

IADNAM Conference - 3rd/4th October 2013

Speakers - Biographical Information



Tony O'Brien

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Director General of the HSE.

Tony became Deputy (effectively Acting) Chief Executive Officer of the Health Service Executive on 20th August 2012, following his appointment as Director General designate, under proposed new governance legislation for the health service, by the Minister for Health, Dr James Reilly, TD. The HSE Governance Act (2013) as commenced in July 2013.

Tony is a member of the Department of Health's Management Advisory Committee (MAC).

Tony was previously Chief Operating Officer of the Special Delivery Unit, Department of Health, Chair of the National Cancer Registry Board and CEO of the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF).

Tony was the Chief Advisor to the HSE on the implementation of the National Cancer Control Strategy and Project Director for the National Plan for Radiation Oncology.

Tony has previously held the posts of Chief Executive Officer of the National Cancer Screening Service, Director of BreastCheck, and Associate and Interim Director of the National Cancer Control Programme.

Tony O'Brien is adjunct associate Professor in Health Strategy and Management at Trinity College Dublin.



Dr. Philip Crowley

Dr. Philip Crowley

National Director of Quality and Patient Safety with the HSE since January 2011.

Philip is a doctor who trained in General Practice and then worked for five years in Nicaragua, Central America working with grassroots community organisations in health development. He then worked in Newcastle upon Tyne and worked using a community development approach to creating links between marginalised communities, professional groups and the health service with a view to tackling health inequalities.

He has trained in Public Health Medicine and has worked with the Institute of Public Health in Ireland, with the Irish College of General Practitioners and as a general practitioner in the north inner city of Dublin. Philip has worked for 6 years as Deputy Chief Medical Officer with the Department of Health and Children until taking up his current post. Philip continues to work as a GP part-time in an inner city Dublin practice.



Dr. Ambrose McLoughlin

Dr. Ambrose McLoughlin, BDS, MBA

Secretary General of the Department of Health and Chairman of the Board of the HSE.

Appointed in April 2012, he has over 30 years' experience as a practitioner, policy maker and within the management structures of the health services in Ireland. In recent years, he has been a leading advocate for and contributor to a number of major change programmes.

His previous posts include; Registrar/Chief Executive of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI), the Pharmacy Regulator; CEO North Eastern Health Board (NEHB) and Deputy CEO NEHB, responsible for Acute Hospitals and Community Services.





Neil O'Brien

Neil O'Brien

Mental Fitness Coach, Facilitator and Motivational Speaker

Neil O'Brien worked for a bank for 23 years. During that time he spent 14 years in sales and then 9 years running the training and development function. Having made a great success of this he then decided to take his speaking, coaching and facilitation skills to a wider audience and in 1998 he left the bank to set up Time To Fly Ltd. Neil is now the number one corporate speaker and coach in Ireland on the topic of Mental Fitness. Mental Fitness is the ability to regain confidence quickly, stay confident and motivated longer and be resilient and successful in the face of constant change and challenge.

In the corporate world he works with teams and individuals helping them transform their performance through higher levels of mental fitness. His clients include Accenture, Abbott Labs, Airtricity, AIB Bank and Group, Allianz Capital Partners, Grant Thornton, IBM, 3M, Irish Life Corporate Business, Irish Life Investment Managers, KPMG, Microsoft, RBS, Sales Institute of Ireland, Institute of Bankers.

Neil is also one of Ireland's top sport coaches and he has worked with professional and amateur golfers including Ryder Cup and Walker Cup players. He has coached at inter-county and club level with GAA teams and he is currently coaching some of Ireland's elite athletes. He was also the first coach to be featured on Irish television and enjoyed regular slots on such prime-time programmes as The Health Show, The Health Squad, The Mentor, The Clinic, The Big Bite and Open House.

To summarise; Neil has helped psychiatrists with their stress management, psychologists with their personal development, directors with their sense of direction, sales people sell more, footballers score more and golfers score less!



Pauline Newnham

Pauline Newnham, RGN, PGD, MSc in Pain Management

Director of Nursing, AHP & Quality, at Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services (OLH&CS) in Dublin.

