

# ICC-CTN Newsletter

December 2025



Irish  
Critical Care  
Clinical Trials  
Network

## Welcome to the latest edition of our Irish Critical Care Clinical Trials Network Newsletter *10th Anniversary Edition*

This year marks a significant milestone for the ICC-CTN as we celebrate 10 years since the network was founded in 2015. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our most sincere thanks to all of those who have collaborated with us over the years.

We are delighted to share the latest ICC-CTN updates for 2025. We have made progress across each of our work packages. A total of 3 new studies were greenlighted - STEPCARE, ReactSHOCK and T4P, while the MegaROX trial recently reached their recruitment target of 40,000 participants - a fantastic achievement for all involved - and SVUH contributed 164 patients to the study! Arise Fluids also completed global recruitment and SVUH enrolled 1 patient in Ireland. We have expanded our PPIE activities both nationally and globally through exciting collaborations. Further education and training initiatives to support early career researchers (ECRs) were launched, enhancing support for future trialists. We delivered several online and in-person meetings and events this year, including the inaugural PRIME Ireland and ECR Symposia, and we have continued building collaborations with leading research infrastructures globally to plan a pipeline of funded trials, projects and initiatives for the future.

*Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and the very best for 2026.*

*Thank you for your continued support and collaboration.*

*Take Care,*

*Alistair*

*on behalf of the ICC-CTN Executive*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We congratulate the TTM2 team who [recently published](#) anticipated results of the biological sample sub-study of blood biomarkers in the prediction of recovery following a cardiac arrest. Core members of the ICC-CTN were involved through collaboration on the TAME trial and the harmonised biological sampling sub-studies. This is exciting news as we await the results of the TAME sample analysis.
- The ICC-CTN was featured in [Mediaplanet's Healthcare Innovations and Clinical Trials Campaign in May 2025](#), discussing changes under the new Clinical Trials Regulation and what that means for emergency clinical trials and emergency enrolment among critically ill patients.
- We are excited to launch these trials in 2026 across Ireland: PRACTICAL, PANTHER (Acute Respiratory Failure Programme) BRAINAPT (Trauma Programme), KOURAGE (Acute Kidney Injury Programme), and SPICE IV (Perioperative Programme).

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**ICC-CTN Summer Meeting**  
**ICC-CTN 10-year Anniversary**  
10th June 2025  
Titanic Belfast



The 2025 ICC-CTN Annual Summer meeting consisted of three thematic sessions centered around a diverse array of ICU research and trial designs, and the talented researchers within our national and global collaborator networks presented, followed by engaging panel discussions. We held another collaborative session with InFACT and key speakers presented on updates from the Federated Platform Trials Initiative (FPTI) work packages. Our ICC-CTN ECR Seed Funding Awardees Dr Andrew Boyle, Dr Natalie McEvoy and Ms Jane Dickson were announced and presented their projects, and Dr Kiran Reddy presented the preliminary PHIND study results. The meeting closed following an insightful session of talks from chief investigators for STEPCARE, PANTHER, PRACTICAL and COURAGE trials.

The ICC-CTN assisted in facilitating the InFACT 2.0 Meeting also held on 10<sup>th</sup> June. This meeting had a strong focus on the mission statement of InFACT, building and exploring international collaboration within acute care research, and future planning and adaptation of the organization. A follow-on meeting was held in Kigali, Rwanda in October and attended by FPTI WP leads. Congratulations to Prof. John Marshall and Ms Megan Acton on hosting successful meetings this year and we look forward to continuing collaborations with InFACT.

**2026 ICC-CTN SUMMER MEETING SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026, TITANIC BELFAST**



**PRIME Meeting**  
8th September 2025  
Museum of Literature Ireland



The ICC-CTN held its inaugural PRIME meeting in the Museum of Literature Ireland in September. This meeting included an ECR symposium with 9 presentations from Early and Mid Career Researchers in critical care and their projects.

This was followed by an Irish ICU Research Co-Ordinators Meeting, attended by an ICC-PPI group member who offered their perspective of being in ICU and discussed the importance of patient involvement in clinical research.

