

Professor Mike Scott MBE Honoured with Special Recognition Award at Northern Ireland Healthcare Awards 2025

MOIC is thrilled to announce that their Director, Professor Mike Scott MBE, has been awarded a Special Recognition Award at the recent Northern Ireland Healthcare Awards. The ceremony, opened by Health Minister Mike Nesbitt, gathered senior healthcare professionals to celebrate outstanding contributions to the region's healthcare sector.



This year's awards were particularly significant for MOIC as they celebrated 10 years of pioneering work in medicines optimisation. The evening became even more memorable when Professor Mike Scott was announced as the recipient of the Special Recognition Award, receiving a standing ovation from attendees. The award was presented by Chief Pharmaceutical Officer, Cathy Harrison.

Mike's accolade recognises his exceptional dedication and transformative impact on Northern Ireland's healthcare system. His leadership in medicines optimisation has improved patient outcomes and inspired countless colleagues and professionals across the sector.

"We are immensely proud of Mike and this well-deserved honour," said Cathy Harrison. "His innovative approach and tireless commitment have left a lasting mark on healthcare in Northern Ireland. This award, alongside their 10-year milestone, is a proud moment for the entire MOIC team."

Ministers welcome cross-border collaboration on innovation in healthcare and medicines optimisation

Health Minister Mike Nesbitt was joined by the Irish Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Tourism and Employment Alan Dillon TD, at an event to showcase pharmacy practice and medicines optimisation innovation. The event also explored opportunities for cross-border working to address shared healthcare challenges.

At the event, MOIC and the Health Innovation Hub Ireland (HIHI) in the Republic of Ireland signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU will build on existing relationships and allow for further collaboration to benefit population health across Ireland.



Health Minister Mike Nesbitt said: "I welcome the formal signing of the MOU between MOIC and HIHI, strengthening the relationship between both organisations. Collaboration is the foundation upon which a resilient, patient-centred healthcare system is built.

"By working together, across sectors and borders, we can tackle shared challenges, engage in knowledge transfer, share best practice, and ultimately improve outcomes for patients across the island of Ireland."

REGISTRATION NOW FOR AMS CONFERENCE

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

**All Ireland Collaboration:
A Multidisciplinary Approach to Antimicrobial
Stewardship Conference**

9 & 10 Oct, 2025 **Belfast**

9th October
Pre-conference research focused afternoon event with
networking dinner (€60 pp)

10th October
Main Conference (free to attend)

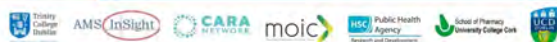
Register now at: www.caranetwork.ie/conference/.
Limited spaces available.

We are delighted with the number of registrations for the 3rd Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Conference to be held in Belfast. Limited spaces are available so REGISTER NOW:

<https://caranetwork.ie/conference/>

Day 1 Highlight: A half-day pre-conference research event tailored for researchers, early career researchers, and academics in antimicrobials and AMS. Share your work, engage with national experts, and connect over an evening networking dinner (Euro60pp).

Day 2: Connect with healthcare professionals, patient representatives, researchers, policymakers, and stakeholders for presentations from national experts on infection management and antimicrobials.



The call for abstracts is open - why not submit an abstract to present your work? This is a tremendous opportunity to showcase your work and strengthen connections and collaborations with colleagues across the island of Ireland. To view the programme, speakers, register and submit abstracts please visit: <https://caranetwork.ie/conference>.

MOIC Strengthens Ties with University of Malta through New MOU

MOIC recently visited the University of Malta's Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, Department of Pharmacy. This visit was an important step in driving research and education collaboration. A key moment was signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the university, which confirmed our shared commitment to innovation in pharmacy practice.



During the visit, MOIC representatives met with Malta's Minister of Health, Mr Jo-Etienne Abela, at Palazzo Castellania in Valletta. The delegation toured Brown's Pharmacy Quad in Mriehel, Remedies Campus Hub Pharmacy in Msida, and Mater Dei Hospital Pharmacy. They engaged with Government Pharmaceutical Services. Discussions with the University of Malta faculty focused on improving pharmacy practices. A visit to Milia's Pharmacy in Birgu showcased excellence in community care.

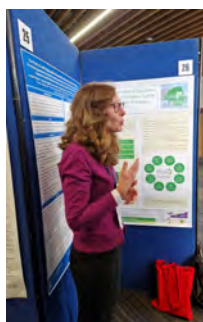
This MOU and the insights gained during the visit will support new approaches to medicines optimisation. MOIC thanks the University of Malta and all partners for a productive and inspiring exchange.

MOIC Thrives at Nordic Social Pharmacy 2025

MOIC was excited to present work at the NORDIC Social Pharmacy Conference 2025, which took place at the University of Strathclyde's Technology and Innovation Centre in Glasgow, UK. The conference focused on "Vulnerable Patient Populations and Health Inequalities". Over three days, it encouraged lively discussions and showcased new research in social pharmacy.

A highlight was an engaging keynote by Dr Irene Oldfather, who highlighted the important work of iSIMPATHE which was a proud moment for our team. Anita Hogg's presentation, "MOIC: A Decade of Impact", celebrated MOIC's 10th anniversary and showcased our contributions to healthcare innovation.

