

Overview

The Health Research Institute at the University of Limerick is committed to facilitating the conduct of outstanding person-centred research to enhance the health and wellbeing of individuals and transform the health environment for the population.

Membership: There are three different types of HRI membership:

- **Full membership:**
Full-time, Permanent, Academic members of staff of the University of Limerick.
- **Postgraduate and Postdoctoral membership:**
Postgraduate, Postdoctoral colleagues and Research Assistants, whose supervisors are **full** HRI members.
- **Affiliate membership:**
Health Researchers who are members of UL-affiliated Health Organisations.

Benefits of Full Membership:

Supports

- Notifications of upcoming funding opportunities and grant application support.
- Expertise for health research queries.
- Clinical research support through the Clinical Research Support Unit (CRSU).
- Access to state-of-the-art desk-based research facilities, equipment and resources (dependant on availability) in the CRSU.
- Opportunities for HRI collaborative research.
- Invitation to specific HRI Events (workshops, networking events, seminars, training).
- Notifications of all HRI-related Events.
- Bio-statistical support.

CRSU Support*

- Research nursing support.
- Patient recruitment.
- Consent acquisition advice.
- Data collection and management.
- Clinical research governance advice.
- Health Research Regulations/ GDPR insight.
- Sample collection.
- Protocol development.
- Data collection/entry.
- Advice on ethical and regulatory submissions.
- Access to CRSU QMS.

** Subject to application process and availability*

Funding:

- Periodic funding calls for Travel and Open Access publications
- Funding availability for strategically-important conferences and workshops
- PhD scholarships and Postdoctoral fellowships
- Capacity-building awards

Scientific enhancement:

- Increased interdisciplinary collaborations between the University and Health community, including ULHG and CHO3.
- Development of complimentary research partnerships.

Business Innovation:

- Intellectual Property queries - provide links to Technology Transfer Office (TTO).
- Technology Transfer- provide links to TTO.
- Engagement with industry & enterprise.

Social Impact:

- Links to expertise and knowledge-sharing in Public and Patient Involvement in research.
- Facilitation of engagement with the international research communities.
- Empowerment of the next generation of creative researchers to advance the frontiers of research through Early-Career Research specific support.

Membership Expectations: A HRI Member is expected to:

- Conduct excellent research and contribute to the HRI research community.
- Contribute to the Institute with measurable research outputs achieved by including the HRI affiliation on all papers and proposals, conference and other presentations and all publicity material.
- Provide research activity information (research activity reports, research outputs and impact) as and when requested.
- Maintain a highly-collaborative and collegial work environment in the HRI.
- Contribute to the Institute's income generation activity and sustainability plan.

- Complete Research Integrity Training.
- Comply with the UL Health and Safety policy, and any appropriate Local Safety Statements, Research Ethics and Integrity Policies and all regulations as applicable to Health Research and associated Funding.
- Support the activities of the HRI via attendance at HRI-organised events.
- Actively participate in HRI events when appropriate e.g. present on area of expertise at networking event.

Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Membership Benefits:

- Access to and being part of an active research community
- Invitation to HRI Events (workshops, networking events, seminars, training)
- Bio-statistical support
- Investigator-led clinical research support through the Clinical Research Support Unit (CRSU)
- Support and advice for specific funding calls.

Affiliate Membership Benefits: The benefits of affiliate membership include many of the benefits of **Full** membership, including:

- Links to UL researchers for collaborations.
- Support from CRSU if linking with **Full** member Principal Investigators (see full list above).
- Invitation to HRI Events (workshops, networking events, seminars, training).
- Eligibility assessment and support for specific UL-led external funding calls.
- Access to state-of- the-art desk-based research facilities, equipment and resources (dependant on availability).
- Bio-statistical support.
- Links to expertise and knowledge-sharing in Public and Patient Involvement in research.

Renewal Membership Criteria: The criteria for membership renewal will apply to full members:

1. **Publications**

Track record within the last three years of peer-reviewed journal papers as first or senior author in research fields related to HRI Themes and affiliated to the HRI (quality of journal papers will take preference over quantity).

2. **Grant Income**

Track record within the last three years of applying for competitive research funding awards.

3. **Research Supervision / Mentorship**

Track record within the last three years as Supervisor of research masters, doctoral and/or postdoctoral researchers.

The criteria for membership renewal will also consider a strong performance in the following areas.

1. **Research Impact:** Track record within the last three years in any of the following: invention disclosures, patents, spin-outs, industry sponsored research, engagement with external research organisations (industry, societies and associations) or applying the principles of Public and Patient Involvement (PPI).
2. **Measures of Esteem:** Track record within the last three years in any of the following: To include, but not limited to, national or international awards, prizes, editorial duties, plenary lectures, invited memberships, fellowships, attracting/hosting international conferences and seminars, reviewing for national and international funding agencies.