Alcohol & Medications in Pregnancy
Sharing Research Evidence on Recreational & Prescribed Substances

Penthouse Suite, Europa Hotel Belfast

Jointly hosted by the Maternal Fetal & Infant Research (MFIR) Centre, within the Institute for Nursing & Health Research (INHR) at The School of Nursing, Ulster University (Ulster); the Doctoral Midwifery Research Society (DMRS) & South Eastern Health & Social Care Trust (SET) in Northern Ireland (NI)

Funded by Health & Social Care Research & Development (HSC R&D) NI & INHR and Ulster

Please register your interest with INHR Secretary, Julie Cummins
j.cummins1@ulster.ac.uk
AGENDA: DAY 1 - Wednesday 9th September 2015

The main learning outcome for today is to enhance our shared knowledge of and understanding about alcohol consumption during pregnancy and its potential consequences.

08:00-08:30 Registration with refreshments (Tea/Coffee/Water)  
Background viewing of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) video & posters

08:30-08:40 Conference Overview  
Professor Owen Barr - Head of Nursing School, Ulster University

08:40-08:50 Chair’s opening comments  
Morning session: Chaired by Dr Michael McBride - The Chief Medical Officer (CMO), Department of Health Social Services & Public Safety, NI

08:50-09:00 Welcome from the MFIR Centre  
Helen Dolk - Professor of Epidemiology & Health Services Research & Head of the MFIR Centre, INHR, Ulster

09:00-09:15 Significance of International FASD Awareness Day, commemorative ‘spiritual pronouncement’ & pregnant pause  
Vic Robinson - MFIR PhD Student & Jointly Appointed Lecturer Practitioner Ulster & SET

09:15-09:30 Opening Address  
Fearghal McKinney - Committee for Health, Social Services & Public Safety of the Legislative Assembly for NI Communications Consultant

09:30-10:00 Substance Use in Pregnancy: A Public Health Perspective  
Dr Elizabeth Mitchell - Director of Development & Capacity Building, Institute of Public Health in Ireland

10:00-10:30 Maternal Risk Factors in Pregnancy: A NI context  
Vic Robinson - MFIR PhD Student & Jointly Appointed Lecturer Practitioner Ulster & SET

10:30-11:00 Morning Comfort Break with Refreshments & Fresh Fruit

11:00-11:30 Parental Alcohol Misuse & the Welfare of Children  
Dr David Hayes - Senior Lecturer, School of Sociology, Social Policy & Social Work, Queen’s University Belfast

11:30-12:15 Overview of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders  
Keynote Speakers:
- Dr Moira Plant - Emeriti Professor of Alcohol Studies, University of the West of England (UWE) Bristol UK, & Adjunct Professor, Curtin University, Perth, Australia.
- Ms Susan Fleisher - Founder & Chief Executive of NOFAS-UK (National Organisation for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome-UK)

12:15-13:00 Hot Buffet Lunch
13:00-13:10 Chair’s opening comments
Afternoon session: Chaired by Professor Marlene Sinclair
Founder & President of the DMRS & Midwifery Lead for Research, MFIR Centre, Ulster

13:10-13:40 Perspectives on FASD from Southern Ireland:
Dr Mary O’Mahony - Specialist in Public Health Medicine,
Department of Public Health, Health Service Executive, South
(Cork & Kerry), Southern Ireland

13:40-14:50 Interactive Workshops (NB - everyone will have the opportunity
to participate in all of the workshops)

Workshop 1
Dispelling the myth of ‘Safe Limiting’ in Pregnancy:
Cathy Hewitt, Alcohol Intervention Worker- ASCERT (Action on Substances through Community Education & Related Training)

Workshop 2
The Lived Experience of Fostering Young People with FASD:
Margaret McGillion - Foster Carer & Parent & Shannon - young person with FASD

Workshop 3
Transgenerational Aspects - Do the Prenatal Precursors of Adult Psychiatric & Addictive Disorders Live Within Us?
Dr Kieran O’Malley - Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist, Slievemore Clinic, Dublin; Director of the all-Ireland Consultation Clinic for Developmental Psychiatric Disorders, especially FASDs (since 2007)
Professor Moira Plant - Emeriti Professor of Alcohol Studies, UWE, Bristol, England

14:50-15:10 Comfort Break with Refreshments & Fresh Fruit

15:10-15:55 Modifiable Risk in Pregnancy & Health Behaviour Change:
Utilising the Theory of Triadic Influence TTI
Keynote Speaker:
Professor Frank J Snyder - Department of Health & Kinesiology,
College of Health & Human Sciences, Purdue University,
Indiana, USA

15:55-16:30 Questions & Answers Panel
Chaired by Mrs Sharon Mc Roberts - Assistant Director of Nursing Workforce & Education, Nursing & Midwifery Workforce & Education Department, SET

16:30-16:40 Day 1 Closing Remarks:
Chair - Professor Marlene Sinclair, Founder & President of the DMRS & Midwifery Lead for Research, MFIR Centre, Ulster
AGENDA: Day 2 - Thursday 10th September 2015

The main learning outcome for today is to enhance our shared knowledge of and understanding about research methodologies processes and outcomes.

