



Brian Lynch - Arthritis Ireland

Patients are key stakeholders in the development, regulation and approval of new medicines. However that process can seem obtuse and removed from the lived experiences of people living with the condition. The IPPOSI Patient Education Programme was a valuable primer in gaining an enhanced understanding of this space. This in turn has signposted ways in which we, as a patient organisation, can support and encourage people living with arthritis to get involved in this area.

A lasting legacy of the programme has been the network and friendships which have formed amongst the Class of 2019. The wealth of differing experiences in the group means that it is a continuing go-to resource and very approachable community of interest in health and patient advocacy

Experience/Areas of Interest

- Raising awareness of rheumatic and musculoskeletal conditions
- Health promotion and public health communications
- Burden of chronic disease, in particular, its impact on mental health
- Health behaviour change

Patient Involvement and Experience:

- Head of communications and advocacy, Arthritis Ireland
- Member, project team, National Clinical Programme for Rheumatology
- Chair, advocacy and communications committee, Health Research Charities Ireland
- Member, executive, Health Reform Alliance
- Member, Patient Forum , Health Products Regulatory Authority