Noeline Blackwell

Noeline Blackwell is a human rights lawyer and CEO of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, a voluntary organisation which works to prevent the harm and heal the trauma of sexual violence. Prior to this, she was for ten years Director General of access to justice organisation FLAC, the Free Legal Advice Centres. She previously ran a solicitor's practice where she had a particular interest in refugee and immigration issues and in family law.

Noeline has been a member of several statutory and NGO boards, including most recently the Commission on the Future of Policing. She currently chairs the Independent Patient Safety Council and the Child Care Law Reporting Project. She sits on the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade's Women Peace & Security Oversight Group and its Audit Committee and is a member of UCD's Governing Authority.

Professor Eva Doherty

Professor Eva Doherty is a Chartered Clinical Psychologist and Director of the Human Factors in Patient Safety training programmes for surgical, ophthalmology, emergency medicine and radiology trainees at the National Surgical Training Centre, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI). Eva joined RCSI as a clinical psychologist/lecturer in the Department of Psychology in 1986. She moved to the Graduate School of Medicine in 2006 and to the National Surgical Training Centre, Department of Surgical Affairs, in 2009. In 2010, she introduced a new academic MSc in Human Factors in Patient Safety which is now an interdisciplinary online Postgraduate Diploma/Masters programme. Professor Doherty has thirty years' experience teaching at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels in RCSI and strives to build healthcare professionals' resilience and to enable them to deliver patient centred care. She is the Irish Representative for the International Association of Communication in Healthcare and Co-Chair of the Advisory Committee of this organisation. She is a Chartered and Associate Fellow member of both the Psychological Society of Ireland and the British Psychological Society. She was awarded Principal Fellowship of Advance HE, formerly the Higher Education Academy in the UK in 2019. Eva continues to practice as a clinical psychologist and conducts research in many aspects of communication in healthcare. She is chair of the HSE Respond Committee and advisor to the National Healthcare Communication Programme in Ireland.

Brian Fitzgerald

Brian Fitzgerald is the Deputy CEO and an Executive Director of Beacon Hospital Sandyford Dublin 18 and was previously the CEO and CFO of St. James's Hospital. He is a member of the Sláintecare Council, Chairperson of the National Haemophilia Council & Board member of the James's Street CBS secondary school. He is a fellow of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and holds an Executive MBA from UCD Michael Smurfit Graduate Business School.

Dr Orla Healy

Dr. Orla Healy MD, MPH FRCP FFPHM (I) is the newly appointed National Clinical Director of Quality and Patient Safety in the HSE.

A graduate of UCC in 1994, Orla worked in hospital medicine before embarking in a career in Public Health Medicine. She was based in the Department of Public Health (DPH), HSE South (Cork and Kerry) from 2005 – 2017 during which time she subspecialised in Health Service Improvement. She fulfilled multiple senior national roles in quality and patient safety in the HSE between 2008 and 2017 as the Public Health Consultant on all the HSE National incident management teams since their inception in 2008 (Safety Incident Management Team (SIMT) National Incident Management Team) (NIMT/ National Incident management and Learning Team (NIMLT)).

During that time, Orla was also involved in acute hospital policy formation and implementation at a national and regional level as a member of the Reconfiguration Executive for Cork and Kerry, and Public Health Representative on the Reconfiguration Forum. In June 2012, she took up a secondment at the Department of Health to provide public health expertise to the team for the formation of Hospital Groups.

In May 2016, she moved to a work in the South/South West Hospital Group. During her five years with the SSWHG, she occupied a range of senior management roles including Director of Quality, Governance and Patient Safety, Director of Strategy, Planning and Population Health and Chief Operations Officer. During that time, Orla was also seconded to the work with the NSS on a plan for the audit of interval cancer in the screened population. She edited and produced of a series of reports for each cancer screening programme in the National Screening Service (NSS).

In 2018, she was made Adjunct Clinical Professor in the School of Public Health UCC.

Since taking up post as National Clinical Director of Quality and Patient Safety in the HSE in April 2021, Orla has led the newly established National Quality and Patient Safety Directorate (NQPSD) in its delivery of purpose, aligned with the Patient Safety Strategy 2019-2024.

