One Health Conference
17th November 2025
Theme: Innovation and Collaboration in One Health

SESSION 1

Dr. Eoin Ryan qualified as a vet from UCD in 2002. Following a period in mixed practice, he did a PhD in foot and mouth disease at the Pirbright Institute, UK. He has worked at the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation in Rome on international disease control and in a number of roles in the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, where he is now Deputy Chief Veterinary Officer.

Rachel Kenna is the Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) for Ireland. She is a Registered Children's and General Nurse (RCN/RGN) and has extensive clinical and managerial experience, spanning 30 years in Ireland and the UK across a wide variety of clinical areas.
The Chief Nursing Officer role is an important strategic leadership role providing professional policy direction and evidence-based expert advice for Government on nursing, midwifery, and broader health policy development. Rachel has a real interest in health policy and brings a knowledgeable clinical practice, patient, system and governance perspective to its development and implementation.
As an Assistant Secretary in the Department of Health, Rachel has responsibility for a broad health policy portfolio including the National Patient Safety Office, professional regulation oversight, strategic workforce planning, workforce reform, population health screening and cardiovascular health policy. Rachel also actively contributes to Global Health Policy development working closely with European colleagues and the WHO on health priorities.

Pat Byrne is Director of the Office of Radiation Protection and Environmental Monitoring in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Pat has responsibility for three programme areas: Environmental Monitoring and Surveillance, Environment & Health, and Water Enforcement.
Pat brings over 28 years of experience in environmental protection, having held a wide range of roles within the EPA. His career has focused particularly on the regulation (licensing and enforcement) of industrial, waste, and wastewater activities, as well as environmental and radiation monitoring. Prior to his current role, Pat served as Programme Manager for Waste and Local Authority Enforcement, and previously Programme Manager for Environmental Monitoring and Surveillance.

Dr. Arjun Srinivasan received his medical degree from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and then did a residency in Internal Medicine on the Sir William Osler Medical Service of the Johns Hopkins Hospital. He remained at Johns Hopkins for a fellowship in Infectious Diseases and then joined the faculty in Infectious Diseases and was the founding director of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Program and the Associate Healthcare Epidemiologist. He joined the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion in 2003. While at CDC, he helped lead national efforts to eliminate healthcare associated infections and reduce antibiotic resistance and led the CDC's work to increase the uptake of antibiotic stewardship efforts in hospitals. He left CDC after 22 years to take a position as the Deputy Chief Medical Officer at The Joint Commission. He has published more than 150 peer reviewed articles and has spoken at conferences around the world.

Dr. Sara Cosgrove, MD, MS, is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Infectious Disease at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine with a joint appointment in the Department of Epidemiology, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and is Director of the Department of Antimicrobial Stewardship and Associate Hospital Epidemiologist at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Dr. Cosgrove's expertise includes the epidemiology and outcomes of antimicrobial resistance; the development of tools and programs to promote the rational use of antimicrobials at local, regional and national levels; the prevention of healthcare-associated infections, particularly device-associated infections, and the epidemiology and management of S. aureus bacteremia. Dr. Cosgrove has led the Johns Hopkins Hospital Department of Antimicrobial Stewardship since 2003 and has been integral to establishing stewardship operations, research, and policy at the hospital, across the state of Maryland, nationally, and internationally. She is a past voting member of the Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria and a Past President of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology's Board of Directors.

Dr. Kitty Healey is a veterinary surgeon and Head of the Surveillance Division and Head of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) at the UK Government's Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD). She chairs Defra's Antimicrobial Resistance Coordination Group (DARC), which coordinates, advises, and reviews Defra activities on antimicrobial usage in animals and AMR in micro-organisms from animals and food. Kitty also chairs ResAlert, a cross-government contingency planning group that monitors and responds to emerging AMR risks detected in bacteria from animals. She leads the development of the annual Veterinary Antibiotic Resistance and Sales Surveillance (VARSS) report, which presents national data on antimicrobial sales, usage and resistance in animals. In these roles, Kitty leads implementation of the animal health and veterinary medicines components of the UK's five-year AMR National Action Plan, integrating policy and evidence to inform actions to mitigate the development and spread of antimicrobial resistance.

