants originating from the UK are returning emigrants. Of the child population, 6.1% are non-Irish nationals. Very little is known about the lives of immigrant children in Ireland, especially as compared to their native peers and classmates.

Research Aims

This research area aims to explore the health and well-being of child immigrants in Ireland; the differences in health of immigrants compared to their native peers; differences between first and second generation immigrants and differences between immigrant children in the UK and those not from the UK are also being explored.

Methods

Using the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) data, children who reported that they were born outside of Ireland and children whose parents were born outside of Ireland are defined as immigrants. This group has been matched with native children. Matching was by gender, age, socio-economic status and by geographic location.

Results or Progress to Date

Findings to date suggest the immigrant children are similar to their native peers in relation to their health and well-being. However immigrant children reported lower levels of life satisfaction and were more likely to experience social exclusion. Differences have been identified between UK and non-UK immigrant children, and between first and second generation immigrants. More recent work in this area has focused on child immigration across Europe and the use of language spoken at home as an identifier of particular sub-groups of child immigrants. A key issue in Ireland is related to the emigration history of Ireland and concerns the placing of returning emigrants in our conceptualisation of child immigrants.

Key Publications and Reports

Molcho, M., Bjarnason, T., Cristini, F., Gaspar de Matos, M., Koller, T., Moreno, C., Nic Gabhainn, S. & Santinello, M. (2009). *Foreign-born children in Europe: an overview of the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study*. Brussels: International Organisation for Migration.

Molcho, M., Kelly, C. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (in press). Deficits in health and well-being among immigrant children in Ireland: the explanatory role of social capital. *Translocations: The Irish Migration, Race and Social Transformation Review*.

SURVEY OF LIFESTYLES, ATTITUDES AND NUTRITION 2007 (SLÁN 07)

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry and Dr Michal Molcho
Researcher: Mr Eric Van Lente
Funder: Department of Health and Children

Background and Research Aims

SLÁN 07 monitors the health behaviours and attitudes of a representative sample of 10,000 adults in the Republic of Ireland. It is a joint study between four consortium partners who were awarded a national contract to complete the Survey of Lifestyles, Attitudes and Nutrition (SLÁN 07) on behalf of the Department of Health and Children. The four partners are: The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), The Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), University College Cork (UCC) and the National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG). This survey is the third in a series of national health surveys which also include SLÁN98 and SLÁN02.

Methods

SLÁN 07 involved face-to-face interviews with 10,364 adults (62% response rate) aged 18 years or over interviewed at home addresses in addition to two studies on subsets of this sample: a study on body size in 967 younger adults (aged 18-44 years) and a study involving physical examination and blood and urine sampling in 1,250 adults aged 45 years and over.

Progress to Date

Results of these studies are being published in a number of reports, including the main SLÁN 2007 report published in 2008 and several sub-reports which examine the following issues in greater detail:

- Nutrition, health behaviour and physical examination findings [2008]
- Patterns of social and mental health and community participation [2009]
- Comparisons of health behaviour and related profiles between population surveys in the Republic and Northern Ireland [2009]
- Reviewing the profile of injury in Ireland [2009]
- Patterns in alcohol use in Ireland [2009]
- Smoking patterns in Ireland [2009]
- Policy implications of the major health behaviour profiles [forthcoming].



The research team at the HPRC are specifically responsible for the mental health, social well-being and injuries sections of the SLÁN 2007 report, and also contribute to the report's overall content and design. The HPRC is also responsible for the mental health and social well-being detailed sub-report that was launched in February 2009, and for the injury report that was launched in November 2009. All the published reports are available at: <http://www.slan07.ie/>

Dissemination

Barry, M.M., Van Lente, E., Molcho, M., Morgan, K., McGee, H., Conroy, R.M., Watson, D., Shelley, E. and Perry, I. (2009). *SLÁN 2007: Survey of Lifestyle, Attitudes and Nutrition in Ireland. Mental Health and Social Well-being Report*, Department of Health and Children. Dublin: The Stationery Office.

Molcho, M., Barry, M., Van Lente, E., McGee, H., Morgan, K., Conroy, R., Watson, D., Perry, I. And Harrington, J. (2009). *SLÁN 2007: Survey of Lifestyle, Attitudes and Nutrition in Ireland. Injuries in Ireland: Findings from national population surveys*, Department of Health and Children. Dublin: The Stationery Office.

PARTICIPATORY RESEARCH PROCESSES (PRP)

Principal Investigators: Dr Jane Sixsmith and Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn
Researchers: Ms Priscilla Doyle, Dr Colette Kelly
Students: Ms Siobhan O'Higgins, Ms Gail Cummins (PhD students),
 Ms Natasha Clarke, Ms Paula Roddy (MA students),

Background

Increasingly professional practice, service provision and policy developments for health are a collaborative process in which participation is sought from interested parties. Simultaneously, health promotion research continues to develop with the integration and application of the tenets of health promotion applied throughout the research process. In this way the active meaningful participation of people is sought and, at the very least, is not disempowering for them or for the researchers involved.

Research Aims

To explore and develop participation throughout the research process.

Methods

The participation agenda challenges researchers to consider approaches to involving participants in a meaningful way in all aspects of the research process (Nic Gabhainn & Sixsmith, 2006). We have been working on the development of research protocols that are designed to facilitate active engagement. The developed Participatory Research Processes (PRP) includes a three-stage approach to data generation, collation and analysis, with groups of participants. In different applications of this approach the data generated have been both visual and written; with no advantage apparent to the more complex approaches. The approach explicitly concerns power within the research cycle and the requirement for research to be both empowering and health promoting in the widest sense. We have explored some of these ideas through application in a number of studies.

Progress to Date

One current project concerns sexual health curricula and is funded by PhD scholarship from the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. The aim is to work with school students facilitating them to develop educational materials for use with other students. Another is the inclusion of children as equal stakeholders in the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study through the exploration of their ideas in relation to how the HBSC Ireland data can be disseminated as a child/youth friendly resource. Two studies undertaken as minor dissertations for the MA in Health Promotion explored active transport options with primary school children (Clarke, 2009) and older peoples perceptions of social support (Roddy, 2008).

Dissemination

Clarke, N. (2009). *Investigating promoters and barriers of active travel in primary school children: a mixed methodological approach*. MA Thesis Health Promotion, School of Health Sciences, NUI Galway.

Roddy, P. (2009). *Older people's perception of social support*. MA Thesis Health Promotion, School of Health Sciences, NUI Galway.

Cummins, G., Kelly, C., Doyle, P., Molcho, M., Sixsmith, J. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2009). The process of producing a youth friendly resource using data from HBSC Ireland 2006. Paper presented to the *13th Annual HPRC conference: Closing the Gap in Child and Adolescent Health: the Settings Approach*, Galway, June 2009.

O'Higgins, S. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2009). An adapted participative methodological approach for sexual health promotion research. Paper presented at the *IVth Biennial International Sex and Relationships Education Conference*, Birmingham, September 2009.

DATAPREV: REVIEW OF EVIDENCE BASED MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry
Researcher: Ms Colette Dempsey
Funder: IMPHA - European Commission

Background

The DataPrev project is concerned with developing the evidence base for mental health promotion and prevention in Europe through establishing a database of programmes and the production of guidelines for policy and practice. DataPrev is run by a consortium of eight partners across Europe working with experts and networks in the field of mental health promotion and mental disorder prevention. The coordinated action DataPrev, which will continue until September 2010, includes undertaking systematic reviewing processes in the following four areas:

- Parenting and early interventions
- Interventions in educational settings
- Interventions in the workplace
- Interventions for older adults.

In addition, intervention programmes are classified and described in an online database to give an overview of mental health promotion and disorder prevention in Europe. The project seeks to improve dissemination across Europe and present easily accessible information on the reliability of programmes for implementation purposes.

Research Aims

The aims of the research are to identify programmes/interventions implemented across the life-span in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland which comply with the following criteria:

- Which aim to promote mental health (in general or specific aspects) or prevent mental disorders (primary prevention, i.e. preventing a disorder from occurring in the first instance, or suicide prevention)
- Which have undergone some kind of evaluation, such as a research trial for effectiveness or a process evaluation (please include a publication or report of this evaluation)
- Which has a manual or instructions for implementation
- Which has a contactable person responsible for the programme in your country.

Methods

Programmes were identified using the following methods:

- Search for and review of the relevant literature
- Questionnaires were sent to all HSE mental health promotion officers in the Republic of Ireland and to all Health Promotion Officers with responsibility for Mental Health in Northern Ireland's Health and Social Care Trusts
- NGOs with a mental health focus were also identified and sent questionnaires.