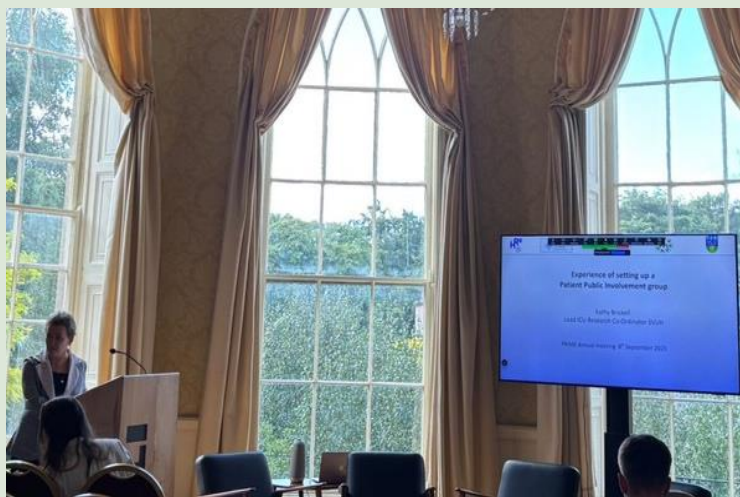
An ECR group session was also held for critical care ECRs to discuss initiatives to support ECR career development. The session marked the establishment of an all-island critical care ECR group which will be co-led by Dr Kate Ainscough and Dr Yvelynne Kelly. A meeting follow up and action plan will be disseminated to members in January 2026.

**Our 2026 PRIME Ireland and ECR Symposia with ECR Group Meeting are planned for September 2026 in Dublin – please watch this space for Details.**

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## PATIENT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES



The ICC-CTN leads national and international PPIE initiatives in critical and acute care. At the PRIME Ireland Symposium, September 2025 in the Museum of Literature, Dr Leanne Hays, our PPIE programme lead, discussed the activities and impact of our PPIE work since our national structure –the ICC-PPI Group – was established 5 years ago in 2020.

To summarise, to date our national PPI group have discussed and provided updates on the ICU experience, consent, dissemination, COVID-19 studies, methodology (including trial design and outcomes measures), regulated/IMP trials, precision medicine, biological sampling and more. The impact of that has been that PPI input has been included in >22 studies, ensuring our research is acceptable and appropriate through advice on the consent processes in ICU, emergency trial status under the clinical trials regulation, biosampling and data sharing, and research and trials governance. Our PPI group have had input on public and patient facing media (consent documents, our website, waiting room leaflets/posters and 4 media articles to date), sit on network governance structures and advise on trial and infrastructure funding submissions forming part of the co-applicant team (>€20m in grant funding to date). Globally, our established federated PPIE group across 3 x global platform trials have advised further on platform trial design, non-inferiority margins, and have come on board platform trial governance structures. They have also co-authored publications – manuscripts, EDI strategies and consensus papers. Importantly, these national and global structures have provided a model for further national and international PPIE group establishment or development – including those in Australia, Pakistan, and a partnership with ABI-Ireland.

For 2026 and beyond we hope to further develop this fundamental programme which underpins our research activities; increasing membership and diversity, providing resources and training, further empiric research and further embedding within research infrastructures. We thank all of our dedicated PPIE partners for their incredible hard work and contributions which are shaping the landscape of contemporary critical care research worldwide.

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## EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER INITIATIVES

### Launch of the Quarterly ICC-CTN Journal Club

We launched the ICC-CTN-JC in September 2026 with a presentation and appraisal of the TAME Cardiac Arrest Trial (NEJM, 2023), followed by our second session in December on Therapeutic Anticoagulation with Heparin in Critically Ill Patients with Covid-19 (NEJM, 2021). JC sessions will be held once quarterly via Zoom from 17:30-18:30 (GMT+1) and feature a trainee delivering presentation of high impact paper followed by discussion with a leading author and trial investigator as expert guest speaker. A huge thank you to our presenters and speakers to date. Please see our [website](#) for further details. *Each session is certified 1 CPD by the College of Anesthesiologists Ireland.*