08:15-08:55 Registration with refreshments (Tea/Coffee/Water)
Background viewing of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) video & posters

Chair’s opening comments Morning Session Chaired by Professor Marlene Sinclair, Founder & President of the DMRS & Midwifery Lead for Research, MFIR Centre, Institute of Nursing & Health Research (INHR), Ulster

09:00-09:10 President DMRS - Introduction & Welcome

09:10-09:50 Keynote Speaker:
Which Horses For Which Courses? The EBM Problem in Studies of Pharmacological Substances in Maternity Care
Soo Downe OBE - Professor in Midwifery Studies, University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN) & Visiting Professor, MFIR Centre, Ulster

09:50-10:10 Weighing Up the Risks of Harm from AED Medications in Pregnancy
Dr Jim Morrow - Principal Investigator UK Epilepsy & Pregnancy Register

10:10-10:30 Morning Comfort Break with Refreshments & Fresh Fruit

10:30-11:00 Medications, Drugs & Alcohol in Pregnancy: Issues of Safety, Accountability & Shared Decision Making: Consultant Obstetrician with SET

11:00-11:20 A Paradox of Choice: Exploring the Motivational Challenges in Developing Systems that Support Shared Decision Making
Dr Janine Stockdale - Research Development Lead, Ulster

11:20-11:40 Public & Practitioner Engagement & Involvement in Health & Social Care Research: Theory & Practice
Dr Patricia Gillen - Head of Research for Nurses, Midwives & Allied Health Professions, Southern Health & Social Care Trust/ Honorary Research Fellow, Ulster

11:40-12:00 Qualitative Exploration of the Experience of Women with Epilepsy & their Medications - Lorna Lawther - MFIR PhD student, INHR, Ulster

12:00-13:00 Lunch

13:00-13:15 Chair’s opening comments & update on research funding opportunities.
Afternoon session Chaired by Dr Nicola Armstrong, Programme Manager, HSC R&D, Division, Public Health Agency, NI
Research at Ulster: Past, Present & Future
Professor Hugh McKenna: Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Research & Innovation, Ulster

13:30-14:15
Masterclass:
Epidemiological Research and its Contribution to Knowledge about Medications in Pregnancy: Results from FP7 EUROMedICAT Study
Professor Helen Dolk - Chair, MFIR Centre, INHR, Ulster

14:15-15:00
Keynote Speaker:
The Contribution of Prenatal Psychology to our Understanding about Prenatal Dynamics & Fetal Behaviour: What can we do to improve Maternal & Fetal Relationships During Pregnancy?
Olga Gouni: Professional Trainer in Pre-Birth Psychology, Athens, Greece.

15:00-15:30
Afternoon Comfort Break with Refreshments & Fresh Fruit

15:30-15:50
The Northern Ireland Baby Hearts Study: An update on progress
Dr Nichola McCullough: Research Fellow EUROCAT, INHR, Ulster

15:50-16:00
Launch of the DMRS Website
Professor Marlene Sinclair, Founder & President of the DMRS & Midwifery Lead for Research, MFIR Centre, Ulster
Hannah Stockdale, Graphic arts & web designer

16:00
Closing Remarks
Professor Helen Dolk Chair, MFIR Centre, INHR, Ulster & Victor Robinson, MFIR PhD
Student & Jointly Appointed Lecturer Practitioner, Ulster & SET
Who should attend?

This subsidized two day conference event is for everyone who is interested in maternal and child health and wellbeing. The subject of prescribed and unprescribed medications and addiction to alcohol are public health issues that can impact on every member of our society.

This conference intends to raise public and professional knowledge about harm:

- Associated with alcohol consumption during pregnancy
- Stopping prescribed medications during pregnancy

Researchers in the field will learn more about research methods:

- Different research approaches (qualitative and quantitative)
- Challenges for researchers trying to obtain the necessary evidence for policy intervention
- Applying theory to practice
- Women’s experiences of compliance with medical treatment
- Psychologists and behavioural researchers will learn about psychological approaches evident in the clinical field from Greece

The conference will be valuable to medical, midwifery, nursing, psychology and sociology students and in particular those who are keen to learn about research methods from experts in the field.
Conference Delegate Rates

Option A - £45 Includes
Day 1 conference attendance, morning & afternoon refreshments, lunch, early evening civic welcome & drinks reception to Long Hall Stormont

Option B - £75 Includes
Day 1 conference attendance, morning & afternoon refreshments, lunch, early evening civic welcome & drinks reception to Long Hall Stormont followed by evening dinner in the Penthouse Suite Europa Hotel with Celtic Irish Dancers

Option C - £40 Includes
Day 2 conference attendance, morning & afternoon refreshments, lunch and City Hall tour

Option D - £80 Includes
Day 1 - conference attendance, morning & afternoon refreshments, lunch, early evening civic welcome & drinks reception to Long Hall Stormont
Day 2 - conference attendance, morning & afternoon refreshments, lunch and City Hall tour

Option E - £120 Includes
Day 1 - conference attendance, morning & afternoon refreshments, lunch, early evening civic welcome & drinks reception to Long Hall Stormont, evening dinner in the Penthouse Suite, Europa Hotel with Celtic Irish Dancers
Day 2 - conference attendance, morning & afternoon refreshments, lunch and City Hall tour

Option F - Concession Rate
PhD Students - 50% discount for all aspects of the programme. Student ID MUST be produced.