



Sheila Fitzgerald (Unaffiliated Patient Advocate)

I believe in improving patient involvement in all aspects of healthcare: policy and delivery, research, clinical trials and healthcare management. This is vital to a safer, better and cost effective health service. The Irish Health system owes a huge debt to patients, both as service users and research subjects.

Biomedical advancement is both improved and expedited by patient partnerships. I am qualified by having MS to be an expert on the world of chronic illness and inspired to do my bit through participation at both local and national level because I can, and many are too sick to do so. We can talk patient involvement but so often it does not happen.

Experience/Areas of Interest:

- IPPOSI Patient Education Programme 2018
- BA Healthcare Management, NUI
- MA (Hons) Healthcare Management, NUI
- Lecturer in Risk Management/ Nursing for 12yrs
- Senior Nurse Manager for 25yrs
- Electronic patient records
- Access to medicines and healthcare technology

Patient Involvement and Experience:

- Member (Patient representative) of the HIQA Advisory Group on the development of recommendations in respect of a National Community based ePrescribing Programme
- Secretary MS Ireland Tralee/West Kerry Branch
- Worked with Irish Patients for Patient Safety Representatives to educate healthcare professionals on the contribution of patients to healthcare safety following the WHO programme.