Progress to Date

A number of programmes were identified and the report was compiled with details of each programme including information on target groups, aims and objectives, programme description, evaluation and results.

Dissemination

Dempsey, C. & Barry, M. (2009) *Data Prev: Mental Health Promotion Programmes Implemented in Ireland*. Report prepared for the Implementing Mental Health Promotion Action (IMHPA).

AN ANALYSIS OF WORK-LIFE BALANCE, EMPLOYEE STRESS AND HEALTH IN THE IRISH UNIVERSITY SECTOR

Principal Investigator: Ms Victoria Hogan
Funder: NUI Galway Millennium Fund

Background

Increased levels of work intensity and increased working hours have been identified as potential occupational stressors, and the European Parliament has called for studies into the effects of working long hours on the family and on individual health. This study concentrates on the issues of stress, workload, and work-life balance in the Irish academic sector. The activities of employees in the Irish university sector are critical for the maintenance of growth and competitiveness in the new knowledge based economy, and if Irish workers are to compete on the global stage, we need to better understand how to maximise worker health, satisfaction and productivity.

Research Aims

Specific objectives include:

- Determine levels of self-reported stress, health and productivity in the university sector
- Determine the impact of work intensity and number of working hours on levels of stress, health and productivity
- Determine the effects of job involvement and work overload on work-life balance in practices.
- Determine the significance of worker-environment fit in mediating the relationship between work schedule and levels of stress, health and productivity.

Methods

A quantitative multivariate survey methodology has been used to measure key independent and dependent variables in a cross-sectional sample of academic staff working in Irish universities. This consists of a purpose designed electronic questionnaire sent to academics in three Irish universities.

Progress to Date

Data collection was completed in April 2009. Data analysis is underway. A journal article is in preparation.

INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Principal Investigator: Dr Michal Molcho

Background

Injuries are the leading cause of death and disability among young people and one of the leading causes of death across all age groups. Globally, more than 5 million people die of injuries every year. It is estimated that for every death, injuries send 30 people to hospital, 300 others to emergency departments for outpatient treatment, and many more are treated for injury in the community. The magnitude of this public health problem led the WHO and the EU Council to declare violence and injury prevention as a key area for action. Overall in Ireland, injuries are the 4th leading cause of death and the 1st leading cause of death in young people with an estimated 1,500 deaths in Ireland. Yet, to date, there is a lack of concentrated national efforts that are multi-disciplinary in nature. Despite of the clear recommendation of the EU council and the WHO, Ireland still lacks research in the area, and policies, although in existence, are not being evaluated for their implementation and their effectiveness.

Activities

- Researching injuries in the population through the use HBSC and SLÁN data;
- Researching injury hospitalisation through using HIPE data;
- Participation in the WHO-VIP programme as a mentee;
- Elected chair of the Violence and Injury Prevention working group in the international HBSC network.



Progress to Date

To date, various research proposals has been submitted suggesting examining injury in emergency departments and in GP clinics and initiating a working group in NUIG. Additionally, data on Traumatic Brain Injury collected over the course of 24 months is being analysed and prepared for publication.

Key Publications and Reports

Molcho, M., Barry, M., Van Lente, E., McGee, H., Morgan, K., Conroy, R., Watson, D., Perry, I. and Harrington, J. (2009). *SLÁN 2007: Survey of Lifestyle, Attitudes and Nutrition in Ireland. Injuries in Ireland: Findings from national population surveys*. Department of Health and Children. Dublin: The Stationery Office.

Molcho, M., Craig, W., Due, P., Pickett, W., Harel-Fisch, Y., Overpeck, M. & the HBSC Bullying Writing Group. (2009). Cross-national time trends in bullying behaviour 1994 - 2006: findings from Europe and North America. *International Journal of Public Health* 54, S225-234.

b. Programme Design and Evaluation

- **DEVELOPING A MENTAL HEALTH PORTAL**
- **EVALUATION OF THE STRENGTHENING FAMILIES PROGRAMME**
- **CREATING A COMMON FOUNDATION IN SOCIAL CARE**
- **HEALTHY EATING AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN SCHOOLS**
- **EVALUATION OF 'ZIPPY'S FRIENDS', AN EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS**
- **WINNING NEW OPPORTUNITIES (WNO) FOR UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE**
- **A BLENDED LEARNING ENQUIRY BASED MODULE FOR BEST PRACTICE OF EVALUATION SKILLS IN HEALTH PROMOTION**

DEVELOPING A MENTAL HEALTH PORTAL

Principal Investigator: Dr Jane Sixsmith
Researcher: Ms Priscilla Doyle
Funder: Counselling Service, NUI Galway

Background

Third level institutions are not only centres of academic achievement but are also places where students develop personally and socially. The provision of easily accessed, up-to-date, accurate and relevant information about health issues and available services is crucial to better support students and to foster an environment that promotes health on campus. Mental health is fundamental to good health and quality of life. The College Lifestyle and Attitudinal National (CLAN) Survey recommends that priority should be given to mental health promotion. In a large, busy, and complex organisation such as a college, computer-based health initiatives, available to everyone through the campus computer facilities and services, are an obvious route for communication. Computer-based technologies can play an important role, not only through the conveyance of information and health alerts, but also through engaging users in problem solving, identifying personal risk, and developing skills and behaviours.

Research Aims

The Mental Health and Well-Being Portal project aims to develop secure access for third level students across third level institutions to online mental health and well-being information and services. This is a collaborative project between University College Cork, Trinity College, Dublin, National University of Ireland Galway and Dundalk Institute of Technology.

Methods

There are 2 components to this study. The first is scoping research and the second is a formative evaluation in the form of focus testing.

1. Scoping Research
 - i. Identifying, gathering, collating and reviewing content and best practise literature pertaining to mental health and wellbeing information provision that is disseminated through the internet/web to 3rd level students.
 - ii. Identify, review and evaluate the evidence-base and licensing agreements of computer-based health initiatives which focus on the promotion of young people's mental health.
 - iii. Identifying and reviewing various dissemination formats used for interactive multi-media psycho-educational materials.
 - iv. Exploration through telephone interview, from the health professionals perspective, the mental health needs/issues in general brought by students to the four participating institutions health and counselling services.
2. Formative Evaluation of Designed Portal

A total of 8 focus groups will be carried out two per institution with a maximum of 5-6 participants per group. Participants will be recruited through convenience and snowball sampling. Students will review the content and presentation of material for the mental health portal from their own perspective.

Progress to Date

The scoping research has been completed.

Dissemination

None to date.

EVALUATION OF THE STRENGTHENING FAMILIES PROGRAMME

Principal Investigator: Dr Jane Sixsmith
Researcher: Ms Maureen D'Eath
Funder: Western Region Drugs Task Force

Background

The Strengthening Families Programme (SFP) is a family skills training programme designed to enhance resilience and reduce risk factors for alcohol and substance misuse in young people and their parents. It is adapted to a range of different age groups and has been run in 17 countries. First piloted in Ireland in 2007, the SFP has been run in a variety of locations and by a number of organisations. The Western Region Drugs Task Force is to run the 14 session programme on a pilot basis, over a 14 week period in 4 centres in the West of Ireland.

Research Aims and Objectives

To determine the effectiveness of the Strengthening Families Programme in the West of Ireland.

1. To determine if the programme has been implemented as planned and
2. what, if any, are the deviations from the plan? What are the reasons for these?
3. What are the perspectives of participating adolescence and parents on programme content and delivery?
4. Is the training adequate for the facilitators to deliver the programme overall and in this setting?
5. What alterations to the process and programme are necessary to ensure successful outcomes in future delivery?
6. Has the programme had an impact on the individual participants and if so what is the impact?
7. Does the programme reduce drug and alcohol use by the participants?

Methods

This research is in three parts: a literature review, process and impact evaluation. A qualitative approach to process evaluation of the Strengthening Families Programme will be used with data collected through semi-structured telephone and face-to-face interviews with programme participants and group interviews with other stakeholders, such as referral agency staff and programme facilitators.

The impact evaluation will measure the immediate effects of the intervention. Pre and post intervention measurements will be achieved through a questionnaire administered by researchers in the introductory session for the programme and at the final session. A census sample of participants in the programme in each of the centres, parents and young people, will be invited to participate resulting in a maximum sample size of approximately 245. The questionnaire will be comprised of the Family Environment Scale (Moos & Moos, 2002) and pertinent questions from the Slán Survey (adults) and the Health Behaviours in School Aged Children Study (children) about consumption of alcohol and drugs.