Professor Ana Maria de Roda Husman is head of the environmental department at the RIVM Centre for Infectious Disease Control. She holds a chair in 'Global changes and environmentally transmitted infectious diseases' at the Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences at Utrecht University. Prof. Dr Ana Maria de Roda Husman studied molecular biology at VU University Amsterdam and in 1995, she earned her PhD with her thesis 'Human Papillomaviruses and cervical carcinogenesis' at the VU University Medical Center Amsterdam. Ana Maria de Roda Husman works at RIVM as well as Utrecht University in prevention and control of infectious diseases that can be transmitted through the environment.

SESSION 2

Dr Paul Ryan works as a GP in Cork City and is a qualified pharmacist since 2004. He is one of the GP advisors to the AMRIC team and co-chairs the antibiotic working group. He is currently undertaking a clinical fellowship with the Dept. Of General Practice in UCC, part of this fellowship involves analysing Irish prescribing trends in fluoroquinolone and macrolide prescriptions over the last 12 years.

Dr. Aoife Fleming is a Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pharmacy and Vice Head for Interprofessional Learning, University College Cork. Having graduated as a Pharmacist from Trinity College Dublin in 2005, she went on to complete her Masters in Hospital Pharmacy in 2007. She subsequently completed her PhD in UCC in 2015 investigating antimicrobial stewardship in long-term care facilities. Her research and publications focus on antimicrobial stewardship, vaccine hesitancy and medication safety related issues. Dr Fleming supervises a number of postgraduate researchers in these areas and is active in promoting antimicrobial stewardship in healthcare curricula in her role as MPharm Programme Director UCC. She is Principal Investigator on a number of funded research projects, investigating antimicrobial prescribing, surveillance, point-of-care diagnostics, the impact of antimicrobial resistance on patient quality of life, and vaccine hesitancy. She is a Member of Council of the British Society of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy and Board Member of the Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education UK.

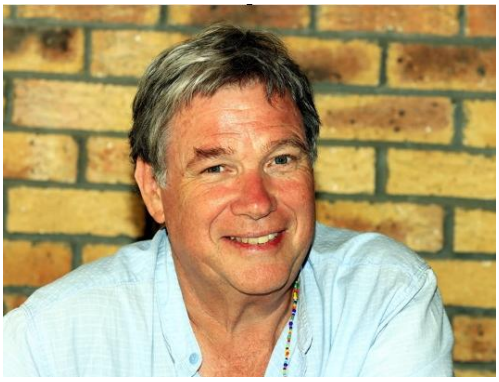
Dr. Conor Geraghty graduated from the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine in 1999. Originally from a farm in Fohenagh, County Galway, he returned home in 2000 and took over his local veterinary practice. He now heads FarmGate Veterinary Group, where he leads a committed team of twenty-two staff with nine vets. His principal areas of expertise include fertility, herd and flock health, and the delivery of practical, on-farm solutions. In 2016, Conor earned a postgraduate certificate in Dairy Herd Health from UCD, further deepening his specialisation in bovine care. Alongside his veterinary career, Conor farms beef suckler cattle and sheep, and breeds horses for eventing. He currently serves as Chairperson of the CAVI Committee (Cattle Association of Veterinary Ireland), is Chair of the Veterinary Ireland Medicines Group, is a Past President of Veterinary Ireland, and Director of XLVets. His professional interests remain firmly rooted in providing a community based veterinary service to farmers.

Dr. Hazell Mullins BVM BVS PgCert ACP (Cattle) qualified from Nottingham University in 2013 and was in full time large animal practice for 11 years in various practices in Cork and Kerry. She completed a Post Graduate certificate in Cattle Production Medicine from the University of Edinburgh in 2022. In 2023 she began dairy farming in partnership with her father in Cork. She regularly locums for local veterinary practices in North Cork. In 2024 she was the President of Veterinary Ireland.

Professor Dearbháile Morris is Professor of Antimicrobial Resistance and One Health at University of Galway, Head of the Discipline of Bacteriology at the School of Medicine and Director of the Ryan Institute Centre for One Health. She established the Antimicrobial Resistance and Microbial Ecology Group in 2010 and her research group works closely with national and international research groups and other agencies focusing on antimicrobial resistance, food and water borne pathogens, emerging contaminants, the wider societal impact of infection and One Health. Dearbháile is currently participating in a number of national and international research projects focused on antimicrobial resistance and the environment. These include the EPA-funded I-RACE project, the BlueAdapt project co-funded by the European Union and the UKRI, and the EU Joint Action on Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare-Associated Infections.

