



Irish Research Nurses and Midwives Network (IRNM)

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CHAIR AND PROGRAMME MANGER

Over View

- ▶ Research Ecosystem in Ireland
- ▶ Establishment of Irish Research Nurses and Midwives Network
- ▶ Grant Funding
- ▶ Project Deliverables
- ▶ Engaged Stakeholders

Irish Research Eco System

- ▶ Health Research Board – Main funding agency for healthcare research
- ▶ Research takes place in clinical research facilities, hospitals and communities
- ▶ National Research Ethics Committee
- ▶ Health Product Regulatory Authority
- ▶ Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland



Bord Altranais agus
Cnáimhseachais na hÉireann
Nursing and Midwifery Board
of Ireland



HRB National Clinical Trials Office



- Industry
- Academic
- Investigator Led



Health Research Board
NCTO
National Clinical Trials Office



Irish Research Nurses and Midwives Network



- ▶ IRNM established in 2008
- ▶ The role of the IRNM is to act as a resource for research nurses and midwives, allied healthcare professionals and patients through:
 - ▶ Providing regularly updates for research nurses/midwives, allied healthcare professionals and patients on the changing guidelines and laws relating to the conduct of clinical research.
 - ▶ Serve as a vehicle for advertising research vacancies.
 - ▶ Organise annual conferences with a variety of speakers at the forefront of research and to provide research nurses/midwives the opportunity to present and share their work to their peers.
- ▶ <https://irnm.ie/>

Grant Funding

- ▶ HRB funded 2018-2021 (extended to 2022 due to Covid-19)
 - ▶ €187,000 (including overheads)
 - ▶ Count Me In Study 2019 - <https://irnm.ie/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Count-Me-In-Study-Final-Report.pdf>
- ▶ HRB funded 2022 – 2025
 - ▶ Project specific grant
 - ▶ Recruitment of Programme Manager
 - ▶ €300,000

Strategic Objectives

- ▶ Strategic Objective 1: Develop national job description criteria for Clinical Research Nurses and Midwives (CRNM) with differentiated grades corresponding to competencies and skills, from novice to advanced practice
- ▶ Strategic Objective 2: Maintenance and development of the CRNM Database to provide a live register of the CRNM workforce in Ireland

Strategic Objective 1

Strategic Objective 1:

- ▶ Challenges and barriers to recruiting and retaining CRNMs, from the perspective of all CRNM's and stakeholders
- ▶ Employment grades aligned to national approved scales for nurses and midwives
- ▶ Description of CRNM competencies, defining level of skill applicable to employment grade
- ▶ Guidelines for mentorship and competency assessment of CRNMs.
- ▶ Potential application for undergraduate student placements

Strategic Objective 2

Strategic Objective 2:

- ▶ Annual metrics on the profile of registered CRNMs, within the confines of data protection and confidentiality
- ▶ Cumulative data on recruitment and retention of CRNMs, duration of employment in particular posts, employment grades and length of experience in clinical research

Work to date

- ▶ Delayed start – Commenced May 2023
- ▶ Stakeholder mapping
- ▶ Scoping Review: Barriers and enablers to the recruitment and retention of research nurses and midwives
 - ▶ First search - included term 'study co-ordinator'
 - ▶ Yielded 300 abstracts
- ▶ Building data collection tool – building on Dr Laia Raigal work

Engaged Stakeholders

- ▶ Chief Nurses Office, Department of Health
- ▶ Research, Development and Health Analytics, Department of Health
- ▶ Research and Evidence Unit, HSE
- ▶ Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director, HSE
- ▶ National Clinical Trials Office
- ▶ Area Directors for Nursing and Midwifery
- ▶ Industry

Plan for change

- ▶ Develop a case for change and present to the Department of Health
 - ▶ Fund research nurses and midwives to be employed on long term contracts enjoy the same employment terms as nurses employed by the government
- ▶ Role profiles and competencies for clinical research nurses and midwives recognised nationally
- ▶ Competency assessment tools developed and uses
- ▶ Comprehensive database of research nurses and midwives



Questions

Thank you

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