Prior to this position, Pauline's entire nursing career was spent in Acute Services in the NHS, UK - her last position as Interim Director of Nursing & Quality in Whipp's Cross University Trust in London, the Hospital she originally trained in.

Clinically, Pauline had a particular interest in pain management, in which she is published. A substantial part of her clinical career, post her Surgical Ward Sister days and development of Breast Cancer Services, was spent working with MD Teams on the management of Acute and Chronic malignant and non-malignant pain. Pauline also lectured in Cancer Pain Management both in the UK and Europe. On transferring to Health Management, Pauline developed both her interest and expertise in the area of Governance and Risk. She currently holds an Adjunct Lecturer's Position in UCD with Governance and Risk as her preferred subject.

Since joining the Senior Management Team at OLH&CS as Director of Nursing, Pauline's role has expanded, incorporating the lead for Quality and Risk and more recently Allied Health Professionals. Originally from Wexford town,

Pauline now lives in the countryside of North Wexford where she indulges her passion for horse riding and local good food and wine.



Dr. Sara Burke

Dr. Sara Burke

Health policy analyst, journalist, and research fellow in Trinity College Dublin.

She is currently researching what happens health systems during economic crises, monitoring the impact of austerity on the Irish health system, identifying resilience in system and the opportunities for transformation.

Sara has a weekly health slot on RTE Radio 1's Drivetime programme and a fortnightly column in the Medical Independent. She has a PhD from Trinity College Dublin on the political economy of Irish health policy making. Her book 'Irish Apartheid Healthcare Inequality in Ireland' was published in June 2009. She was managing editor in Village magazine from 2004 to 2006.





Dr. Patrick Geoghegan

Dr. Patrick Geoghegan OBE, RMN, RGN, Dip.N Cert Ed. DMS, MBA M.InstD

Dr Patrick Geoghegan, OBE is Chief Executive of South Essex Partnership University Foundation Trust (SEPT). He is also the co-founder Director of the Relentless Leadership Company.

Dr Geoghegan has over 40 years NHS clinical and leadership experience. He is a Professor in Mental Health & Social Care and also a Professorial Fellow of the Royal Society of Public Health in England. He is a visiting Professor to the University of Pavia and an Associate Fellow of the Yale Global Health in the USA. Dr Geoghegan has also recently been appointed as Chairman of a small non profit making organisation in Philadelphia, USA in 2010.

He was named NHS Leader of the year which is a prestigious award in acknowledgement of his outstanding contribution to health and social care reform not only within the UK but within the international health and social care community. Dr Geoghegan has sat on major Committees and was an Advisor to the Prime Minister in reviewing older peoples services. He has been a member of the World Health Organisation (WHO) European Commission Advisory Group on Mental Health.

Because of his commitment to organisational change development primarily focusing on patient care he has developed strong links with the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Ghana and Jersey and is a regular visitor to these countries.

Dr Geoghegan was honoured by Queen Elizabeth II in 2005 and awarded the Order of the British Empire, OBE.

In summary, Dr Geoghegan can be described as a transformational leader who Is passionate about patient/service user involvement in designing health and social care systems and supporting a workforce which reflects the needs of local communities.



Eileen Sills

Eileen Sills CBEChief Nurse & Director of Patient Experience

Eileen Sills trained in Stockport and qualified as a registered nurse in 1983, she held a number of post registration positions within both general and Accident & Emergency Medicine, before moving to London in 1985 where she took up her first senior position as a Sister in a busy A&E department at North Middlesex Hospital. After 3 years she took up a position as a clinical tutor for the ENB Accident & Emergency Course but after 18 months took the decision to return to clinical practice.

