INSTITUTE OF OBSTETRICIANS & GYNAECOLOGISTS

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

Institute of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists Webinar: Maternal Morbidity and Maternal Cardiology

Feb 7th 2024

Approved for up to 2 CPD credits



Introduction

Maternal Morbidity during and after pregnancy is a major focus of obstetric care and informs us of the quality of maternity care. Review of our maternal morbidity allows us to identify areas for improvement in our healthcare delivery and in our engagement with our patients.

This webinar will present our data on maternal morbidity and highlight key learnings for our maternity health services.

We will then focus on maternal cardiology, an area that contributes more to maternal mortality than any other. Patients presenting with maternal cardiac disease are on the increase, due to older age of pregnancy, higher BMI and higher numbers of pregnant patients presenting with co-morbidities. Care of patients with cardiac disease remains core to all maternity units and this webinar will explore approaches to the management of pregnancy with cardiac disease and in-depth anaesthetic considerations, from experts in the field.

Time	Topic	Speaker	Title
Session: Maternal Morbidity and Maternal Cardiology Webinar			
5:00pm - 5:20pm	Maternal Morbidity	Prof Mary Higgins	Prof Obstetrics & Gynaecology UCD
5:20pm - 5:40pm	Management of cardiac disease in pregnancy and a national maternal cardiac registry	Dr Carla Canniffe	Consultant Cardiologist SVUH
5:40pm – 6.00pm	Anaesthetic considerations for management of cardiac disease in pregnancy	Dr Padraic Calpin	Consultant Anaesthetist Sligo
6.00pm – 6:30pm	Panel Discussion	(Chair) Prof Fionnuala McAuliffe	Prof Obstetrics & Gynaecology UCD

Speaker biographies



Fionnuala McAuliffe is a Full Academic Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at National Maternity Hospital Dublin, Head of Women's and Child's Health at University College Dublin. She is Director of the UCD Perinatal Research Centre, a multidisciplinary research centre aiming to improve outcome for mother and baby though clinically relevant pregnancy research. She is a maternal and fetal medicine specialist and Director of the MFM training programme at National Maternity Hospital and lead clinician for maternal medicine services.

She has received over euro 50 million as CoPi/PI. has over 450 peer reviewed publications including national and international pregnancy care guidelines. She is Past Chair of FIGO committee on Impact of Pregnancy on Long- term Health and is a FIGO executive council member. She is lead on FIGO pregnancy obesity and nutrition initiative and FIGO Initiative on impact of pregnancy on long-term health.



Dr Carla Canniffe graduated from The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland with an honour's degree in 2004. She completed her Specialist Cardiology training in Ireland before going on to sub-specialise in Adult Congenital Heart Disease.

She spent time working in the largest adult congenital heart unit in Ireland, before gaining further expertise in international units such as The Royal Prince Alfred in Sydney. She completed a senior fellowship in the world's largest congenital heart unit in St. Barts, London. There she developed her skills in cardiac maternity medicine and aortopathy. On completion of her fellowship she was recruited as a consultant in Grown Up Congenital Heart Unit, St Barts Cardiac Centre, London. She has published research articles in peer reviewed journals in the field of adult congenital heart disease, aortic coarctation and hypertension as well as co-authoring book chapters in this field.

She is a keen educator and has undertaken university tutor posts in three of her recent positions. She has also been an invited lecturer at National Speciality Training days in Ireland and the UK. She returned to Ireland in 2019 to establish the country's first private dedicated adult congenital heart centre. She is committed to providing high quality, compassionate care to her patients.



Prof Mary Higgins is an elected Fellow on the RCPI Council. Originally from Kildare, Mary graduated from University College Dublin and completed her training in Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Ireland, with membership and then fellowships of the RCPI and Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (UK).

Following an MSc in University of Oxford she gained further research experience by a MD (Diabetes) from UCD. She gained experience in Maternal Fetal Medicine in Toronto, Canada and returned to Ireland to her current post, as Associate Professor in University College Dublin and a consultant Obstetrician/Gynaecologist in the National Maternity Hospital.

As a Principal Investigator in UCD Perinatal Research Centre she has more than 100 publications and supervises PhD, MD, MSc and undergraduate students. Mary was a ministerial appointee to the Slaintecare Medical Advisory Council (2018-2021). She is currently completing a Masters in Medical Education and has a Diploma in Entrepreneurial Education.

She is an Associate Fellow AMEE (Association for Medical Education in Europe) and Fellow of the Academy of Medical Educators. Within RCPI, she is Chair of the Examination Board for the MRCPI (O&G) and the Board of the Postgraduate Certificate in Obstetrics and Gynaecology.



Dr Pádraig Calpin is a consultant Anaesthesiologist and Fellow of the College of Anaesthesiologists of Ireland. Originally from Sligo, where he works as a Consultant Anaesthesiologist, he graduated from the University of Limerick and completed his Specialist Anaesthesiology Training in Ireland. He has a BSc in Physiology and an MSc in Regenerative Medicine from NUIG looking at the use of stem cell technologies and therapies in chronic disease and critical illness.

He has a special interest in high risk obstetric anaesthesia having worked in the National Maternity Hospital both as fellow and consultant for a number of years. He is also a consultant in intensive care medicine with a special interest in bedside echocardiography and is a Fellow of the Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine in Ireland and a trainer in transthoracic echocardiography with the Intensive Care Society.