Progress to Date

Ethical approval has been received for the study from the NUI Galway Research Ethics Committee. Instruments, such as the questionnaire and semi structured interview schedules have been piloted. Data has been successfully collected from participants during the first session of the programme in two of the four centres. The process evaluation is underway.

Dissemination

None to date.

CREATING A COMMON FOUNDATION IN SOCIAL CARE

Principal Investigator: Dr Jane Sixsmith
Researcher: Ms Maureen D'Eath and Dr Martin Power
Funder: Leonardo da Vinci, European Commission

Background

There is generally a lack of consistency across the EU in the provision and requirement for training and education in the area of social care. In the Irish context training and education for social care workers is in a state of flux in part due to the Health Professionals Act 2005 which provides the framework at a national level for the registration of social care workers. The programme, Creating a Common Foundation for Social Care, includes 13 partners in the further development of a transferable qualification, in social care at a foundation level, recognised across the EU. This will enhance worker mobility, and will improve the quality of care services and training across the EU by establishing an accepted minimum statement of learning outcomes for all staff. This qualification, known as the European Care Certificate, is assessed through an unseen examination available to programme participants

Research Aims

This research aims to increase the uptake of the ECC in the participating countries so that at the end of the project a realistic and growing ECC network in each country will exist. The Project has the linked objectives of placing the ECC on the participating countries National Qualifications Framework and to get the Certificate placed at an appropriate level on the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) either via a country or 'directly' by the ECC Board as an EU wide sectoral award.

Methods

Communication with stakeholders in the social care sector will be established to increase the recognition of and the demand for the ECC. Students on the Social Care programmes in NUI Galway will be offered the opportunity to sit the ECC exam.

Progress to Date

- Attended inaugural meeting in Brussels to discuss developments with all partners
- Participated in a number of teleconferences
- Explored with key stakeholders feasibility of awarding ECC graduates an ECC Professional Carers ID card. Although this was a component of the Leonardo proposal, stakeholder opinion suggests that this is not a proposal that should be pursued
- Becoming familiar with the 'online' version of the ECC exam in order to support its further development
- Preparing a report on Irelands NQF and the feasibility of placing the ECC within this framework.

Dissemination

None to date.

HEALTHY EATING AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN SCHOOLS

Principal Investigator: Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn with international collaborators
Researchers: Dr Colette Kelly and Ms Priscilla Doyle
Funder: European Commission

Background

The dramatic increase in body weight affecting all age groups has been defined by the World Health Organization as a global epidemic with immense consequences for public health. Identifying children and adolescents as key target groups for overweight prevention and intervention is of critical importance. It is generally agreed that an integrated approach is necessary because of the multi-causal character of the obesity epidemic. Schools reach a majority of all children and can contribute to the protection and promotion of children's health by promoting healthy eating and physical activity and by encouraging participation and providing skills training in these areas. The Health Eating and Physical Activity (HEPS) project is coordinated by NIGZ in the Netherlands and is linked with the Schools for Health in Europe Project (formerly the European Network of Health Promoting Schools). The HEPS project has been established to support the SHE coordinators in initiating and supporting the development of a national school policy on healthy eating and physical activity in their own country. Across member states there are many initiatives on reducing the number of children who are overweight. This is done with a practical focus towards developing activities, programmes and teaching methods. However, currently no EU member state has effective national school policy in operation. HEPS aims to bridge this gap by being a policy development project on a national level across Europe. HEPS will help to implement these programmes in a sustainable way at school level.

Research Aims

To develop, implement and evaluate effective policy and sustainable practices on healthy eating and physical activity in schools in all member states in Europe as a whole school approach.

Methods

This is a piece of co-ordinated action research which will include the development of a comprehensive set of principles on promoting healthy eating and physical activity in schools based on the health promoting school approach; an inventory tool for available school programmes on promoting healthy eating and physical activity in the member states, including a set of quality criteria; an advocacy tool for a national school policy on healthy eating and physical activity based on the health promoting school approach; a tool for teacher education and training on promoting healthy eating and physical activity and associated mental health issues affecting obesity; a monitoring tool, including indicators, for implementation of the HEPS school kit; and practical implementation guidelines for schools and school-supporting organisations.

Progress to Date

The Advocacy guide and the HEPS Guidelines for schools are complete and available for download. The international group has been working on the development of the inventory tool, tool for schools, teacher training resource and the monitoring tool.

Key Publications and Reports

Bada, E., Sokou, K., Dafesh, Z., Lee, A., Flashberger, E. & Buijs, G. (2009). HEPS Advocacy Guide: Arguments and strategies towards a school health policy.
<http://ws10.e-vision.nl/hepseurope/upload/advocacyguidefcLRes.pdf>

Boonen, A., de Vries, N., de Ruiter, S., Bowker, S. & Buijs, G. (2009) HEPS Guidelines on promoting healthy eating and physical activity in schools.
<http://ws10.e-vision.nl/hepseurope/upload/guidelinesfcLRes.pdf>



EVALUATION OF 'ZIPPY'S FRIENDS', AN EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Principal Investigator: Professor Margaret Barry
Researcher: Ms Aleisha Clarke
Funders: HSE Population Health, National Office for Suicide Prevention, Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences

Background

Zippy's Friends is an international school-based programme designed to promote the emotional wellbeing of children aged five to seven years old. In February 2008, the *Zippy's Friends* programme was introduced into Irish primary schools on a pilot basis as part of the Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE) curriculum. With the support of the Department of Education and Science and the Health Service Executive, the programme was piloted in 30 designated disadvantaged schools (DEIS) in the West of Ireland. An evaluation of the pilot implementation of the programme was undertaken.

Research Aims

The aims of the evaluation study are to:

- determine if an international evidence-based programme could be adapted and successfully implemented in the local context of disadvantaged primary schools in Ireland
- assess the impact on the pupils' emotional and behavioural wellbeing and coping skills
- examine the process of implementation and the relationship between this process and the programme outcomes.

Methods

The study employs a randomised controlled design, with data collection from teachers and pupils before, during, after and at 12 months post-implementation. A total of 730 pupils and 42 teachers from 41 designated disadvantaged schools were randomly assigned to control and intervention groups. The evaluation is comprised of a range of both structured questionnaires and qualitative methods, including children's participatory workshops and the draw and write technique, designed to assess the process of programme implementation and the programme effects on the children and teachers.

Progress to Date

Analysis of the baseline, interim and end of programme data is complete and an end of programme report will be published in February 2010. The findings indicate that the programme was successfully implemented in Irish primary schools and lead to significant improvements in the children's emotional literacy and coping skills, reduced their hyperactivity levels and lead to improved relationships in the classroom. Twelve month follow up data collection, will commence in April 2010.

Dissemination

Clarke, A.M & Barry, M.M. (in press). *An Evaluation of the Zippy's Friends Emotional Wellbeing Programme for Primary School Children in Ireland*. Health Promotion Research Centre, NUI Galway.

Clarke, A.M., O'Sullivan, M., & Barry, M.M. (in press). Context Matters in Programme Implementation. *Health Education*.



WINNING NEW OPPORTUNITIES (WNO) FOR UNEMPLOYED PEOPLE

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry
Researcher: Ms Aleisha Clarke
Funder: Mental Health Ireland

Background

The Winning New Opportunities (WNO) programme, which is based on the international evidence-based Jobs programme, is a mental health promotion intervention for unemployed workers. The objective of WNO is to provide unemployed people with the ability to realise their full potential by offering skills to explore new opportunities and job-seeking and to combat the negative mental health impacts of unemployment by promoting re-employment and improved confidence. The programme, which is being co-ordinated by the HSE West Health Promotion Service, consists of five intensive half-days of training (20 hours) over a 1-2 week period with groups of 12-22 participants. Training is delivered by pairs of trainers from various national, regional/local training and employment agencies who have received specific training to undertake the programme.

Research Aims

The aims of the initial phase of the evaluation is to assess the quality of implementation of the programme with a diverse group of both recently and long-term unemployed people, including mental health users.

Methods

The study involves a process evaluation of phase 1 implementation of WNO. Data are collected from the trainers and programme participants in order to assess the quality of implementation and ensure that the programme is being delivered as planned. Process evaluation methods assess the fidelity and quality of programme delivery in the initial phase of implementation (November 2009 – May 2010). The participants complete a socio-demographic profile and a pre- and post-evaluative questionnaire. The WNO trainers complete a questionnaire immediately after each session of the workshop. A sub-sample of trainers and participants will also be invited to participate in more open-ended interviews concerning their views of the programme.

