

MOIC Update

Over the past few months MOIC has exhibited and presented at various conferences and events throughout Europe building collaborations and connections.

As we move towards Autumn we have a busy season ahead with events and conferences in full flow. We are also delighted at the formal announcement on the Peace Plus funding and look forward to the opportunities in medicines this may present.

Eurodurg Conference

Anita Hogg travelled to Bologna Italy to attend the ENABLE COST Action meetings and the Eurodurg Conference.

The ENABLE COST Action promotes best practice in the development and sustainable implementation of medication adherence technologies in health and social care systems. The Bologna meetings facilitated multidisciplinary collaboration for successful development and deployment of technologies and supported further development of the ENABLE repository, MOIC took the opportunity to build connections and promote our work to an international audience.



Get in Shapes!

Nicola Goodfellow presented at SHAPES (Smart and Healthy Aging Through People Engaging in Supportive Systems) pre-conference programme of the 17th International Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) in Paris.

The event provided an opportunity for all pilot leaders to present the results of the testing of Digital Solutions which promote active and healthy ageing as part of the project. Dr Goodfellow's presentation considered digital solutions to aid medicine control and optimisation.

This pilot trailed the use of 9 SHAPES Digital Solutions with 73 older adults for 12 weeks in 4 countries across Europe, including participants from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust (NHSCT). The positive impacts from the pilot seen at NHSCT were: participants felt reassured that they were able to self-monitor their condition; they had a high level of trust for collecting health data and willingness to share it with healthcare teams; and most participants expressed an interest in continuing to use the Digital Solutions if they were available after the pilot.

The SHAPES team in NHSCT finished the pilot in June 2023 and over the summer worked to collate and submit a substantial report to the European Commission. This report will be available on the SHAPES website shortly (SHAPES H2020 (shapes2020.eu)). SHAPES work will be wrapping up at the end of October 2023 so watch this space for news of results and future developments.

Paper Published

Frontiers in Pharmacology, the 3rd most-cited and 6th largest research publisher, published a manuscript looking at how the wider adoption of clinical pharmacy in Central and Eastern Europe will improve patient outcomes. MOIC were delighted to co-author this paper alongside partners from across Europe. This important paper provides more visibility across Europe for clinical pharmacy and supports the WHO 3rd Global Patient Safety Challenge 'Medication without harm'.

Clinical pharmacy as an area of practice, education and research started developing around the 1960s when pharmacists across the globe gradually identified the need to focus more on ensuring the appropriate use of medicines to improve patient outcomes rather than being engaged in manufacturing and supply. Since that time numerous studies have shown the positive impact of clinical pharmacy services (CPS). The need for wider adoption of CPS worldwide becomes urgent, as the global population ages, and the prevalence of polypharmacy as well as shortage of healthcare professionals is rising.

Clinical Pharmacy in Northern Ireland is ahead of the trend across Europe and is an example of best practice. MOIC has been working with colleagues across Europe to share best practice and support medicines optimisation, including the development of clinical pharmacy to deliver improved patient outcomes.

Read the paper in full here: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/f>

Cardiovascular Work

MOIC are working on several projects across the region in the cardiovascular area.

Our HSC Industry partnership led to AstraZeneca being selected (following evaluation) to be the commercial partner in the area of Heart failure. During the summer, governance paperwork and a project plan was agreed and a 12 month project is scheduled to commence in Autumn 2023. •

Also in this area a pilot of a cardiometabolic pharmacy service has been completed in the Western Health and Social Care Trust with the support of AstraZeneca. A cardiometabolic pharmacist conducted outpatient reviews for those at risk of cardiometabolic diseases. These reviews aimed to increase adherence to medicines that prevent and delay disease progression. In addition, the reviews identified patients suitable for those therapies recommended by the European Association for the Study of Diabetes and the American Diabetes Association (EASD/ADA) guidance. A final report has been prepared and it is anticipated that the results from this project will be utilised to further develop the case for cardiometabolic pharmacist posts within NI.

In the Southern Health and Social Care Trust a project was undertaken with the cardiology team and primary care colleagues to establish, deliver and evaluate virtual heart failure clinics. The project aimed to evaluate the delivery of weekly virtual heart failure clinics over a 12-month period through the ECHO network. As part of the programme, MOIC delivered an information session on medication review methodology.

Review of Pharmacy Response to COVID-19

MOIC have been commissioned to undertake a review of the pharmacy response to COVID-19.

Three key areas have been identified for inclusion in the review:

- Recommendations made in the Rapid Review of Pharmacy Services in response to COVID-19 (published by MOIC in September 2020)
- Pharmacy input into COVID-19 vaccination services
- Pharmacy input into rollout of novel COVID-19 therapeutics

Phase 1 of the review has been completed and final report was presented to the Department of Health.

Conferences and events

27-29 September - Polish Society of Clinical Pharmacy symposium

We delivered a keynote presentation at the Polish Society of Clinical Pharmacy symposium in Warsaw, together with Cathy Harrison, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer, which included a pre-recorded speech by Peter May, Permanent Secretary Department of Health.

3 October - Collaborate Analyse Research Audit (CARA) network

MOIC is linking and assisting the Cara Network (University College Dublin) with the organisation of an All-Ireland conference on antibiotic prescribing and infection. MOIC have secured funding from the HSC R&D Division for Dr David Farren to attend and speak on behalf of Northern Ireland at the conference. MOIC are assisting the Cara Network with abstract reviews for the conference and representatives from MOIC will attend the conference.

12-13 October - SHAPES Wrap up meeting

Glenda Fleming and Nicola Goodfellow will attend SHAPES wrap up meeting in Crete. This will be the final consortium meeting of this 4 year project.

MOIC will also be attending and exhibiting at the following events:

18-19 October

NICON Northern Ireland

31 October

European Society of Clinical Pharmacy Conference in Aberdeen

6-7 November

All-Ireland conference Dundalk