



Job Description

JOB TITLE

Title: HSE Covid era Post CSCST Fellowship

Reporting to: Dr Tony Foley, GP & Lecturer, Department of General Practice, University College Cork

About the Department:

University College Cork (UCC) is the principal university in the province of Munster and the largest outside Dublin. The School of Medicine is one of five schools within the College of Medicine and Health in UCC and has a rich tradition of teaching, research and scholarship. The Department of General Practice is responsible for the delivery of general practice teaching in three of the five years of the medical undergraduate course. Active research interests include dementia care, chronic disease management, multi-morbidity and polypharmacy and the primary care management of diabetes.

HSE Covid era Post CSCST GP Fellowship in Dementia Care in Primary Care

Rising dementia prevalence rates combined with the policy objectives of integrated care in the community means that GPs are increasingly involved in the care of people with dementia. While GPs are centrally placed to facilitate a timely diagnosis of dementia, to plan on-going care and to coordinate multidisciplinary care for patients, they remain challenged by complex aspects of dementia care. Post diagnostic care, advance care planning and palliative care have been highlighted as areas that require enhanced guidance in clinical practice, training and research. This post will foster the fellow's clinical, academic and leadership skills in dementia care as they embark on their career in general practice.

Job title: HSE GP Fellow in Dementia Care.

Start date: July 2021 (full-time 2-year post)

Salary: HSE SpR scale, commensurate with experience

Core duties and responsibilities:

This 2-year post will be split 50/50 FTE between clinical practice and research. The successful applicant will work 2.5 days per week in clinical practice in a designated general practice. Their time will be divided between clinical general practice (2 days) and attendance at care of the older persons' facilities (0.5 days). The remaining 2.5 days per

week will be focused on research and audit activities. The fellow will be supervised by Dr Tony Foley, GP and Lecturer in the Department of General Practice, UCC.

In the area of dementia care the successful applicant will develop clinical and research skills. The fellow will develop;

- Enhanced clinical knowledge and skills in caring for patients with dementia; diagnosis, disclosure, post-diagnostic care, signposting, capacity assessment, medication optimisation, management of behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia and dementia palliative care.
- Experience in care of the older person and nursing home care. The fellow will attend care of the older persons' facilities and will have the opportunity to attend specialist memory clinics, gerontology and palliative care facilities.
- Expertise in supporting patients with dementia and family members following the diagnosis of dementia, including care and treatment planning.
- Detailed knowledge and practical implementation of advance care planning.
- Leadership and team-building skills, as a core member of a general practice team and associated multidisciplinary primary care team.
- Expertise in synthesising clinical evidence and performing research. The fellow will undertake a scoping review, write and submit ethics applications, perform qualitative research, analyse qualitative data and develop skills in academic writing, submitting papers for peer-reviewed publication. The fellow will be supported by the multidisciplinary fellowship team, who have academic and clinical expertise.
- Collaborative practice: Working with patients, carers and key stakeholders the fellow will co-design and co-develop research and clinical strategies to improve GP-provided dementia care that both informs and is supported by national strategies.
- Skills in designing, implementing and disseminating clinical audits of dementia post-diagnostic care & dementia palliative care. The fellow will perform practice-based clinical audits and develop dementia audit tools for use by GPs nationally.
- Experience in teaching and curriculum design, development and delivery. The fellow will develop workshops on post-diagnostic dementia care and dementia palliative care, focusing on advance care planning, identification of the palliative care phase, prescribing and de-prescribing and symptom management at end-of-life.

Qualifications & competencies

Essential:

- MICGP
- Will be within 3 years of CSCST on 1st July 2021
- On the General Practice Specialist Division of the Irish Medical Council
- Excellent interpersonal, communication and presentation skills
- Attention to detail, thoroughness in work practices and an ability to work to deadlines

Desirable:

- Postgraduate qualification in a relevant area (e.g. Elderly Care, Medical Education)
- Research and/or audit experience

- Peer reviewed publications

Contact Person: Dr Tony Foley

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