

Renal Medicine at the Meath Hospital

RESEARCH GRANTS 2005

Congratulations! Congratulations!
Congratulations!

Dr Marie O'Sullivan Gastroenterology was awarded continued funding for her research project - Undernutrition in Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease: Defining Prevalence and identifying patients at risk

Dr. Maeve M Doyle, Research Specialist Registrar in Clinical Microbiology, was awarded funding for her research project - Molecular identification of non-culturable microbes in young cystic fibrosis lungs, and investigation of their role in disease progression.

Professor Kevin Conlon was awarded funding for his research project - Immunonutrition in acute pancreatitis

Dr James Gibney Consultant Physician in Endocrinology was awarded funding for his research project - Abnormalities of post prandial lipid metabolism in women with polycystic ovary syndrome

Professor Desmond O'Neill Consultant Physician in Geriatric Medicine was awarded funding for his research project - The effect of music therapy on mood and function in older people with stroke.

In total The Foundation has awarded €144,382.00 in Research Grants for 2005.

Watch our web site at www.meathfoundation.com for the launch of the 2006 Research Grants

Congratulations again to all our successful applicants.

SNIPPETS:

Donations:-

Every donation, regardless of size, makes a difference and supports research and education programmes at the hospital in Tallaght.

The Meath Foundation would like to thank the following generous individuals for their donations; -

Mrs Patricia Nolan,

19, Balbrook Park, Tallaght, Dublin 24

Ms. Sally Nolan,

208, St James Road, Greenhills, Dublin 12 from St Paul's Secondary School Parents Association In remembrance of her late mother Mrs Anne Donohoe.

Ms Maureen Fallon,

2, Keash Road, Ballymote, Co Sligo

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

As a charity The Meath Foundation urgently needs the support of volunteers. Please contact Catherine at 4145896 or e-mail:

meathfoundation@amnch.ie
if you would like more information.

The Foundation recently handed over to The National Children's Hospital monies being held under a Bequest for the Benefit of Children (1958). The National Children's Hospital have advised that they purchased a CO2 Sensor & Airway Adaptor for the Paediatric Accident and Emergency Department. They will keep us advised of any further purchases from this bequest.

The staff in Urology said a sad farewell to **Rosary Morley** at her retirement celebration on Thursday 2nd March. We wish her the very best of luck for the future.

We also wish **Sister Mary Dillon** the very best of luck in her retirement. Sr Dillon started in the Meath Hospital in 1974 and now after a staggering 32 years of dedicated service she has decided its time to put her feet up. We, along with all her friends, wish her the best of luck for the future.

A very big thank you to **Tommy Walsh** and **Breda Kearns** - Clinical Photography for all their help. It is greatly appreciated.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Foundation's Annual General Meeting was held on the 16th February 2006 and for those unable to attend here are the main points of The Chairman's address.

Mr. Brady informed those present that following the elections last year he was privileged to have been elected Chairman of The Foundation for a further term. He stated that The Foundation had seen many changes over the year. The retirement of Maura Noctor the departure of Ian Dodson, Development Executive and the appointment of Catherine Talbot as Administrative Assistant. On behalf of The Foundation the Chairman wished Maura a happy retirement and welcomed Catherine and thanked her for arranging this meeting.

The Chairman noted that it had been a very positive and productive period for The Foundation with seed grants continuing to have a positive impact on Research. These grants are awarded within the Hospital for Research in a broad range of disciplines and in total €600,000 has been awarded over the last 4 years.

The Chairman informed the meeting that Professor Michael Comer is continuing with the development of a Research Institute on the Hospital site and The Foundation is actively

considering providing some financial assistance towards the project.

The Chairman noted the continued support of the Governors, the Board of Directors and acknowledged the efforts of our benefactors in raising funds in both the Women's Mini Marathon and the New York Marathon in 2005. He stated that assistance in promoting The Foundation is much appreciated and requested volunteers to help promote and fundraise in 2006 starting with the campaign for the 2006 Women's Mini Marathon.

The Chairman acknowledges the success of the Newsletter and thanked the many contributors for their articles.

The Chairman informed the meeting of the development of links between Medicine and the Arts highlighting the James Galway concert in May 2005 with the Irish Chamber Orchestra. The launch of a pilot research programme to examine the role of live music in an acute hospital setting. This is being undertaken by the Irish Chamber Orchestra in conjunction with The Foundation.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the Officers of the Board, Dr Barragry, Ms Shields, and Dr Hurley for their support and all the Board members for their contribution to the development of The Foundation. Since it was at sub-committee level that all the hard work was done, the Chairman mentioned, especially, the Chairs of the sub-committees, John O'Connor, Finance and Mairead Shields, Organisation Committee.

All agreed that the refreshment after the meeting, served by **Berry Catering**, were delicious - Thanks to all the Governors for attending We hope to see you all there again next year.



