



RARE DISEASE CLINICAL TRIALS CONFERENCE 2024

THURSDAY, 29 FEBRUARY

- 8:00 – 9:00 Registration & poster set-up (O'Carolan Room)
- Main Meeting Tara Room
- 9:00 – 9:15 Welcome & introduction
- 9:15 – 9:45 Challenges and Solutions to Conducting Clinical Research in Rare Respiratory Diseases
Prof Elisabeth Bendstrup | Aarhus University, Denmark
- 9:45 – 10:15 Training the Next Generation in Rare Disease Clinical Research
Prof Debra Regier | Chief, Division of Genetics and Metabolism, Children's National Hospital, USA
- 10:15 – 10:45 Perspective on Research
Lorraine McGlinchey | Ulster University
- 10:45 – 11:00 Tea break (O'Carolan Room)
- Meet & Greet: Research Data (Marconi Room)
- Sarah Forde | RDCTN**
Godfrey Fletcher | Cystic Fibrosis Registry of Ireland
- 11:00 – 12:00 Panel Session 1: How to Translate Basic Research into a Clinical Trial
Chairs: Prof Peter Doran | UCD Prof Peter Conlon | RCSI
Panel: Francis X McCormack | University of Cincinnati Adam Byrne | UCD Rachel Crowley | SVUH
- 12:00 – 12:30 Clinical Trial Design Issues and Options for Study of Rare Diseases
Prof Jeffrey Krischer | University of South Florida, USA
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch & posters (O'Carolan Room)
- 13:30 – 14:30 Panel Session 2: How to Involve PPI in Trial Design & Engage Patient Participants in Trials
Chairs: Dr Avril Kennan | HRCI Dr Cassandra Dinius | RDCTN
Panel: Alessandro Franciosi | SVUH Daniel Mikula | SVUH Liam Galvin | EU-IPFF
- 14:30 – 15:00 The Power of Patient Organisations in Developing Meaningful Rare Disease Therapeutics
Prof Francis X McCormack | Gordon and Helen Hughes Taylor Chair of Internal Medicine, University of Cincinnati, USA

- 15:00 – 15:30 Coffee (O’Carolan Room)
- 15:30 – 16:00 Rare Disease Research Catalyst Consortium
Prof Rachel Crowley | Consultant Endocrinologist, St. Vincent’s University Hospital, Ireland
- 16:00 – 17:00 Keynote: Pulmonary Macrophage Gene Therapy
Prof Bruce Trapnell | Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, USA
- 17:00 – 18:30 Reception and poster award (O’Carolan Room)

FRIDAY, 1 MARCH

- 8:30 – 9:30 Registration (O’Carolan Room)
- Main Meeting Tara Room
- 9:30 – 10:00 Gene therapy – Real World Application
Prof David Keegan | Consultant Ophthalmologist, MMUH, Dublin
- 10:00 – 10:30 Rare Disease Clinical Trials from The Patient Perspective/PPI
Avril Daly | CEO, Retina International & President EURORDIS
- 10:30 – 11:30 Panel Session 3: What outcomes are important to patients?
Chairs: Dr Suja Somanadhan | UCD_RAIN Vicky McGrath | Rare Disease Ireland
Panel: Jeffrey Krischer | University of South Florida
Bruce Trapnell | Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Avril Daly | EURORDIS
- 11:30 – 11:45 Tea break (O’Carolan Room)
- Meet & Greet: Patient and Public Involvement (Marconi Room)
Dr Cassandra Dinius | RDCTN
Dylan Keegan | UCD Clinical Research Centre
- 11:45 – 12:15 Achieving Regulatory Approval for Orphan Drugs
Dr Gene Sullivan | Insmid Inc.
- 12:15 – 12:45 Challenges in Rare Disease Clinical Trials of Related Rare Disease Phenotypes: Insights from Neurological Movement Disorders
Dr Laura Williams | Consultant Neurologist, St. Vincent’s University Hospital, Ireland
- 12:45 – 13:00 Seed Funding Award Announcement
Prof Cormac McCarthy | UCD
- 13:00 – 13:15 Wrap up followed by lunch