Over the course of her career Orla has used Clinical, Public Health and Management training and experience to bring about health service improvement. One of Orla's unwavering beliefs is that the delivery of high quality safe patient care is everyone's business and that co-design of quality and safety improvements in healthcare involves a partnership between healthcare staff, patients their families and advocates.

Peggy Maguire

Peggy, a political scientist, has worked at EU and national level over the last twenty years highlighting the need for gender equity in biomedical, public health and social policy. In her role as Director General of the European Institute of Women's Health she is responsible for directing the strategic planning and implementation for the organisation.

Previously, Peggy was Director of Development at the National Maternity Hospital, Dublin and Director of the Research and Education Foundation at the Irish College of General Practitioners.

As part of the EU Commission DG Research for the Women and Science Unit Expert Group on Gender, Peggy contributed to the gender wording for the research Framework programme guides for applicants and evaluators. She has worked with the EU Commission External Advisory Group on ageing and disability, the EU Horizon 2020 Advisory Groups, 'Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing', and EU Horizon 2020 Advisory Group on Gender.

Peggy has been part of the WHO expert group on gender mainstreaming and a member of the expert group for, and contributed to, the WHO Women's Health Strategy for Europe. Peggy has recently been appointed by the Minister for Health in Ireland as Co-Chair of the Women's Health Task Force.

Dr Suzette Woodward

Dr Suzette Woodward RGN, RSCN, DipMS, MSc, DProf, DSc, is an internationally renowned expert in patient safety who as at the forefront of safety thinking in healthcare. Suzette is a Professor of Patient Safety, now a freelance patient safety specialist providing strategic advice on all aspects of patient safety and in particular related to the latest concepts and theories on safety II, incivility and a just culture. She has worked in the NHS for over 40 years, starting out as a paediatric intensive care nurse she has specialised in patient safety at a national level for over two decades.

Suzette has held Executive Board positions at the National Patient Safety Agency and NHS Resolution and worked with health ministries across the world to help shape their patient safety strategies. Over the last six years Suzette was the National Clinical Director for the Sign up to Safety Campaign and worked as a Senior Policy Advisor for the Department of Health and Social Care. She has a doctorate in patient safety and is a Visiting Professor for the Institute of Global Health Innovation at Imperial College University London and Honorary Doctor of Science at the University of West London. She is author of a blog, numerous articles and two books; *Rethinking Patient Safety* and *Implementing Patient Safety*.

Brigid Doherty

Brigid has worked in healthcare in Ireland and the UK for over 45 years. She has experience in maternity, hospitals, community and hospice care. Brigid has significant management experience at various levels throughout her career including the Director of Patient Services at St. Joseph's Hospice in London, a 48-bed in-patient unit and day hospice having responsibility for management of all clinical services and day to day running of operations and an annual budget of £3.5 million.

Brigid has been a Patient Advocate since 2010, providing support and guidance to individuals who believe they have had an adverse outcome as a result of an experience within the Irish healthcare system.

Brigid currently sits on a number of Department of Health, HSE Advisory Committees, National Screening Service Committees and is a member of the Board of NOCA.

Charles Normand

Charles Normand is an economist and has worked for nearly 40 years on economic aspects of health and health care. He graduated in Economics from the University of Stirling, and his doctorate is from the University of York. He is Professor Emeritus at Trinity College Dublin, Professor of the Economics of Palliative Care and Rehabilitation at the Cicely Saunders Institute at King's College London and visiting Professor in Health Economics at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is a member of the Health Research Board and the Board of St James's Hospital.

Currently his main research interests are in the areas of ageing and palliative care, and on cancer prevention and treatment. He has ongoing interests in health care finance and economic evaluation methods, especially in complex settings. His recent studies have mainly related to how palliative care interventions affect outcomes and costs. He is leading on the economic evaluation components of two large European Commission funded randomised trials of palliative care interventions.

Charles has collaborated for many years with the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies and is currently co-leading a programme of work on population ageing and the impact on health and social care.

Dr Cathal O'Keeffe

Dr Cathal O'Keeffe, MD, MSc, MRCPI, is Head of Clinical Risk at the State Claims Agency where he leads the Clinical Risk Unit, which works in partnership with key stakeholders to advance safety in health and social care delivery. Previously he practiced as a Consultant Gastroenterologist. He was awarded an MD from University College Dublin for research into the role of neuro-humoral mechanisms in liver disease. He also has extensive experience in the not-for-profit sector having worked with a number of different overseas development agencies on health and education programmes in sub-Saharan Africa.