If you have any news for inclusion in The Foundation's newsletter that you think would be of interest to the staff of the Hospital please contact Catherine at 4145896 or e-mail:

meathfoundation@amnch.ie

Pictured the the opening of the Renal Unit 22nd April 1987 L - R Mr Harry Ellis Minister Rory O'Hanlon Professor Brian Keogh Ms Elizabeth O'Dwyer and Mr Eddie Thornhill



The history of renal medicine at the Federated Dublin Hospitals is indeed an interesting one. Dr. Jonathan Osborne, graduated MB in Dublin University in 1818 and subsequently lectured at Trinity College in medical matters. He could be considered to be the 'Father of Renal Medicine in Ireland'. His contemporary was Richard Bright of Bright's disease. Jonathan Osborne's book 'On the Dropsies Connected with Perspiration and Coagulable Urine' was published in 1835. Hence the Renal Department in Tallaght Hospital has used Osborne's name when naming it's renal ward. Prof. Peter Gatenby, in his time as Professor of Medicine at Trinity College showed the importance of the specialities within the discipline of medicine, namely gastroenterology, cardiology, endocrinology and nephrology.

At the Meath Hospital, which preceded St James's Hospital as a home of the Clinical Medical School, Dr. Eddie Bourke developed renal medicine following his appointment in 1969 as a Lecturer in Medicine and Nephrology. It was not until 1974 that the first dialysis machines appeared at the Meath Hospital, they were brought under considerable controversy. Dr. Eddie Bourke resigned in 1977 and was

replaced by Dr. Brian Keogh who expanded the service over the following years. This was a very difficult experience given the lack of support from the Department of Health.

Fortunately the dialysis machines were acquired by a number of charitable donations and support to the Unit very much linked to the foresight of Mr. John Colfer and his administration at the time.

It is interesting, in retrospect, how the Unit survived, by providing a service for the Eastern Health Board to fulfil the absolute needs of dialysis patients on the south side. The service coped with the demand of a very busy Hospital at the Meath, particularly in the late 1970's where the Unit continued to expand and provide service for the south side of Dublin.

An important development was introduced at the Meath Hospital in 1979, namely CAPD, which is Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis. This form of home treatment is complimentary to hospital based haemodialysis. This was the first renal unit to introduce this new therapy in these islands. It is now widely accepted in Europe and the USA as an important form of complimentary treatment to patients with end stage kidney disease. The current Unit at Tallaght Hospital treats, on average, 66 patients on CAPD per annum, probably the largest number in the country and our experience is recognised internationally.

The Meath Hospital's expansion continued, nonetheless, space for expansion was a major problem. In 1987 a modern Renal Unit was built for the Meath Hospital as an extension of West Wing II. The development was opened by the Minister of Health at the time, Dr. Rory O'Hanlon. The building cost approximately £500,000. A grant was given by the Department of Health and the rest contributed privately by Mr. Louis Cohen who gave a major donation towards the cost of

the new building in memory of his brother Israel who died in the Hospital in 1977. The Meath Hospital Board also made a major contribution to this development.

It should be said the activities of the Renal Unit for the care of patients with chronic kidney disease have increased by an average of 14% per annum since that time.

In 1998 the Unit moved to the new Hospital in Tallaght where there were 14 haemodialysis stations, which included two isolation rooms. At the time of the development of Tallaght this was generally considered to be a major increase in size but, regrettably it is not large enough now to cope with the current problems in the year 2006.

It is interesting to note that in 1999 there were a total of 5,574 dialysis sessions carried out in our Unit at Tallaght and in the year 2005 there were 12,974 dialysis sessions carried out, an increase of 7400 in five years. There were, on average, 66 patients treated on CAPD per annum. The Unit is currently managing over 120 patients on haemodialysis with the number on CAPD remaining approximately the same.

It is perfectly obvious that our Unit in Tallaght is not of sufficient size to cope with the patient demands in the years ahead. The Renal Unit will require a new 50 station Haemodialysis Unit to cater for the ever increasing numbers requiring renal replacement therapy in the future. Plans for this development, which are now in preparation, have been put forward to the Health Services Executive so that this project can be progressed forthwith to cater for the increasing numbers with which our Unit has to cope.

We very much appreciate the support of the Meath Foundation and the Hospital Board in this very exciting venture. It is imperative that the Hospital and the Board support this regional unit in its expansion.

The Meath Foundation:

The Mission of the Meath Foundation is to carry on the best traditions of the Meath Hospital by providing a focus for voluntary input into the Adelaide & Meath Hospital, Dublin Incorporating the National Children's Hospital.

We do this by supporting the development of the Hospital in Tallaght particularly through the promotion of Healthcare Research and Education within the Hospital and the wider community.