Eileen was appointed as a ward sister on a medical ward at North Middlesex in 1990 and within 2 years had developed the ward to become one of the first funded Nursing Development Units in the country, supported by a 3 year grant from the King's Fund. At the same time Eileen was awarded a Florence Nightingale travel scholarship. From 1994 Eileen progressed her career taking opportunities to gain experience in both general management and senior nursing leadership positions across a number of hospitals within North London. This led to her first appointment as a Director of Nursing in 1999 at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, in 2001 she moved to Whipps Cross Hospital as the Director of Nursing and became Deputy Chief Executive in 2003 and following the departure of the CEO acted as Chief Executive before moving to Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust in 2005 as their Chief Nurse. Within 6 months of her appointment Eileen took on the additional responsibilities of the Director of Clinical Services and in 2007 was appointed as Chief Operating Officer. Following the substantive appointment of a Chief Operating Officer in 2012, Eileen's portfolio changed taking on Director of Patient Experience.

Eileen was awarded a CBE in the Queen's 2003 New Years Honours list for services to nursing, she holds two visiting professorships at King's College London and London South bank Universities. She is the Chair of the Grant's Committee for the Burdett Trust. Eileen has a national reputation for strong, visible, clinical leadership, and her drive to take senior nurses back to the bedside has earned her a national reputation for her clinical Friday's initiative. In August 2013 Eileen was appointed as the Clinical Director for London's Strategic Network for Dementia.





Oliver O'Connor

Oliver O'Connor

Independent health, finance, innovation and public policy consultant.

Working across Belfast, London, and Dublin, with a focus on health insurance, acute hospitals, pharmaceutical pricing and long-term care, he has a strong track record of driving innovative financial and customer solutions. From concept to stakeholder commitment and implementation, he brings skills and experience to business design, analysis and communications.

He has high level experience in Government, healthcare, financial services and media. From 2001-2010, he was Special Adviser to Mary Harney in her roles as Tánaiste (Deputy Prime Minister), Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment and Minister for Health and Children, and contributed centrally to initiatives including the Fair Deal, the National Treatment Purchase Fund, pharmaceutical savings and cancer control policy.

He has an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business and a first class honours B.A. degree from University College Dublin.

Jane Sandall

Jane Sandall

Professor of Social Science and Women's Health in the Division of Women's Health, King's College, London, and part of the leadership group of King's Improvement Science.

Jane is a medical sociologist and has a background in nursing, midwifery and health visiting. She is Associate Editor of Midwifery and Adjunct Professor University of Technology, Sydney and of the University of Iceland.

She has led a work programme in the NIHR King's Patient Safety and Service Quality Research Centre which includes a) the exploration of the management of escalation of care and in acute medical and maternity settings, and the implementation of rapid response systems b) compared measures of organisational and safety culture with quality of care in perinatal care and c) the engagement by patients and families in their own safety. Her research programme on the organisation and delivery of maternal health care includes: cohort and qualitative case studies on the organisation and outcome of birth in different settings (Birthplace in England Research Programme), the efficient use of the maternity workforce and the implications for safety & quality in maternity care in England, and Cochrane Reviews on continuity of midwife-led care.

Her research has been funded by the ESRC, MRC, Wellcome Trust, NIHR, and a range of charitable sources. Research findings have informed the UK government commission on Nursing and Midwifery, House of Commons Health Committee on Inequalities, NHS London, and US, Brazilian and Australian reviews of maternity services.



Lily Murphy

Lily Murphy SRN, SCM, Dip Adult Education, MA Change Management, MMin Supervisory Practice Director Blue Heron Leadership Coaching, Executive Coach

Lily established Blue Heron Coaching to support managers and leaders to operate effectively, efficiently with confidence and integrity. She now works with Leaders – in a variety of sectors - who believe they have a personal or professional dream worth pursuing and who are willing to experience the discomfort of not knowing while they learn to take on new ways of thinking or being.

Lily's background includes nursing, midwifery, adult education and management development and she has worked extensively with health service managers. Last year, Lily developed and piloted the national Peer Supervision training for health service managers which resulted in the establishment of 4 regional cross professional Peer Supervision networks. A second national programme will commence shortly.

As Immediate Past President of International Coach Federation Ireland, Lily was responsible for running the first national ICF conference designed to inform people about the relevance and effectiveness of Coaching.