Martin O'Halloran

Martin has extensive management, leadership and coaching experience in the public and private sectors. He is a scientist and engineer by profession and holds qualifications in occupational health, executive coaching and management. He spent more than 20 years in the telecommunication industry in Ireland and the UK. He also has twenty years' experience in the public sector in Ireland. He was Chief Executive of the Health and Safety Authority for a period of eleven years. He has represented

the Irish interest on a number of European Safety and Health committees. He has served as external examiner on a number of undergraduate and graduate programmes in Occupational Safety and Health at TCD, UCD, UCC, UL and IT Sligo. He has served as an ordinary member and Chairman of boards including Chairman of the board of the Institute of Public Administration and the Association of Chief Executives of State Agencies. He is a Chartered Director and Fellow of the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health. He is also a member of the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal and the Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal. He is a published author.

Angela Fitzgerald

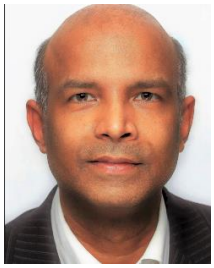
Angela Fitzgerald was appointed Chief Executive of HIQA in March 2022. Prior to this appointment, she served as Deputy National Director, Acute Operations in the Health Service Executive.

Angela has 27 years of wide-ranging experience in senior management in the health sector, with extensive experience of driving change and quality improvements. In addition to the development and implementation of hospital policy in the Department of Health, she led major national change processes in the HSE in a range of areas, such as hospital emergency services, the National Care Experience Programme and the National Transplant Services.

Niamh Muldoon

Niamh is the CEO and Registrar of the Veterinary Council of Ireland, the regulatory body for veterinary practitioners and veterinary nurses in Ireland, acting in the public interest. Niamh is a qualified Solicitor, Mediator and was appointed by the Supreme Court of Ireland as a Notary Public in 2013. Niamh formerly worked with the Medical Council of Ireland, the regulatory body for doctors in Ireland, as Secretary to the Medical Council and Head of Corporate Governance.

Tiberius Pereira



Tiberius Pereira has long been an advocate for patient safety and quality in healthcare. He was a patient representative on the Commission on Patient Safety and Quality Assurance, appointed by the Minister for Health in 2007. He is a co-founder of Patient Safety Ireland (PFPSI), a group of volunteers formed 11 years ago under a World Health Organisation programme https://www.who.int/initiatives/patients-for-patient-safety.

As defined by the WHO, PFPSI aims to engage and empower patients and families to be active partners and advocates in their own care. Our aim is to work in partnership and collaboration with health professionals and policy-makers to make health and social care services safer in Ireland and enable the patient voice to be heard fully. In that capacity, he has been a patient advocate on several steering groups, committees and other activities with the Department of Health, Health Service Executive the Health Information and Quality Authority and medical colleges, advocating for person-centred care and patient empowerment.

Engaging and empowering people is Commitment 1 of the HSE Patient Safety Strategy 2019-2024. It is also one of the five strategies of the WHO global strategy on people-centred and integrated health services (PCIHS) and a key element of quality Universal Healthcare. Digital Health is a key enabler for people empowerment and engagement and a key focus for Patients for Patient Safety Ireland.

As a member of PFPSI, Tiberius leads the national initiative calling for people empowerment through health literacy in the education system, health service and community programmes. The initiative calls for a joined-up approach to patient empowerment through health literacy across education, healthcare and communities, to empower everybody in Ireland with the knowledge, skills and confidence to be active partners and advocates for their own care and that of their loved ones. The Health Literacy Initiative is supported and endorsed by the largest advocacy groups in Ireland as well as the WHO, ISQua and other national and international groups.

In his professional life Tiberius has a business-related role in the engineering division of a large technology company.

Georgina Cruise

Georgina is the National Manager of the Patient Advocacy Service. She previously worked as Acting Service Manager and Advocacy Team Lead, having joined the Service in November 2019. Georgina has over 17 years' experience of working in the area of citizens' rights with a particular interest in the

role of Advocacy and sustainable Policy change to promote individual's rights. Georgina previously worked with the Citizens Information Service for 12 years as an advocate and development manager.