SESSION 3

Professor Mary Horgan MD FRCPI FRCP is interim Chief Medical Officer and Professor of Infectious Diseases at UCD and Mater Misericordiae University Hospital. She is the immediate past President of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and is the first women to hold this position since the College's foundation in 1654. She is the former Dean of the School of Medicine at UCC and was the first woman to be appointed to this position.
She is a graduate of UCD School of Medicine in 1986 and was awarded the UCD Alumni award for health in 2019.
She is a Director of Education of the European Society of Infectious Diseases and Clinical Microbiology (ESCMID). She also served on the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHET) and led the expert advisory group on rapid testing and chaired Ireland's first National Research Ethics Committee.



Professor Darrell Abernethy qualified as a veterinarian from the University of Pretoria, South Africa in 1985 and has bounced between southern Africa and the UK since then: Northern Ireland (1986 – 91; 94 – 2012: epidemiologist), Botswana (1991–94: ODA contract – vet public health) and South Africa (2012-20; academia – HoD, Dean). In April 2020 he joined Aberystwyth University as founding head of its new veterinary school, the first of its kind in Wales and a joint venture with the Royal Veterinary College.
His research has been mostly around notifiable and zoonotic disease control/eradication, historically focused on bovine tuberculosis and brucellosis, but more recently, on canine rabies and avian influenza. He works on avian health across various endangered species (African penguins and vultures) and birds local to Wales (herring gulls and starlings). He is passionate about One Health principles, especially in regard to neglected tropical diseases and links between wildlife and poverty in poor countries.

Professor Alison Holmes OBE FMedSci is Professor of Infectious Diseases at Imperial College and the David Price Evans Chair of Infectious Diseases & Global Health at the University of Liverpool. She is the inaugural Director of the Fleming Initiative, which offers an innovative approach to the challenge of antimicrobial resistance (AMR)– combining research, behaviour change, public engagement, and policy to provide real-world solutions that work to protect the health security of local populations around the world. In 2025 she became Co-chair of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on AMR. She leads a large international, multidisciplinary infectious disease research programme on the improved management and prevention of infections, particularly focusing on the optimising of antimicrobial use and addressing AMR through the integration of microbiology, bioengineering and social sciences, and the development and application of innovative approaches and technologies for improved use of data, improved representation, intelligent diagnostics, and precision medicine.

Dr. Robert Skov, MD, Senior physician, Statens Serum Institut, Copenhagen Denmark; President, European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID). Robert is a medical doctor from University of Copenhagen and specialist in clinical microbiology and the current President of ESCMID (2024-2026). Robert has worked on antimicrobial resistance throughout his career with more than 25 years' experience as a Public Health microbiologist. From 2019-2024, he served as Science Director and member of the executive board of the International Centre for Antimicrobial resistance Solutions (ICARS). He has served as member of a number of national and international expert groups on AMR including One Health cross sectorial committees e.g. the EMA Expert Group (AMEG) on antibiotics to be used in animals. His research has mainly focused on S. aureus inclusive MRSA epidemiology and AMR especially phenotypic susceptibility testing; he has published 255 peer reviewed papers.

Dr. Ariana Zeka is an environmental epidemiologist and a formerly qualified medical doctor. A native of Albania, she trained and worked as a general physician during the country's political, social and economic transition years. She subsequently followed the path of training and qualification in occupational and environmental epidemiology which led to over 25 years of international experience and expertise in environmental public health. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the International Network for Public Health and Environmental Tracking (https://inphet.org/) and has been an expert advisor for the World Health Organization, United Nations, and several National Agencies in Environment and Health. She was recently elected a Fellow of the UK Faculty of Public Health through distinction for her outstanding contribution to public health. Ariana is an educator and trainer with international experience in academia, field epidemiology training programs and public health practice, with focus in the topics of environmental epidemiology, ecological public health, planetary health and climate change, and ecosystem health.

She is currently the Science Lead for Environmental Epidemiology at the UK Health Security Agency, an Honorary Associate Professor with the University College London, and an Adjunct Faculty with the University of Medicine, Tirana, Albania.