Progress to Date

The programme is currently being implemented and evaluated by trainers and programme participants in counties Donegal, Sligo, Galway, Limerick and Tipperary.

Dissemination

A report based on the results of the initial phase of the evaluation will be published in 2010.

A BLENDED LEARNING ENQUIRY BASED MODULE FOR BEST PRACTICE OF EVALUATION SKILLS IN HEALTH PROMOTION

Principal Investigators: Dr Lisa Pursell, Ms Verna McKenna and Dr Barbara Griffin
Funder: The National Academy for Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (NAIRTL)

Background

The Discipline of Health Promotion delivers a Postgraduate Diploma and Master's programme in Health Promotion. The core Research Methods module incorporates some teaching of evaluation research in health promotion. The current project arose from recognition of the need to further develop this evaluation component into a stand alone module that will provide students with a greater understanding of the relationship between the evidence-base and research practice of evaluation in health promotion.

Research Aims

The aim of this project is to develop and deliver a creative, research-based module on evaluation practice using an enquiry-based approach that incorporates new learning technologies. The specific objectives of this project are to:

- Evaluate the process that students are engaging in as an exemplar of integrated learning and evaluation
- Integrate the use of the online Wiki and blog tools via Blackboard and examine how students construct knowledge using these tools
- Develop workshop and tutorial based elements of the module and pilot peer assessment of the group work as one element of student assessment
- Pilot a template for future development of blended learning within modules and develop a 'tool-kit style' handbook incorporating new e-technologies.

Methods

A pre and post course survey questionnaire has been developed and presented on the Values Exchange (<http://www.nuigalway.values-exchange.com>). Questions concern evaluation and group work competencies and technical skills. A further section of the survey comprises questions concerning the module delivery processes and implementation and will be completed by participants after the course. Questions are within the categories: Introductory tutor lead sessions; Using online tools, Project work and working in groups and Assessment.

Progress to Date

Delivery of the module has commenced with preliminary lectures, workshops and community site visits completed. The pre course survey has been conducted with evaluation module participants and will be repeated with these students on completion of the course and as a control, with students on the MA Health Promotion programme not taking the evaluation module.



Dissemination

Pursell, L., McKenna, V., Griffin, B. (2009). A blended learning enquiry based module for best practice of evaluation skills in health promotion. Poster presented to the *National Academy for Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning: Research-Teaching Linkages, Practice and Policy*, Dublin. November 2009.

c. Health Service Research

- **RESEARCH INTO THE OPTIMAL SETTING FOR CHLAMYDIA SCREENING IN IRELAND**

RESEARCH INTO THE OPTIMAL SETTING FOR CHLAMYDIA SCREENING IN IRELAND

Principal Investigators: Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan and Professor Ruairi Brugha (RCSI)
Researchers: Ms Deirdre Vaughan, Dr Paddy Gillespie (Dept. Economics) and Dr Myles Balfe (RCSI)
Funder: Health Protection Surveillance Centre

Background and Research Aims

The aim of this study is to;

- Build a focused evidence base of public and professional perspectives of Chlamydia testing
- Design appropriate service models based on identified enablers and barriers to service uptake in Ireland
- Pilot these models in a number of varied non-STI specialist such as general practices (rural and urban), Student Health and family planning clinic settings.
- Assess the feasibility and response uptake of the screening and community based partner notification programmes in these settings.

Methods

The project has two phases carried out over a 2 year period. Phase 1 composed of a series of interlocking baseline research studies with potential users and service providers of the opportunistic screening. Findings of Phase 1 studies were used to inform the design of opportunistic screening models in primary care settings.

Phase 2 was the pilot screening programme conducted in both healthcare and non-healthcare settings in Galway city and county. The non-health care settings included 'pee-in-a-pot' days in higher education institutions.

An economic analysis of the Chlamydia screening is also being conducted using a stochastic, individual based, dynamic sexual network model developed to simulate sexual behaviour and Chlamydia transmission in Ireland. The impact of the opportunistic screening strategy compared to no screening will be modelled in terms of the effect on annual Chlamydia prevalence. A health economic model was constructed to estimate the costs of acute infection, the number of complications and their associated costs, and the costs of the alternative screening strategies under consideration. The results from the transmission dynamic model and the health economic model are combined to conduct a cost effectiveness analysis of the opportunistic screening strategy.

Progress to Date

The screening pilot and all data collection has been completed. Analysis and report writing is under way. An online toolkit for Chlamydia screening in non-clinical settings will be made available.

Dissemination

Balfe, M., Brugha, R., O'Connell, E., McGee, H., O' Donovan, D., & Vaughan, D. (2009). Why don't young women in Ireland go for Chlamydia testing? A qualitative study employing Goffman's stigma framework. *Health, Risk and Society*, 16(1),16-24. Several papers have been accepted for publication and others are being written.

d. Policy Research

- **ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR DISSEMINATION OF EVIDENCE BASED HEALTH COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES IN THE EN AND EEA/EFTA 2009-12**
- **DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION RESEARCH NETWORK (DERN)**
- **CONNECTING HEALTH RESEARCH IN AFRICA AND IRELAND CONSORTIUM (CHRAIC)**
- **BENCHMARKING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BANGKOK CHARTER (WHO, 2005)**
- **DEVELOPING COMPETENCIES AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR HEALTH PROMOTION CAPACITY BUILDING IN EUROPE (CompHP)**
- **REVIEW OF EVIDENCE BASED MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION AND PRIMARY/SECONDARY INTERVENTIONS**
- **BEST PRACTICE IN PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH IN SOCIALLY MARGINALISED PEOPLE IN EUROPE (PROMO)**
- **TOWARD INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON COMPETENCIES AND ACCREDITATION IN HEALTH PROMOTION AND HEALTH EDUCATION: THE GALWAY CONSENSUS CONFERENCE**
- **SUBSTANCE USE IN NEW COMMUNITIES IN THE WEST OF IRELAND**

ESTABLISHING A PROGRAMME FOR DISSEMINATION OF EVIDENCE BASED HEALTH COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES IN THE EU AND EEA/EFTA 2009-12

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry and Dr Jane Sixsmith
Funder: European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

Background

The scoping of health communication activities and the development of a platform for exchange and dissemination of evidence based best practice is needed to address the increasing complexity of the existing and emerging public health threats posed by communicable disease at national and international levels. These threats are complicated by the multi-cultural context of the European environment in which they are embedded and the corresponding many and varied public health, education and communication systems in place that can be used to reduce such threats. The multi-disciplinary nature of the area is reflected in the Consortium that has been assembled to undertake this research with representation from health promotion, social marketing and preventive medicine under the leadership of the Health Promotion Research Centre.

Research Aims

The purpose of this programme is to systematically map and gather information on current activity in health communication and to develop, in cooperation with the ECDC, a Virtual Knowledge Resource Centre for Health Communication. The aim is to support the optimal use and development of health communication activities in EU and EEA/EFTA States in the promotion of health, focusing on the control and prevention of communicable disease.

Methods

The foundation of the project is a scoping study mapping the planning, implementation and evaluation of health communication activities in the EU and EEA/EFTA member states specifically in relation to communicable disease prevention and control. Data will be gathered from all 30 EU member states and EEA/EFTA countries through an e-survey to include collation of information pertaining to health communication activities and processes. On completion the data will be presented in country profiles. The country profiles will form the basis of the initial virtual centre. This will be augmented by a virtual library of information and resources for the development of health communication / social marketing initiatives for public health gathered through the scoping study. However, the vision for the centre as an online hub moves beyond the provision and transfer of information to the development of a dynamic platform for the sharing and exchange of expertise and ideas through a community of practice. It is envisaged that this community of practice will collect, exchange and share knowledge, information and lessons learnt with health communication and social marketing professionals, practitioners and policy makers across the EU and EFTA.

Progress to Date

This research is at an early stage with the development of the method of data collection underway for the scoping study.

Dissemination

None to date.

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION RESEARCH NETWORK (DERN)

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Principal Investigators: | Dr Su-ming Khoo, Political Science and Sociology and Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan |
| Researcher: | Ms Clionadh O'Keeffe |
| Funders: | Irish Aid and Community Knowledge Initiative, NUI Galway |

Background

The rationale of the DERN programme is to build development education into research and teaching, enabling understandings to take root and develop through a capacity building approach that takes into account the university's own initiatives and priorities.

Research Aims

The programme's key aims are:

- To mainstream development education within existing degree pathways;
- To develop research capability and enhance professional and technical expertise relevant to development education;
- To build a Development Education agenda into civic engagement.

