

Investigator-Led Projects Scheme Applications approved for funding (2026)

Lead Applicant	Title	Host Institution
Professor Ursula Fearon	Distinct Cellular Crosstalk defines RA and PsA pathotypes	Trinity College Dublin
Dr Viviana Marzaioli	Osteoimmunity in Psoriatic Arthritis: circulating monocytes as drivers of pathological bone remodelling	Trinity College Dublin
Dr Máire Ní Leathlobhair	Targeting Metabolic Reprogramming in Testicular Cancer	Trinity College Dublin
Professor Gary Moran	Evaluation of Fusobacterium species as biomarkers of oral malignant progression	Dublin Dental University Hospital
Professor Clair Gardiner	Complex in vitro systems to predict impact of combined NK cell immunotherapy and Tumour Treating Fields (TTF) for GBM and DMG brain cancers	Trinity College Dublin
Dr Gary Brennan	Pre-clinical Validation of Anti-miR-134 Therapy for CHD2 Developmental Encephalopathy in a Patient-Specific Organoid Platform	University College Dublin
Dr Andrew Willis	Development and Validation of PRECIS-3-C: Extending the PRECIS-3 Tool for Cluster Randomised Trials	University College Cork
Dr Marie McIlroy	Decoding the Role of Aging-Associated Androgens in Metabolic Dysregulation and Breast Cancer Risk and Progression	RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences

Professor G Jane Farrar	Resolving genetic variants of uncertain significance (VUS) in Irish patients with inherited retinal degenerations	Trinity College Dublin
Professor Adam Byrne	Defining the role for itaconate and its isomers in severe asthma	University College Dublin
Dr Niamh Lynam-Lennon	The complement system as a novel theranostic in rectal cancer patients	Maynooth University
Dr Martina Schroeder	Establishing a pre-clinical model for DDX3X syndrome using human induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) to facilitate analysis of molecular and cellular pathogenesis	Maynooth University
Dr Eoin Brennan	Plastic in the Arteries: Unmasking a New Cardiovascular Risk Factor	University College Dublin
Dr Mikel Egana	Is the exercising diabetic brain at risk? Elucidating the impact and safety of acute exercise modalities on cerebrovascular function in type 2 diabetes	Trinity College Dublin
Dr Cristina Reschke	EPI-CLOCK: Epilepsy Circadian Phenotyping and Biomarker Discovery to Guide Chronotherapy	RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences
Professor Eamonn Molloy	Primed monocyte and macrophage subsets in GCA, implication for disease biomarkers and therapy	University College Dublin
Professor Tobias Engel	Targeting microglia-mediated neuroinflammation via the purinergic P2X7 receptor for disease-modification in epilepsy	RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences

Dr Emma Kerr	How does chemotherapy treatment alter sialylation in CRC?	Queen's University Belfast
Dr Gerry Hughes	Making Every Dose Count: Positioning Pharmacists as Prescribers of Optimal, Evidence-Based Therapy for InfeCtion in HoSpital (POETICS)	Trinity College Dublin
Dr Rachel Flynn	i-STiCK: Implementing and Sustaining Transition in Care Innovation through Implementation Science and Knowledge Translation in Irish Mental Health Services	University College Cork
Dr Elena Vaughan	Towards Equitable HIV Care in Ireland: A Co-Designed Assessment of Needs and Priorities in HIV Care Delivery	University of Galway
Dr Anél Wiese	MAPS-Ireland: Mapping and Advancing Practices of Supervision Between Senior and Junior Doctors in Irish Hospitals	University College Cork
Professor Helen French	Developing implementation strategies for equitable delivery of best practice management of osteoarthritis in primary care in Ireland: A participatory research study (ENACT-Equity)	RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences
Professor David Cotter	SOLAS: Sharing Our Lived experience through Art and Storytelling	RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences
Dr Síofra Harrington	CLEAR: The Child Light Exposure, Axial Length and Refraction Study – How Lighting and Sleep Shape Eye Growth and Myopia Risk	Technological University Dublin
Dr Peter Kinnevey	From Farm to Harm: Vancomycin-resistant and vancomycin-susceptible Enterococcus faecium from multiple Irish hospitals and from veterinary practices - a multi-institute population analysis study	Dublin Dental University Hospital

Professor Gráinne Cousins	Monitoring Threats from Emerging Drugs in Ireland (M-TEDie): A Mixed-Methods Analysis of Fatal and Non-Fatal Overdoses to inform an Early Warning Response System	RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences
Professor Amanda Phelan	Improving adult safeguarding response systems in peer-to-peer abuse and aggression in residential care	Dublin City University
Dr Mika Manninen	Understanding and Enhancing Adolescent Physical Activity Through Expectancy-Value Theory and a Utility-Value Intervention	Dublin City University