### Launch of the ICC-CTN Principal Investigator Training Programme

The Principal Investigator Training Programme, led by Dr Kiran Reddy, is a 6-12 months training opportunity for NCHDs that provides embedded research experience in the delivery of large clinical trials within the ICC-CTN's portfolio that can be carried out alongside clinical training. During their clinical rotation, the candidate selects an investigator working on an ICC-CTN multi-center clinical trial and completes a logbook of learning activities which are verified by the principal investigator at the end of their tenure. The PITP pilot was launched in SVUH in 2025 and will expand to other clinical sites in the network in January 2026.

### BASIC Clinical Research & Clinical Research Coordination

The ICC-CTN delivers the BASIC courses in Ireland which offer an introduction for clinicians and allied healthcare professionals to conducting and coordinating clinical research with a focus on critical care. Dates for 2026 are as follows:

- BASIC Clinical Research: 30/31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, Museum of Literature, Ireland
- BASIC Research Coordination: 17/18<sup>th</sup> April 2026, St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin

### ECR Seed Funding Awards 2025 and 2026

The ICC-CTN awarded 3 Early Career Researchers seed funding prizes this year (see ICC-CTN Summer Meeting pg2 for 2025 awardees). The 4<sup>th</sup> round call will open in January 2026, and details will be announced via our mailing list and website.

### TSC and IDMC Courses 2026

In collaboration with the HRB-TMRN and leading faculty, the ICC-CTN will deliver in-person Trial Steering Committee (TSC) and Independent Data Monitoring Committee (IDMC) workshops in Q1 2026. Each are 1-day workshops and will be held in the Museum of Literature, Ireland. Please see below for details and a link to register:

- [Independent Data Monitoring Committee Workshop](#): MoLI, Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026
- [Trial Steering Committee Workshop](#): MoLI, Dublin, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026

These workshops provide key insights into fundamental trial governance structures.

Please contact [iccctn@ucd.ie](mailto:iccctn@ucd.ie) to ensure you're on the mailing list to receive updates about these initiatives.

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## Current Trial Updates

### Pandemic Resilience

**REMAP-CAP** established the endothelial domain this year, with another to follow in 2026. New publications include [EARL Barriers \(JAMA\)](#) and [Steroids in CAP \(ICM\)](#).

**SPRINT-SARI** continues to collect SARI data on a yearly basis. A new CRF is currently in development for collecting Irish data in this trial. Analysis and write up of the Irish COVID-19 experience is underway.

### Trauma

**EPO-Trauma:** recruited x patients in European Sites coordinated by UCD this year. In Ireland, 4 patients were enrolled in Cork University Hospital (well done team!). New sites in Belgium and Germany were activated with the remaining sites in France due to start in 2026. The trial was granted emergency status (emergency enrolment) under the CTR this year and funding has been extended to facilitate recruitment until 2027.

**BONANZA:** enrolled 20 Irish patients this year. Incredible work by the team at Beaumont Hospital. The ICC-CTN coordinates Bonanza in Ireland and several European centres with over 60 patients recruited at these sites. In 2025, 338 patients were recruited globally. Great progress this year by all involved!

**GenOMICC IRELAND** - database updates and site contracts are progressing well to ensure 9 Irish sites will participate in GenOMICC Ireland in 2026.

### Cardiac Arrest

**STEP CARE** opened in SVUH in February 2025 and the first patient enrolled in October. Other sites in set up.

**AIRWAYS-3** investigates use of a supraglottic airway device to maintain an airway open during cardiac arrest. Irish recruitment expected 2026.

### Acute Respiratory Failure

**BIOTEST** opened in December 2024 and screening for this trial has been on-going. This is an industry trial focusing on Community Acquired Pneumonia.

### PERIOPERATIVE

**T4P** opened in SVUH in February 2025 and the first patient enrolled in September.

Expansion to other Irish sites is ongoing. Please get in touch to express interest.