Methods

A capacity-building approach was taken to developing the DERN network and to the delivery of development education and the building of research capacity and civic engagement. This involves working with the diverse existing interests and needs of the network members for course material and course development, as well as identifying new opportunities for members to develop their research and respond to new research funding opportunities by working together as a research consortium.

Results

The Development Education Research Network (DERN) is successfully established as the site for development education and research within NUI Galway, a website is developed and the network is built. DERN has developed innovative approaches to mainstreaming development education within a university setting and has integrated them with the research, teaching and civic engagement programmes at NUI Galway. DERN introduced development education content into existing and new teaching modules in the following disciplines: Philosophy, Sociology and Politics, Nursing, Community Development, Social Work and Human Rights. DERN delivered Development Education lectures to SUAS and to the undergraduate BA in Nursing.

Currently, the network has over 160 members made up of staff and students within NUI Galway, as well as interested individuals from other universities, community organisations and the Galway area. DERN has become a national and international contact point for development education and has integrated the development education agenda with development research, civic engagement and service learning, university-community partnerships and the broad agendas of equality, justice, and rights-based research and education.

Dissemination

DERN facilitated 10 seminars through the "Dialogues across Disciplines" series delivered by guest lecturers to a cross section of NUI, Galway students, staff and community activists. The network facilitated members to present at conferences and workshops on issues of development, health, environment and human rights.

DERN research staff promoted the internationalisation of development education through numerous articles, keynote speeches, guest lectures (details at: www.nuigalway.ie/dern).

CONNECTING HEALTH RESEARCH IN AFRICA AND IRELAND CONSORTIUM (CHRAIC)

Principal Investigators: Dr Diarmuid O'Donovan, Professor Ruairi Brugha (RCSI) and Dr Steve Thomas (Trinity College Dublin)
Researcher: Dr Khalifa Elmusharaf (PhD student)
Funder: Programme of Strategic Cooperation, Higher Education Authority and Irish Aid

Background

Researchers from three Irish institutions, six African countries and one nongovernmental organisation (NGO) comprise a long-term partnership for capacity building for pro-poor health research in Africa.

Partners:

- Irish researchers are from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI), Trinity College Dublin (TCD), the National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG)
- African researchers are from Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Sudan and Uganda
- The Council for Health Research for Development (www.COHRED.org), which has unique expertise in research capacity building, and the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (www.alliance-hpsr.org), which focuses on research prioritisation and research into policy processes, are both advisers to the Programme.

Research Aims

The Programme aims to summarise existing research and knowledge gaps on specific components of health systems' capacity to deliver interventions for the Health and HIV/AIDS Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); establish a doctoral training programme; assess and strengthen African HEIs' research capacity; conduct Irish Aid-relevant research; and strengthen research into policy links.

Progress to Date

The first international workshop was held in Dublin in June 2008, bringing together researchers and/or senior academics from the African partners along with senior representatives of COHRED and the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research to plan the country level knowledge synthesis of governance, human resources, equity and access of their specific country's health system, in relation to existing knowledge, gaps and research priorities, including a review of information on progress towards the HIV and health related MDGs (4,5 and 6). Draft reports from all countries were presented in the April 2009 workshop held in Kampala.

The taught course has been developed for the CHRAIC PhD programme. Five PhD studentships have been funded from the programme for the academic years 2008/2009 and 2009/2010. Existing research modules have been used, with some adaptation, from the Health Research Board PhD Scholars programme and the Masters in Global Health at TCD. Some new training modules have been designed, in particular the Social Determinants of Health in NUI Galway. Modules will be adapted and made available to all partners on an electronic intranet.

BENCHMARKING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BANGKOK CHARTER (WHO, 2005)

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry and Dr Lisa Pursell in collaboration with the WHO Technical Implementation Group, the Department of Health and Children and Health Service Executive Population Health Directorate.

Background and Research Aims

In 2006, Ireland joined as one of 10 countries in benchmarking progress on the Bangkok Charter for Health Promotion in a Globalised World (WHO, 2005). In September 2006, Professor Barry chaired a meeting in Oman of a WHO Technical Implementation Group to progress this benchmarking initiative. Work on developing the benchmarking process and template is ongoing since 2007, and the Irish input is being co-ordinated in collaboration with senior officials from the Department of Health and Children and the Health Services Executive.

Methods

This initiative focuses on developing a set of benchmarks and indicators to assess country level progress on implementing the Bangkok Charter's four commitments and action areas. Part of this process entails the sharing of experiences and expertise within and between countries on the implementation of the Charter and the implications for infrastructure development and policy implementation at the country level. The work on this initiative is ongoing and includes preparing a technical paper with the WHO Technical Group on benchmarking progress on the Charter commitments. This paper focuses on how health promotion can contribute to the global health agenda and examines the extent to which international aid, Development Assistance for Health, can be channeled to support the promotion of health and action on its social determinants.

Progress to Date

A symposium, chaired by Professor Barry, on progress to date, including four country level reports, was held at the IUHPE 19th World Conference in Vancouver in June 2007. Publication of a series of technical papers and a report on benchmarking progress on the Charter's commitments is being prepared for release in 2010. A summary of progress to date was prepared and presented at the 7th Global Conference on Health Promotion held in Nairobi in November, 2009.

Dissemination

Barry, M.M., Pursell, L., Connolly, M. and Mahmood, M. (2009) *Strengthening health promotion in middle and low-income countries through development assistance for health*. Technical paper on Benchmarking Implementation of the Bangkok Charter, WHO Geneva.

DEVELOPING COMPETENCIES AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR HEALTH PROMOTION CAPACITY BUILDING IN EUROPE (CompHP) (2009-2012)

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry and international partners
Researchers: Ms Colette Dempsey
Project Manager: Ms Barbara Battel-Kirk
Funder: European Agency for Health and Consumers

Background

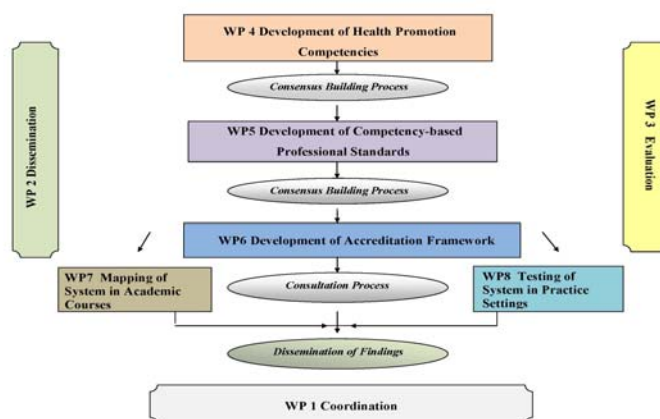
The CompHP Project aims to develop a Europe-wide competency framework and system of professional standards for health promotion practice, education and training. This framework will form the basis for building a competent and effective health promotion workforce in Europe.

Research Aims

- To identify, agree and publish core competencies for health promotion practice, education and training in Europe
- To develop and publish competency-based professional standards for health promotion practice
- To promote quality assurance through the development of a Europe-wide accreditation system
- To map competencies and standards in academic courses across Europe and link to accreditation for academic settings
- To pilot competencies, standards and accreditation with practitioners in a range of settings across Europe
- To engage in consultation with key stakeholders and disseminate information on the project outcomes throughout the 27 EU member states and all candidate countries

Methods

The CompHP project is comprised of eight workpackages, which are developed in collaboration with the 22 project partners across Europe.



Progress to Date

In partnership with the IUHPE European network and key national agencies, the CompHP project, is developing a consensus-based system in collaboration with practitioners, policymakers and education providers from across the European region. A set of core competencies, professional standards and a quality assurance accreditation system for health promotion will be developed and disseminated.

Dissemination

Further details of the CompHP project are available at:
<http://www.iuhpe.org/index.html?page=614&lang=en>

REVIEW OF EVIDENCE BASED MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION AND PRIMARY/SECONDARY INTERVENTIONS

Principal Investigators: Professor Margaret Barry
Researcher: Ms Colette Dempsey, Mr Reamonn Canavan,
 Ms Aleisha Clarke, Ms Maeve O’Sullivan
Funder: Department of Health, UK

Background

This review paper, which was commissioned by the Department of Health in London, analyses the current evidence on the effectiveness of mental health promotion and primary/secondary prevention interventions. The paper provides a synthesis of the international evidence from reviews of reviews, systematic reviews, meta-analyses and selected individual studies on the effectiveness of interventions to promote mental health and prevent the onset of mental health problems and disorders.