Networking was a key focus. We made valuable connections on Day 2 with Susanne Kaae from the University of Copenhagen and Joseph O'Shea from Trinity College Dublin. On Day 3, we connected with Karin Svensberg from Uppsala University in Sweden, which sparked some exciting ideas for future collaboration. MOIC is grateful for the opportunity to learn, share, and connect with this vibrant community, driving forward solutions for health equality and patient care.



Highlights from HEPS2025 Conference in Dublin

MOIC had a great experience at the Healthcare Ergonomics & Patient Safety (HEPS) 2025 conference at Trinity College Dublin. This vibrant event brought together professionals to share innovative solutions and advance patient safety in healthcare.

MOIC made significant contributions to the conference. Anita Hogg delivered a compelling presentation on medicines safety through a Human-Centred Design approach, highlighting our dedication to safer healthcare practices.

A special shout-out goes to Mikas Glatkauskas, our placement student from Norway, who gave an outstanding presentation on applying the SEIPS model to transitions in care. His work earned the prestigious Best Poster Award at HEPS. This is a remarkable achievement, and we are incredibly proud!

We extend our gratitude to the HEPS community for encouraging meaningful discussions and promoting progress in healthcare ergonomics and patient safety. Thank you for an inspiring and productive few days!



MOIC to Showcase Expertise at Global Pharmacy Events in 2025

MOIC is preparing for a busy September with important presentations at two major international pharmacy events. From August 31 to September 3, MOIC will join the FIP World Congress 2025 in Copenhagen, Denmark. This global meeting of the international pharmaceutical community will discuss the changing role of the pharmacy profession in addressing current healthcare challenges. MOIC looks forward to sharing our innovative work and participating in conversations about improving pharmacy practice worldwide.

On September 19-20, Professor Mike Scott and Anita Hogg will speak at the 3rd Symposium of the Polish Society of Clinical Pharmacy in Wrocław, Poland. Their presentations will encourage knowledge sharing and collaborative thinking about advancing clinical pharmacy, highlighting MOIC's dedication to driving healthcare innovation.

MOIC Celebrates Success of Foyle Hospice Pathfinder Project

MOIC is pleased to announce the successful completion of the evaluation of a groundbreaking project at Foyle Hospice. The project implemented HS21 prescribing to improve palliative care

This initiative aimed to test new prescribing and supply models and enabled specialist palliative care doctors and nurses at Foyle Hospice to prescribe medications for patients at home. Local community pharmacies provided the necessary supplies.

MOIC led the evaluation of this project, with Rachel Huey presenting its key outcomes. The project has significantly cut patient waiting times for medications, reduced GP workload, and allowed more patients nearing the end of life to receive care at home. It has also strengthened partnerships among healthcare teams.

Following this success, a recommendation will be made to gradually adopt HS21 prescribing as standard practice in all hospice settings across Northern Ireland. MOIC is proud to contribute to this changing approach, which improves palliative care for patients and families.



Mikas Glatkauskas Visits MOIC

Mikas Glatkauskas, a PhD student from Norway, recently completed a placement with MOIC, contributing to his PhD studies at University of Oslo. During the learning visit he participated in various meetings and delivered presentations on his PhD research to MOIC, the Department of Health and clinical teams. Mikas learnt more about clinical activities, and appreciated spending time with pharmacists working in care homes, a rheumatology clinic acute assessment unit, discharge follow up and OPAT.

Reflecting on his visit, Mikas shared, "It was a fantastic experience to see how pharmacists work in Northern Ireland. It was truly inspiring to see the potential this profession can have and I am highly motivated to pursue the improvement of pharmacy practice in Norway as well. Thank you MOIC, your hospitality was brilliant."

Mikas' first paper: "Application of a Human Factors Approach to Investigate the Hospital to Home Transition for Patients with Multiple Long-term Conditions," was also recently published and is now live on ScienceDirect and available to over 15 million researchers worldwide.

Congratulations, Mikas, on your outstanding contributions and well-earned achievement! MOIC's Prof Scott is co-supervising Mikas' PhD studies.



Organisational Insight Exchange Programme Pilot Hosted by MOIC

MOIC was pleased to host two participants in the Organisational Insight Exchange Programme, piloted by the Northern Ireland Research Professionals Network. Led by Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University, this initiative connects research and innovation professionals to share knowledge, promote best practices, and support career growth. A focus group at Queen's University gathered valuable feedback from participants and hosts to help shape the future of the programme.

Harshal Patil from Momentum One Zero, hosted by MOIC on the programme, commented, "This programme offers a great opportunity to gain deeper insights into the health sector's challenges and collaborate with MOIC. I'm excited to explore how digital technologies can address these challenges and to build connections that could drive future innovation." MOIC looks forward to the outcomes of this pilot and the potential for continued collaboration to improve medicines optimisation and healthcare innovation.



MOIC Publishes New Research on Physiotherapy Prescribing

MOIC is excited to announce the recent publication of our latest research, "New Models of Physiotherapy Prescribing: An Audit and Survey in Northern Ireland," in the Journal of Prescribing Practice. This study shares new clinical knowledge and support for prescribing practitioners. It highlights fresh approaches to physiotherapy prescribing.

New models of physiotherapy prescribing: an audit and survey in Northern Ireland