Our core values of Voluntarism/Self Help, Inclusiveness, Innovation/Originality, Effectiveness and Objectivity inform and guide our work to develop a credible and sustained programme of broadly defined research activity at the hospital.



The Hospital at Tallaght

If you would like to submit articles, news or information about events to the Meath Foundation for inclusion in our newsletter, please contact us at the address below.

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How You Can Help ?

BECOME A MEMBER

At the Meath Foundation we value individual members for their participatory role and their diversity of opinion. On payment of a yearly subscription of €32.00 Members will receive our quarterly news letter. As a member you can help to shape the agenda and objectives of the Meath Foundation. To join please fill out the form below and return it to the Meath Foundation.

ORGANISE AN EVENT

You may be able to donate your time and organisational ability to running an event for the Meath Foundation. See our website for Details www.meathfoundation.com or contact us at the number below for further information

GIVE NOW

You can donate online at our website www.meathfoundation.com or by filling in the form below and returning it with your cheque to the Meath Foundation

GIVE REGULARLY

"Planned Giving" is the most efficient and effective way to support The Meath Foundation. Setting aside a specific sum of money each month is easily organised through your bank by standing order. Fill out the form below and we'll send you a Standing Order form or see our website for further details. (www.meathfoundation.com)

POST/FAX

Fill out the form below and post it to the address opposite, or fax it to 01 4145949

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

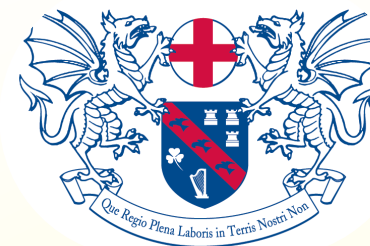
E-mail.....

I would like to become a member of The Meath Foundation and enclose a cheque for €32.00

I would like to make a donation of €_____ to The Meath Foundation.

(Cheques only please to the Address below)

I would like to set up a standing order, please send me a Standing Order Form



The Meath Foundation

Healthcare Research and Education at the Hospital in Tallaght

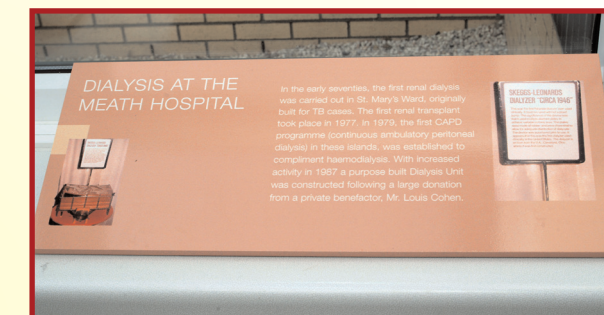
Happy Easter

Newsletter Edition 5:
Spring 2006

Welcome to the Spring edition of The Meath Foundation Newsletter.

We are delighted to feature an article on Renal Medicine from Professor Brian Keogh, Consultant Nephrologist here at the Hospital. This coincides with the installation of a new panel at the Memorial Garden to celebrate 250 years of The Meath Hospital.

This panel highlights the role The Meath Hospital played in progressing Dialysis treatments and Professor Keogh had written a little of the History and progress of Dialysis since the opening of the unit in the Meath Hospital in 1987.



WOMEN'S MINI MARATHON

The Hospital at Tallaght has a busy trauma and orthopaedics unit dealing with fractures many of which are caused by OSTEOPOROSIS. This condition can develop silently and lead to debilitating fractures of the spine, hip and wrist. It causes severe disability and can be fatal. In 2006 The Meath Foundation is targeting OSTEOPOROSIS for an exclusive research grant .

We invite women to walk or run the FLORA WOMEN'S MINI MARATHON on Monday 5th June 2006 in aid of THE MEATH FOUNDATION to HELP US tackle this silent thief.

To help raise awareness of this condition we shall distribute copies of the International Osteoporosis Foundation " One Minute Osteoporosis Risk Test so that our participants and their supporters can self assess their osteoporosis risk.

For your sponsorship pack call us now on (01) 4145896 email meathfoundation@amnch.ie or visit our web-site at www.meathfoundation.com.

All Funds raised regardless of the amount, makes a difference and supports research and education programmes at the hospital in Tallaght.

Join Us and help make a difference

The Meath Foundation
Healthcare, Research and Education at the Hospital in Tallaght

HELP US TO PROVIDE MONEY FOR RESEARCH INTO OSTEOPOROSIS

Which affects *one in three women* and *one in eight men*

WALK OR RUN the Flora Women's Mini Marathon ON Monday 5th June 2006

For free t-shirt and sponsorship card Contact Catherine at 4145896

We shall distribute copies of the International Osteoporosis Foundation *One Minute Osteoporosis Risk Test* so that our supporters and participants can self-assess their osteoporosis risk.