Research Aims

The aims of the review are to:

- identify which interventions are supported by high-quality research evidence
- identify the outcomes from effective interventions in terms of mental health improvements, wider health and social benefits and, where available, data on cost-effectiveness and impact on inequality
- draw conclusions based on best available evidence about which interventions are most likely to be effective
- identify the characteristics of successful intervention programmes and what makes them work
- identify gaps in the existing evidence and highlight areas where further research is needed.

Methods

The following methods were used to identify the evidence to be included in this paper:

- Review of the existing literature and search of the electronic review databases (NICE, NHS/ Centre for Reviews and Dissemination, National Institute of Health Research (DARE, HTA, EEP), Effective Public Health Practice, Health Evidence Canada, the CDC Community Guide, US Mental Health and Substance Abuse (SAMHSA), EPPI-Centre evidence library, ISI Web of Knowledge, the Cochrane database of systematic reviews)
- Selection of relevant review-level intervention studies
- Selected relevant individual studies.

The studies are reviewed in terms of the overall strength of the evidence, according to type of research design, target group, the health outcomes, social and economic benefits, effect sizes, impact on inequality and general conclusions. On the basis of best available evidence, the characteristics of successful interventions are outlined. Gaps in the evidence base are identified and issues requiring further research are highlighted.

Progress to Date

The key findings, implementation issues, gaps in the evidence, and conclusions from the review evidence are presented in the final report.

Dissemination

Barry, M.M., Canavan, R., Clarke, A., Dempsey, C. and O’Sullivan, M. (2009) *Review of Evidence-based Mental Health Promotion and Primary/Secondary Prevention*. Report prepared for the Department of Health, London.

BEST PRACTICE IN PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH IN SOCIALLY MARGINALISED PEOPLE IN EUROPE (PROMO)

Principal Investigator: Professor Margaret Barry
Researchers: Mr Reamonn Canavan
Funder: DG SANCO, European Commission

Background

PROMO (Best Practice in Promoting Mental Health in Socially Marginalised People in Europe) is funded by the European Commission and is being conducted in 14 European capitals. The focus of the project is on the delivery of health and social care for people with mental health problems who belong to one of the six following groups: (1) long-term unemployed; (2) homeless; (3) prostitutes/sex workers; (4) asylum seekers/refugees; (5) illegal immigrants; (6) Travellers.

Research Aims

To formulate policy recommendations and identify best practice for the promotion of mental health amongst socially marginalised people in Europe. This will be achieved through the analysis of quantitative and qualitative data collected on relevant policies, legislation, services and systems of services in each country.

Research Methods

1. To review policies and legislation in each country related to promoting mental health and preventing mental ill-health amongst socially marginalised groups.
2. To select the two most deprived areas in each capital city and:
 - a) obtain information via a structured interview with services, both statutory and voluntary, which provide health and social care in these areas for marginalised people with mental health problems (e.g. the organisation of each service, its clients, components of care, coordination with other services and funding arrangements)
 - b) assess the overall quality of care in these areas by conducting semi-structured interviews with relevant experts in relation to each marginalised group
 - c) to use this data to identify good practice on the level of services and systems of services
3. To identify and conduct interviews with experts from the 13 non-participating EU countries to ascertain whether the services and systems of services in their countries are similar or differ to the ones identified in the PROMO project. A template documenting the findings from the PROMO project will be produced to accommodate this analysis. This workpackage is specific to the Health Promotion Research Centre.

Progress to Date

- The structured interviews with the relevant services have been completed (eighty interviews in total). The data has been entered into a database which has also been forwarded to the co-ordinating centre in Queen Mary College, London for further analysis
- The semi structured interviews with experts to assess the overall quality of care in each area have been completed and transcribed (12 interviews in total)
- A draft report on the services and systems of services in the identified areas in Ireland has been produced
- Experts from the 13 non-participating countries have been identified. A template documenting the services and systems of services in six of the participating countries has been produced. Data collection is due to commence in February 2010.

Key Publications and Reports

Barry, M. & O' Sullivan, M. (Jan, 2008) *Promo: Identification and review of policies and legislation in Ireland*. Health Promotion Research Centre.

Canavan, R. & Barry, M. (Nov, 2009) Preliminary findings from the PROMO project - Irish draft report. Health Promotion Research Centre.

TOWARD INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON COMPETENCIES AND ACCREDITATION IN HEALTH PROMOTION AND HEALTH EDUCATION: THE GALWAY CONSENSUS CONFERENCE

Meeting Co-chairs: Professor Margaret Barry, NUI Galway and Professor John Allegrante, Columbia University, New York

Background and Research Aims

Developing a competent health promotion workforce is a key component of capacity building for the future and is critical to delivering on the vision, values and commitments of global health promotion. An international consensus meeting, jointly organised by the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE), the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE) and the US Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC), with participation from international leaders in the field, took place at the National University of Ireland Galway, in June 2008. The purpose of the Galway Consensus Conference was to begin the process of promoting international exchange and understanding concerning core competencies and accreditation in the professional preparation of health promotion and health education specialists. The Consensus Conference sought to develop a shared vision of the core competencies, professional standards and quality assurance mechanisms necessary for developing workforce capacity across countries and continents.

Methods

As a first step in this process, the Galway Consensus Conference convened a working group of international leaders in the field that have been prominent in the development of competency-based and accreditation movements in global public health and population health. A Consensus Statement, based on the proceedings of the meeting, was produced which outlines core values and principles, a common definition, and eight domains of core competency that are required to engage in effective health promotion practice. The core domains of competency agreed to at the meeting are: catalysing change, leadership, assessment, planning, implementation, evaluation, advocacy and partnerships.



Progress to Date

The work on this initiative is also being taken forward by the Centre's Director, through her role as Global Vice President for Capacity Building, Education and Training (2007-2010) with the IUHPE. A wider global consultation process is taking place in collaboration with the IUHPE Regional Officers and the WHO Regional Offices in order to continue the process of building international consensus with regard to health promotion core competencies. The findings will be presented at the IUHPE World Conference in Switzerland in 2010.

Dissemination

In 2009 the Galway Consensus Statement, along with eight commissioned background papers and five sets of comments and commentaries from the field, was published in tandem issues of the IUHPE journal, *Global Health Promotion* (Vol. 16, No. 2, June, 2009) and SOPHE's journal *Health Education & Behavior* (Vol. 36, No.3, June 2009). Both GHP (<http://ghp.sagepub.com>) and HEB (<http://heb.sagepub.com>) issues are available open access on their respective websites in SAGE's online platform until the upcoming IUHPE World Conference in July 2010.

SUBSTANCE USE IN NEW COMMUNITIES IN THE WEST OF IRELAND

Principal Investigator: Dr Saoirse Nic Gabhainn
Researchers: Dr Colette Kelly, Dr Michal Molcho, Ms Siobhan O'Higgins
Funder: Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs

Background

Ireland is an established host country for migrant workers and asylum seekers from around the world with a high proportion migrating to the West of Ireland. Such new communities have brought a diverse range of cultural practices and customs to the western region and require a host country that is culturally sensitive to meet their needs. The Western Region Drugs Taskforce recognises these new communities and thus their role in assessing their needs around the prevention and treatment of substance misuse. This research was commissioned by the Taskforce in order to feed into the next strategic policy for the region.

Research Aims:

This research aimed to provide an overview of the new communities in the West of Ireland and to explore substance misuse in key countries of origin as well as among new communities living in Ireland and in particular the West of Ireland. It also aimed to document the main risk factors for substance use in new communities, the barriers to effective service utilisation and possible service level responses, including recommendations for relevant service provision to and with members of new communities in the west.

Methods

A review of the scientific and policy literature was undertaken. Interviews with service providers and analyses of regional media sources were also employed.

Results

The final report was launched in February 2009. Substance use is lower among new communities than the Irish population, although immigrants are at a greater risk for engaging in substance use due to the disadvantages they experience relative to the native population. There are a number of both objective and subjective factors preventing immigrants from accessing services. These barriers need to be tackled and minimised and require supports for new communities, for service providers and especially communication between the two. There is an opportunity for service development to occur in a consultative manner and in partnership with new communities. Recommendations for action by service providers are provided in the report.

Key Publications and Reports

Kelly, C. Fitzpatrick, C. & Nic Gabhainn, S. (2009). *Substance Use in New Communities: A Way Forward*. Galway: Western Region Drugs Task Force.

v. Dissemination



The Health Promotion Research Centre hosts a range of meetings, conferences and seminars which aim to advance multidisciplinary collaboration for health and to further the translation of health promotion research into policy and practice. An important aspect of our work is ensuring that our research activity and findings are disseminated through reports, peer review publications and conference presentations. Reports and publications are available from our website at www.nuigalway.ie/hprc. Centre activities have also been widely reported in the media.

a. Publications

Reports

Barry, M.M., Canavan, R., Clarke, A., Dempsey, C. & O'Sullivan, M. (2009). *Review of Evidence-based Mental Health Promotion and Primary/Secondary Prevention*. Report to the Department of Health, London.

