

Research & Policy

Summer News Bulletin



THE **Alzheimer**
SOCIETY OF IRELAND

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to our summer news bulletin. It has been an incredibly busy few months for the Research & Policy team with events and announcements. Take 5 minutes to read over upcoming events and things you should be aware of!

EU Commission gives marketing approval for Leqembi in Europe

In April, the ASI welcomed the EU Commission's decision to approve Leqembi (lecanemab) for the treatment of early Alzheimer's Disease.



This marks a pivotal moment in dementia care. Ireland should now prepare to integrate Leqembi and future treatments into the healthcare system to ensure timely access.

While promising, Leqembi is not a cure and is suitable only for a limited number of people in the early stages. It has modest effects and potential side effects, underscoring the need for continued investment in dementia services, diagnosis, and support. The ASI remains committed to supporting those affected and working with stakeholders across the health system. For more information on these new therapies, please check out our website, www.alzheimer.ie.

PhD opportunity with the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland

A scholarship in health economics on the HRB SPHeRE Structured PhD Programme is available at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) for September 2025 entitled: "Empowering Voices, Enhancing Outcomes: Co-creating an Open Source Health Economic Model for Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia in Ireland."

Fully funded PhD alert!




This Research Ireland scholarship offers: €25,000 annual stipend, plus laptop and PhD fees, 6 taught modules completed in the first year of the Programme, A workshop programme which runs over four years, 8-week specialist rotation in Irish health related agencies in the first year, Placement with a prestigious overseas agency to further PhD project development in the second or third year.

Deadline: 30th June 2025

Interviews for SPHeRE Scholarships will take place in early July, and the project will start on September 1st.

RESOLVE Study—Recruiting retired athletes!





A Study on Brain Health in Retired Athletes

About

Playing sports has clear brain health benefits, due to physical activity and social connection. However, longer term risks associated with concussion and head injuries are of increasing focus and concern. The RESOLVE study aims to better understand these risks and how to reduce them.

To do this, we are seeking **retired** high-performance athletes from Rugby, Football and GAA/ LGFA, between 40-59 years old.

What will it entail?

Participation will involve a comprehensive assessment on your brain health.

Day 1: St James' Hospital /Dublin 8
Clinical tests including blood/urine/saliva tests, ECG, a medical check, as well as doing various questionnaires on your your career, your memory, your lifestyle, and concussion history, etc. **Estimated time: 4-5 hours.**

Day 2: Trinity College Dublin
Here you will come to TCD for the MRI scan of your brain.
Estimated time: 2 hours

Why should I do it?

Participation is a unique opportunity to receive a comprehensive check of your brain health. Any and all significant findings will be followed up with medical professionals and/or your GP.

Playing sports is extremely beneficial to brain health. This research aims to protect the brains of professional athletes, by identifying modifiable risk factors for diseases like dementia.

Athletes who participate in our study will create an impact within the sporting community by helping us, and the athlete community learn to promote and better protect their brain health.

If interested, please contact us at any of the following....


preventdementia@tcd.ie


www.theresolvestudy.org


<https://www.linkedin.com/in/resolve-study/>




Dementia Research Network Ireland - Trasna na dTonna (Across the waves) & AAIC Meet Up

DRNI are introducing Trasna na dTonnta (Across the Waves), an initiative to develop a network of the Irish dementia research diaspora. Trasna na dTonnta is the brainchild of DRNI members Dr Rory Boyle and Dr Francesca Farina, and it aims to:

- strengthen links between Irish dementia researchers at home and abroad
- support Irish dementia researchers emigrating to new countries and those returning home
- strengthen Irish dementia research by supporting international collaborations.
- This is an inclusive network and is not restricted to Irish nationals, but is open to anyone with a connection to Ireland, including people who studied, trained or worked in Ireland.

If you would like to join the Trasna na dTonnta network, please contact Vanessa Moore (mooreva@tcd.ie). Trasna na dTonnta has its own dedicated space on the DRNI website (<https://dementianetwork.ie/trasna-na-dtonnta>) where they will continue to develop the network, feature Trasna na dTonnta members, and spotlight researchers and various projects.

Have you caught up to all our Dementia Dialogues webinar series?



In January, we wrapped up the final part of our Dementia Dialogues: Breaking Down Research webinar series. This four-part series explored the latest in dementia research, bringing together experts to a public audience including people living with dementia, carers and supporters.

A heartfelt thank you to all our presenters and everyone who joined us on these dates—your feedback helped us to shape future series.

We understand that schedules can be hectic, so we've made all four webinars available to watch at your convenience on our website.

Whether you missed a session or want to revisit a topic, we invite you to catch up in your own time. Watch back on our website, www.alzheimer.ie



POLL: What do people in Ireland think about dementia research?

Tell us what you think about dementia research!

We are inviting all European residents (aged 18+) to take part in our public opinion poll.

- ✓ No prior experience with dementia research needed
- 🌐 Available in 12 languages
- 🕒 Takes approximately 10 minutes to complete

Your input will help shape future research and data sharing

Results will be published on the Alzheimer Europe website in October 2025

Alzheimer Europe

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

Upcoming Events



Early bird registrations for Alzheimer Europe's 35th Conference are open until now until June 30th.

Late registrations are open 1st July to 21st September and last minute registrations are open 22nd September to 8th October.

Date: 6-8th October 2025

Place: Bologna, Italy

Abstract submission is now closed.