

MOIC UPDATE

We started 2023 with the news that Director of MOIC Professor Mike Scott was awarded an MBE for services to Pharmacy in Northern Ireland.

In January MOIC had a visit from Permanent Secretary Peter May where we discussed current MOIC projects and how we are working to improve patient outcomes in Northern Ireland through better medicine use.

We have also secured MOU with the Commonwealth Pharmacy Association and recruited our first volunteers for the SHAPES project.

Professor Scott Awarded MBE



Professor Mike Scott Director of MOIC has recently been awarded an MBE for services to pharmacy in Northern Ireland, his pharmacy career spanning over 40 years has resulted in the transformation of pharmacy services within Northern Ireland and his achievements have been recognised worldwide.

Professor Scott has held a number of positions within the Health and Social Care System in Northern Ireland. He is currently the Director of the Regional Medicines Optimisation Innovation Centre (MOIC) in Northern Ireland, having previously been the Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management in the Northern Health and Social Care Trust since 2007.

“It is an honour and a privilege to be recognised in the New Year’s Honours list. Pharmacy has changed tremendously over the last 40 years and I am pleased that this work undertaken over the years with a number of highly motivated and enthusiastic colleagues primarily from both the health service and academia has contributed to improving the profession and has made a difference to the people of Northern Ireland. I have committed my professional life to improving pharmacy services in all settings and it is an honour to be a recipient of an MBE.”

Professor Mike Scott.

MOU with CPA

We have recently signed an innovative MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Commonwealth Pharmacists' Association (CPA).

MOIC and CPA wish to develop joint working in the areas of medicines optimization, including antimicrobial stewardship and clinical pharmacy. This MOU is an agreement to work together in these areas.

This MOU will strengthen MOIC's links within the Commonwealth and is a first opportunity for MOIC to work in the Caribbean with colleagues in Trinidad and Tobago looking at clinical pharmacy services, which showcases MOIC's global reach.



iSIMPATHY Update



MOIC were delighted to host a shared learning event in Belfast during February.

The event was an opportunity for iSIMPATHY pharmacists to share learning, their highs and lows from their experience and legacy issues.

Currently pharmacists in Northern Ireland have completed approximately 1900 medicine reviews on patients, improving medicine use, polypharmacy and patient outcomes.

It is hoped iSIMPATHY will lead to a significant contribution towards the embedding of a single approach for polypharmacy management and adherence as well as firmly establishing the value of cross-border working in this field.

This will ultimately enable those with multiple morbidity to live healthy and active lives.

MOIC Reports and Publications

As you may be aware, over the last 2 years SPPG (formerly HSCB) has undertaken the pilot phase of the New Models of Prescribing Programme to test the requirements to enable medical and non-medical prescribing via HS21 prescription forms at interfaces between primary and secondary care.

The New Models of Prescribing independent evaluation was carried out by MOIC. The findings have now been published on our website.

[Publications | MOIC \(hscni.net\)](#)

PEACEPLUS

Following on from the success of iSIMPATHY MOIC are now looking towards PEACEPLUS.

PEACEPLUS is a new European Union funding programme designed to support peace and prosperity across Northern Ireland and the border counties of Ireland, building upon the work of the previous PEACE and INTERREG Programmes.

MOIC are working closely with partners in HSE with the expectation of improving patient care through better medicine use and medicine optimisation.

SHAPES Update

The SHAPES App is now up and running and we are delighted that we have now recruited our first volunteers. The SHAPES project aims to improve healthy ageing at home through the use of technology.

Volunteers will self-monitor their health conditions using a number of clinical devices and the results will automatically be uploaded onto the APP enabling participants to keep track of their weight, blood pressure and blood sugars easily and on a daily basis.

MOIC programme managers are working closely with clinicians, participants and the wider SHAPES team to analyse the effectiveness of the technology and monitor outcomes.