Barry, M.M., Van Lente, E., Molcho, M., Morgan, K., McGee, H., Conroy, R.M., Watson, D., Shelley, E. & Perry, I. (2009). *SLÁN 2007: Survey of Lifestyle, Attitudes and Nutrition in Ireland. Mental Health and Social Well-Being*. Department of Health and Children. Dublin: The Stationery Office.

Battel-Kirk, B. & Barry, M.M. (2009). *Testing the feasibility of implementing a pan-European framework for health promotion accreditation*. IUHPE Research Report Series. 4(1).

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c. Media Coverage

Republic's record on child health criticised

Ireland's children are suffering needlessly through a lack of measures that address inequalities

MAURICE KELLY

Irish children happier than UK peers

Irish children are happier

Young and elderly at risk of injuries

Online info may be key element in student health

Health inequalities among children the focus of conference

Don't stress out: mind your head



NUIG team has key role in mental health study



Traffic a major Galway negative

Students check up drinking habit online

Newspaper and Magazine Articles

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National Radio

February 20, 2009:
Newstalk – The Breakfast Show

November 11, 2009:
RTE Radio 1 – Morning Ireland & news bulletins
KCLR FM - The Sue Nunn Show (newspaper reviews)
4FM - Lunchtime News

November 11, 2009:
News Bulletins on:
98FM
Today FM
News Talk

Local/Regional Radio

February 20, 2009:
Galway Bay FM - Keith Finnegan Show

November 11, 2009:
Galway Bay FM – Keith Finnegan Show & news bulletins
Radio Kerry
Highland FM
Limerick 95 FM
Mid & North West Radio
Midlands 103
Red FM
Northern Sound
Tipp FM
LMFM – Breakfast News

d. Health Promotion Conference 2009



One of the Centre's largest dissemination events is the Annual Summer Health Promotion Conference which is organised in conjunction with the Population Health Directorate of the Health Services Executive, the Health Promotion Policy Unit, Department of Health and Children and NUI Galway. This conference serves as a national platform for the dissemination and integration of theory, research, policy and practice. Themes addressed include; evidence-based health promotion practice; nutrition; social capital; mental health promotion; health inequalities; re-orienting health services and population health, Health Promotion Competencies and Professional Standards.

The 2009 Health Promotion conference was **'Closing the Gap in Child and Adolescent Health: the Settings Approach'**. The conference had a particular focus on child and adolescent health with the following themes:

- Child Participation
- Health & Social Care, primary schools & hospitals
- Health & Place: schools, community & workplace
- Settings: Early childhood, home & pre-school settings.



Conference Programme

Closing the gap in child and adolescent health: the settings approach

Health Promotion Research Centre Annual Conference
11th and 12th June, 2009

Thursday 11th June 2009

- 9.30-10.40 *Parallel Paper Sessions A, B and C*
Venues: AC201, AC202, AC203
Chairs: Dr. Ágnes Németh, National Institute of Child Health, Hungary, Dr. Carmen Moreno, University of Sevilla, Spain, Professor Oya Ercan, Istanbul University, Turkey
- 10.00am **Registration**
Venue: Foyer, Arts Concourse Building
Tea and Coffee will be available.
- 11.00am **Welcome Address:**
Venue: Kirwan Theatre, Arts Concourse Building
Dr. Saoirse Nic Gabhainn, Health Promotion Research Centre, NUI Galway
Professor Gerard Loftus, Dean of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, NUI Galway
- 11.15am **Plenary: Policy**
Venue: Kirwan Theatre, Arts Concourse Building
- **Vivian Barnekow**, Programme Manager, Child and Adolescent Health Development, WHO Regional Office for Europe
 - **Dr. Sean Denyer**, Director, HSE Programme of Action for Children
Chair: Robbie Breen, Health Promotion Policy Unit, Department of Health and Children
- 12.00pm **Parallel Paper Session 1:**
Venue: AC201
Chair: Ms. Saskia van Dorsselaer, Trimbos Institute, Netherlands
- Parallel Paper Session 2:**
Venue: AC202
Chair: Dr. Ieveta Pudule, Public Health Agency, Latvia
- Parallel Paper Session 3:**
Venue: AC203
Chair: Dr. Emmanuel Kuntsche, Swiss Institute for the Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Problems, Switzerland
- Parallel Paper Session 4:**
Venue: AC204
Chair: Dr. Michal Molcho, Health Promotion Research Centre, National University of Ireland Galway
- 1.00pm **Lunch**
Venue: Foyer, Arts Concourse Building

- 2.00pm **Plenary: Data**
Venue: Kirwan Theatre, Arts Concourse Building
- **Professor Candace Currie**, HBSC International Coordinator and Chair of Child and Adolescent Health Research Unit, University of Edinburgh
 - **Dr. Helen McAvoy**, Senior Policy Officer, Institute of Public Health in Ireland
Chair: Ms Catherine Murphy, Assistant National Director, Population Health, Health Service Executive

- 3.00pm **Young People's Perspectives**
Venue: AC201 and AC202
Chair: Ms Priscilla Doyle, Health Promotion Research Centre, National University of Ireland, Galway

Parallel Paper Sessions 5 and 7

Venue: AC203

Chairs: Dr. Don Klinger, Queen's University at Kingston, Canada
 Dr. Michal Molcho, Health Promotion Research Centre, National University of Ireland Galway

Parallel Paper Sessions 6 and 8

Venue: AC204

Chairs: Dr. Winifried van de Sluijs, University of Edinburgh
 Dr. Jacky Jones Functional Manager for Health Promotion, HSE West

Poster Session

Venue: Foyer, Arts Concourse Building

- 5.30pm **Drinks reception**
Venue: Foyer, Arts Concourse Building



Friday 12th June 2009

- 9.00am **Plenary: Settings¹**
Venue: Kirwan Theatre, Arts Concourse Building
- **Mr. Goof Buijs²**, Coordinator School Programme, Institute for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, Netherlands
 - **Ms. Caroline Cullen**, Office of the CEO, Health Services Executive, Ireland
Chair: Dr Sinead Hanafin, Head of Research, Department of Health and Children
- 10.30am Tea and Coffee
Venue: Foyer, Arts Concourse Building
- 11.00am **Schools Health Promotion**

¹ Dr Noirin Hayes was unable to attend, but her paper was distributed

² This speaker was sponsored by NUI Galway's Millennium Fund

Venue: AC201

Facilitator: Mr. Ian Young³, Formerly NHS Health Scotland

Doing Participatory Research

Venue: AC202

Facilitator: Ms. Siobhan O'Higgins, Health Promotion Research Centre, National University of Ireland Galway

Symposium: Zippy's Friends – an emotional wellbeing programme for children in primary school

Venue: AC203

Convened by: Professor Margaret Barry, Health Promotion Research Centre, National University of Ireland Galway

Parallel Paper Session 9

Venue: AC204

Chair: Dr. Michal Molcho, Health Promotion Research Centre, National University of Ireland Galway

12.30pm

Closing Session

Venue: Kirwan Theatre, Arts Concourse Building

Chair: Ms Olive McGovern, Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Department of Health and Children

Launch of Ethics of Children's Research

Dr Sinead Hanafin, Head of Research, Department of Health and Children

Dr Heike Felzmann, Centre for Bioethical Research, National University of Ireland Galway

Dr Anne Cleary, Director of Research, School of Sociology, University College Dublin

