

THE EU HEALTH INFORMATION AGENDA AND THE PREPAREDNESS OF IRELAND TO MEET ITS EUROPEAN COMMITMENTS

Tuesday, 2 November 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS



Saara Malkamäki, Specialist, Health Data 2030, Sitra

Saara Malkamäki works as a Specialist in Sitra, the Finnish Innovation Fund – a future-oriented public think-do-and-connect tank. Saara builds a fair data economy and promotes the use of health data in Finland and Europe. Saara's goal is to make data move across organisations, also across national borders, and to create common rules and solutions for fair, value-added data use. Over the past few years Saara has been advancing health and social care innovations and setting up a one-stop shop for Finnish well-being data. Her focus is on health data ecosystems and business models.

Creating a better future is what Saara does and is passionate about. Connect with Saara on LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/in/saara-malkamaki/.



Avril Daly, CEO, Retina International

Avril Daly is CEO of the patient-led global umbrella organisation, Retina International, which represents the voice of charities and foundations concerned with the promotion of retina research and related health policy in 43 countries.

Avril has worked in health policy for rare and common eye disease since 2000 and was CEO of the Irish NGO, Fighting Blindness for eight years. She was Chairperson of Rare Disease Ireland from 2006-2019. In 2009 she was elected to the Board of Directors of Rare Disease Europe – EURORDIS, and has been the organisations Vice-President since 2012.

In 2011 Avril was appointed by the Irish Minister for Health to a steering committee working towards the development of the Irish National Plan for Rare Diseases. The plan was published in 2014. She was appointed to the Irish Clinical Programme for Rare Diseases at the Health Service Executive (HSE) in Ireland in 2014 and was recently appointed to the Rare Disease Technology Review Committee and the National Centre of Pharmacoeconomics (NCPE) to review orphan therapies that fail initial Health Technologies Assessment (HTA) for statutory reimbursement.

Avril has held board positions with the European Patient Forum, The European Platform for Patient Organisation Science and Industry (EPPOSI), the HRCI (formerly Medical Research Charities Group) in Ireland and IPPOSI, the Irish Platform for Patients Organisation Science and industry. She believes that patients have a critical role to play in aiding the development of appropriate interventions from concept to delivery.

Avril holds a Bachelors Degree in Business and International relations, she is affected by Retinitis Pigmentosa.



Dr Teresa Maguire, Director of Research Strategy and Funding, Health Research Board (HRB)

Teresa is Director of Research Strategy and Funding at the Health Research Board. She has a BSc in Pharmacology from University College Dublin and a PhD from the University of Dundee. She worked as a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Surgery in St Vincent's University Hospital and as Director of Scientific Affairs with a multinational biopharmaceutical company before joining the management team of the HRB in 2002. She has held a variety of roles, most notably developing an action plan to advance population health and health services research in Ireland. Teresa also holds a Master's in Business Practice from the Irish Management Institute.

Prior to taking up her current role as Director of Research Strategy and Funding in the HRB, Teresa spent time on secondment in the Department of Health leading a Research Services & Policy Unit tasked with supporting evidence-informed decision making in the Department and advancing a broad-based health research strategy. During this time, Teresa worked with the HSE to oversee the recruitment of a Director of R&D and the publication of the HSE's first Research & Evidence Strategy. She led work to establish the Office for National Research Ethics Committees and she progressed the development of the Health Research Regulations (2018) and the establishment of the Health Research Consent Declaration Committee.

In her current role, Teresa and the team in the HRB are involved in a number of national and European initiatives with the aim of influencing national policy, governance, legislative, technical and capacity developments to optimise the secondary use of health and social care data for research and innovation purposes.



David Toohey, CEO and Co-founder, Syncrophi

David Toohey is CEO and a Founder of Syncrophi Systems Limited, a company developing the next-generation of medical-grade frontline patient care and clinical informatics solutions. He joined Syncrophi from Alere Inc. (NYSE: ALR) where he was President of International Business Operations and spent 11 years on the corporate executive staff. Prior to Alere Mr. Toohey was VP Operations and Managing Director of Boston Scientific in Galway. He previously held various leadership positions at Bausch & Lomb, Inc., Digital Equipment Corp. and Mars, Inc. He has over 35 years' experience in international business, the last 25 of which have been in Medical Devices, the In Vitro Diagnostics industry and the eHealth domain. David is also a board member of NIPC, the National Institute for Prevention and Cardiovascular Health. He is a Chartered Engineer, a Fellow of Engineers Ireland and holds a Degree in Electronics System Design (UL), an MBA (Edinburgh) and post-grad qualifications in Anatomy + Physiology (RCSI) and in Manufacturing Technology (OU).