



**IRISH RESEARCH  
NURSES NETWORK  
(IRNN)  
CLINICAL RESEARCH  
NURSE AND MIDWIFE  
ORIENTATION PACK**

Version 3, November 2019



We are delighted to have Dr Darrin Morrissey (HRB Chief Executive) launch the third version of the IRNN's orientation pack for Clinical Research Nurses and Midwives (CRN/Ms). The IRNN identified the need to develop an orientation pack as a tool to aid learning and development for CRN/Ms as part of its commitment to support the educational and professional needs of CRN/Ms in Ireland. In the 'Count Me In' study 65.2% of participants reported that part of their role was to provide orientation and training.

The Orientation Pack has been extensively revised to expand on information provided about the role of the CRN/M and reflect recent changes in clinical research governance. Version 3 of the IRNN orientation pack is available to download for free from the IRNN website (<https://irnn.ie/resources/resources-for-research-nurses-midwives/>) and hard copies can be requested from [hello@irnn.ie](mailto:hello@irnn.ie)

Darrin Morrissey took up the position of Chief Executive at the Health Research Board in July 2018.

Darrin's prior experience includes 16 years spanning research, manufacturing and commercial success in the pharmaceutical and biotech industries. In a variety of roles in companies including GSK and Sanofi, Darrin's work ranged from leading the development of the GSK oncology business in Ireland, to managing clinical trials across various therapy areas, and from developing and delivering national and international business strategies, to the launch of melanoma other oncology products on global markets.

Over recent years Darrin has been a member of a wide range of national development policy groups, including the Life Sciences Alliance, the Smart Ageing Steering Group, the Knowledge Transfer Ireland Stakeholder Forum and the British Irish Chamber of Commerce Higher Education & Research Steering Group.



**Darrin Morrissey, CEO  
Health Research Board**



The IRNN is in receipt of a grant from the HRB from July 2018 – June 2021. Deirdre Hyland is the principle investigator and Carole Schilling, Hazel A Smith, Maeve Kelsey, Siobhan Egan and Veronica McInerney are co-applicants on the grant. The grant committee meets throughout the year and a full update is provided to all IRNN members at the AGM.

The aim of this grant is to support the IRNN in its activities, undertake the ‘Count Me In’ survey and provide research nurses and midwives, who are IRNN members, with opportunities for professional development and engagement through participation at conferences and courses (this can include workshops).

Activities supported by the HRB grant study days, workshops, masterclasses and conferences for IRNN members. The available funding has also enabled the IRNN to update educational materials for its membership, and the wider research community, and to support IRNN representation on a number of national and international working groups and committees. HRB funding also enabled IRNN to complete the largest national survey of research nurses and midwives in Ireland. Findings from the Count Me In study have been referenced in national reports, one example is the “Future Investment in Clinical Research” Report from Clinical Research Development Ireland.

The IRNN/HRB Research Nurse/Midwife Support & Development Grant has enabled research nurses and midwives, who are IRNN members, to attend and present at national and international meetings. The IRNN/ HRB Research Nurse/ Midwife Support & Development Grant has also provided seed funding to deliver sepsis promotional activities with an emphasis on sepsis health literacy.

More information on the IRNN/HRB Research Nurse/Midwife Support & Development Grant is available in the conference pack and on the IRNN website. Deirdre Hyland who is the principle investigator of the grant can be contacted on [hello@irnn.ie](mailto:hello@irnn.ie)