Conference Wrap-Up

Mr. Ian Young⁴, formerly NHS Scotland

1.30pm

Lunch

Venue: Foyer, Arts Concourse Building



³ This speaker was sponsored by NUI Galway's Millennium Fund

⁴ This speaker was sponsored by NUI Galway's Millennium Fund

vi. Research Grants & Donations



| Project Title | Funder | Principal Investigator | Grant Received | Project Dates |
|--|---|--|----------------|------------------|
| Best Practice in Promotion Mental Health (PROMO) | Public Health Executive Agency, European Commission | M. Barry | €82,612 | 1/9/07-31/12/10 |
| Blended Learning Enquiry | NAIRTL | L. Pursell V. McKenna B. Griffin | €5,000 | 1.7.09-30/6/10 |
| Chlamydia Screening | Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC) | D. O'Donovan | €175,947 | 18/10/07-30/6/10 |
| ChRAIC | HEA & Irish Aid | D. O'Donovan | €138,494 | 1/10/07-30/8/13 |
| Creating a Common Foundation in Care | Leonardo da Vinci, European Commission | J. Sixsmith | €32,152 | 1/10/09-30/9/11 |
| DATAPREV | IMPHA | M. Barry | €2,000 | 15/1/09-21/9/09 |
| Developing a Mental Health Portal | Counselling Service, NUIG | J. Sixsmith | €30,000 | 1/8/09-30/9/10 |
| Development Education Research Network/DERN | Irish Aid | D. O'Donovan, S. Ming-Khoo | €330,000 | 1/6/06-30/6/09 |
| Development of a Data Strategy for Children in Ireland | Atlantic Philanthropies | S. Nic Gabhainn | €49,259 | 30/11/07-31/1/10 |
| Economic Evaluation of Chlamydia Screening | HPSC | D. O'Donovan | €64,463 | 16/6/08-30/6/10 |
| Developing Competencies & Standards for Health Promotion Capacity Building in Europe | EAHC, European Commission | M. Barry | €659,540 | 1/9/09-30/8/12 |
| Evaluating the Strengthening Families Programme | Western Region Drugs Taskforce | J. Sixsmith | €20,576 | 9/9/09-8/9/10 |
| Evaluation of Zippy's Friends | Health Service Executive West | M. Barry | €66,240 | 1/11/07-30/4/10 |
| Health Behaviour in School Age Children ³ (Ireland) | Department of Health & Children | S. Nic Gabhainn | €671,275 | 1/4/06-31/12/09 |

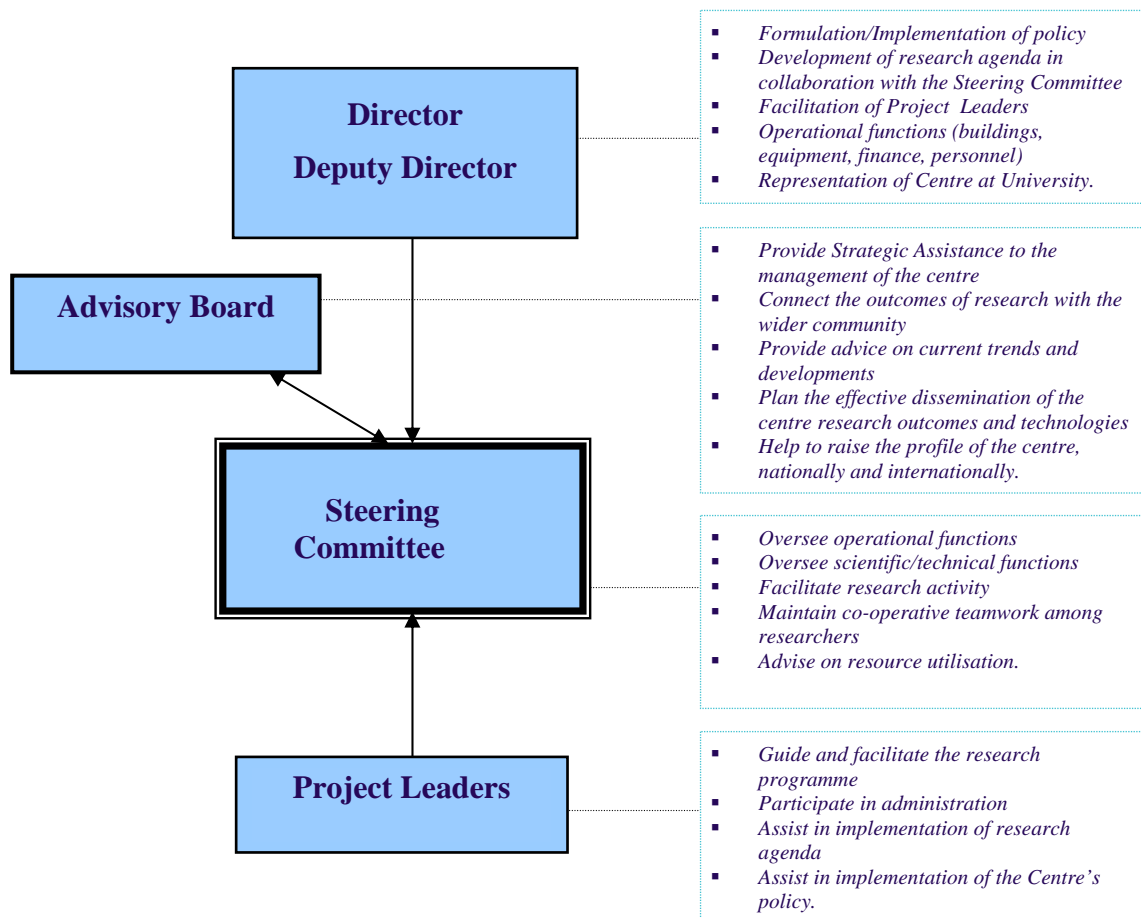
| Project Title | Funder | Principal Investigator | Grant Received | Project Dates |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| Healthy Eating & Physical Activity in School | European Commission | S. Nic Gabhainn | €13,669 | 1/9/08-30/4/11 |
| HPRC Annual Summer Conference 2009 | HSE DOHC NUI Galway | S. Nic Gabhainn | €3,000 €3,000 €2,500 | 1/1/09-31/12/09 |
| Health & Well-being in Middle Childhood | Office of the Minister for Children & Youth Affairs (OMCYA) | S. Nic Gabhainn | €40,000 | 1/4/06-31/12/09 |
| PhD Fellowships: S. O'Higgins (3 years) A. Gavin (3 years) A. Clarke (3 years) | Office of the Minister for Children & Youth Affairs (OMCYA) NUI Galway IRCHSS | <u>Supervisors:</u> S. Nic Gabhainn S. Nic Gabhainn M. Barry | <u>Total Grants:</u> €141,000 + fees | 1/10/07-30/9/10 1/9/08-30/8/12 1/9/08-30/8/11 |
| Review of evidence based mental health promotion & primary/secondary interventions | Department of Health, UK | M. Barry | €12,000 | 1/4/09-30/6/09 |
| SLÁN 07 | Department of Health and Children | M. Barry M. Molcho | €66,103 | 1/11/06-30/9/09 |
| Substance Use in New Communities | Western Region Drugs Task Force | S. Nic Gabhainn J. Sixsmith | €15,000 | 1/11/07-28/2/10 |
| Translating Health Communication for the Prevention & Control of Communicable Diseases | European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) | M. Barry J. Sixsmith | €547,677 | 7/12/09-6/12/12 |
| Winning New Opportunities for Unemployed People | Mental Health Ireland | M. Barry | €8,000 | 1/11/09-30/9/10 |
| Work Life Balance in the University Sector | NUI Galway Millennium Fund | V. Hogan | €9,288 | 30/11/07-1/3/09 |
| Total Current Grants & Donations | | | €3,188,795 | |

vii. Governance

a. Management Structure Health Promotion Research Centre

The generic management structure for research centres and units recommended by NUI Galway has been adopted by the Health Promotion Research Centre. This consists of the establishment of an internal Steering Committee and an Advisory Board (see diagram below). The Steering Committee is comprised of a Director of the Centre, a Deputy Director, a team of Project Leaders, an Administrative Director and Secretary.

The Advisory Group consists of representatives from Health Promotion practice, policy and research at national and international level (Advisory Group members external to the HPRC are listed below).



b. External Members of the International Advisory Board

- Dr Desmond O'Byrne, (retired) Department of Chronic Diseases and Health Promotion (NMH/CHP) WHO Headquarters Geneva, Switzerland
- Professor Maurice Mittlemark, HEMIL Centre, University of Bergen, Norway (from October 2007)
- Mr. Brian Mullen, Principal Officer, Health Promotion Policy Unit, Department of Health and Children, Dublin
- Ms. Catherine Murphy, Assistant National Director Population Health, Health Services Executive
- Professor Gerry Loftus, Dean of the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, National University of Ireland Galway
- Professor Edward Herring, Dean of the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies, National University of Ireland Galway
- Mr. Anthony Varley, Vice-Dean for Research, College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies, National University of Ireland Galway
- Professor Agnes Sheil, Head of School of Health Sciences,, National University of Ireland Galway
- Mr. Declan Ashe, Director of Strategic Development, College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, National University of Ireland Galway
- Mr Gary Lupton, Research Office, National University of Ireland Galway
- Dr Martina Ní Chúlain, Clinical Research Facility, National University of Ireland Galway.