



## **Northern Ireland Stroke Conference Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018 Speaker Biographies**

### **Mrs Kate Charles (*Head of Stroke Support, Stroke Association*)**

I have worked for the Stroke Association for 9 years. My current role is Head of Stroke Support, working in the North of England. I am passionate about ensuring that stroke survivors and carers receive the best possible support after stroke. I have a particular interest in emotional wellbeing and stroke recovery and developing services to meet these needs. We established the first emotional support service in Liverpool, a stroke specific counselling service, in 2016. This is part of the stroke recovery service commissioned by Liverpool CCG. The integrated/collaborative service model with clinical Psychology and stroke health professionals has provided fantastic outcomes for stroke survivors and carers. I am a keen Tweeter @katdaz01, a fan of horse racing (watching not riding) and walking in Scotland. I am very proud to work for an organisation that provides vital services and campaigns for better stroke care.

### **Dr Sheena Caldwell (*Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine, Regional Acquired Brain Injury Unit, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust*)**

Dr Caldwell is a Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine whose specialty interests in Neurorehabilitation include congenital and acquired brain injury. She runs a spasticity service from the Regional Acquired Brain Injury Unit at Musgrave Park Hospital. Her research interests include SAH, outcomes, and awareness

### **Professor Avril Drummond (*Professor of Healthcare Research and Director of Research, University of Nottingham*)**

Avril Drummond is Professor of Healthcare Research and Director of Research in the School of Health Sciences, University of Nottingham. She is an occupational therapist with a longstanding interest in rehabilitation research, particularly in stroke, and has published research on clinical services and specific rehabilitation interventions.

Avril is a Fellow of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists. She is a member of the Royal College of Physicians Intercollegiate Working Party for Stroke and was recently Chair of the UK Stroke Forum. She is currently Chair of the Life after Stroke group for the Action Plan for Europe. Avril serves on the executive management board of a local NHS hospital Trust.

**Dr. Douglas Duffy (*Physiotherapist Royal Victoria Eye and Ear Hospital and The Balance Centre*)**

Dr. Douglas Duffy, DPT MISCP graduated with a Doctorate in Physiotherapy from Arcadia University, Philadelphia, USA in 2004. He also received a certificate of competence in vestibular rehabilitation from Emory and Duke Universities in 2007. He is currently the senior physiotherapist in The Royal Victoria Eye and Ear hospital and owner of The Balance Centre specializing in treating people with vestibular and balance disorders. He has been a guest lecturer for Trinity College schools of Medicine and Physiotherapy and University College Dublin school of Medicine as well as teaching physiotherapy continuing education courses.

**Miss Amy Holehouse (*Senior Surgery and Oncology Dietitian, Mid Cheshire Hospital Foundation Trust, Central Cheshire Integrated Care Partnership*)**

I qualified in 2015 after studying Post-Graduate Nutrition and Dietetics at Chester University.

Since qualifying and progressing to my current role as a Senior Dietitian in Surgery and Oncology I have covered a wide range of acute and chronic conditions, the majority in the acute hospital setting.

My current role includes covering our Critical Care unit, a virtual clinic for Upper Gastrointestinal Cancer patients and domiciliary Macmillan visits, keeping variety in my practice.

Alongside clinical work I am very keen to develop protocols and pathways to improve decision making around nutrition and hydration promoting clear, structured communication between the multidisciplinary team. This led to the production of the Dysphagia, Nutrition and Hydration bundle.

**Emer Hopkins (*Co-ordinator Northern Ireland Stroke Network, Health and Social Care Board*)**

Emer is currently working in the Health and Social Care Board as the Co-coordinator of the Northern Ireland Stroke Network. Within this role she has responsibility for delivery of a co-produced and co-designed model that it is hoped will deliver great improvements to stroke patients across the region. She must ensure that the department of Health and Health and Social Care Trusts receive accurate advice about evidence relating to stroke care and that the views of patients and professionals working in stroke services are able to influence decision making and health policy.

Emer has a background in Neuro-physiotherapy and in particular rehabilitation after Brain Injury and Stroke.

Emer had leadership roles on many initiatives and projects, recently the EU funded Magic project ensuring that technology is developed in partnership with clinicians and survivors that can support and empower people after stroke.

Emer is particularly interested in health care organisational research and has completed a Master's degree in the area. She continues to be focussed on ensuring

that the best available evidence is used to transform health services in Northern Ireland and implement the findings of the recent Expert Panel review.

**Professor Peter Kelly (*Consultant Stroke Neurologist and Director of the Stroke Service at the Mater University Hospital*)**

Peter Kelly is Clinical Professor of Neurology at University College Dublin (UCD) and Co-Director of the Stroke Service at the Mater University Hospital Dublin. He trained in Dublin and at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He is Lead Investigator of the HRB Stroke Clinical Trials Network Ireland, Director of the UCD Neurovascular Research Unit, and Chair of the European Stroke Organisation Trials Network Committee. He served as Neurology Clinical Lead of the Irish National Stroke Programme from 2010-2015.

His research interests include therapeutics, risk stratification, and epidemiology of cerebrovascular atherosclerosis, atrial fibrillation, and transient ischaemic attack. He has led several international research studies to identify new imaging and blood risk markers for stroke. He is Chief Investigator for the CONVINCE trial, international TIA-IPD collaboration, and BIOVASC carotid atherosclerosis imaging study. He serves on the leadership teams of several other international clinical trials and studies. He has published widely on Stroke in peer-reviewed journals and has co-edited a textbook of Stroke Prevention.

**Professor Nadina Lincoln (*Professor of Clinical Psychology, University of Nottingham*)**

Prof. Nadina Lincoln undertook her first degree in Psychology at the University of Wales, Cardiff, followed by a Master's in Clinical Psychology at the University of Leeds. She worked for the NHS during which time she also studied for her PhD at the University of London. She worked in NHS as clinical psychologist until she joined the University of Nottingham in 1994. Her main research area is the evaluation of cognitive rehabilitation for people with neurological conditions. She is Principal Investigator on the CRAMMS trial, to evaluate cognitive rehabilitation for attention and memory in people with multiple sclerosis. She has also conducted studies on the role of cognitive tests in the assessment of fitness to drive in people with head injury, multiple sclerosis and dementia. She has also been responsible for developing the Stroke Drivers Screening Assessment and the Nottingham Assessment for Drivers with Dementia.

**Professor Suzanne McDonough (*Professor of Health and Rehabilitation, Ulster University*)**

Suzanne McDonough is a Professor of Health and Rehabilitation at Ulster University, an Honorary Research Professor in the School of Physiotherapy, University of Otago, NZ. Professor McDonough is particularly interested in the use of technology to support patients in their rehabilitation. Suzanne has been working on the development of virtual reality for stroke rehabilitation for over ten years; she has published widely in her area of expertise (over 100 peer reviewed papers; H-index 30)

including several systematic reviews, randomised controlled trials, and cohort studies in clinical populations.

**Dr Chris Price (*Clinical Reader in Stroke Medicine Newcastle University*)**

Chris Price is the Stroke Association's HRH Princess Margaret Senior Reader in Stroke Medicine and an NHS Consultant. He is chief investigator of a large clinical trial funded by the National Institute for Health Research examining the clinical and cost-effectiveness of a new paramedic assessment process for acute stroke, and holds awards to evaluate point of care diagnostic technology to assist early identification of large vessel occlusion and mimic conditions. He has previously led an NIHR funded observational study and modelling exercise of hyperacute stroke service configurations, and contributes towards national and European clinical guidelines for the organisation of stroke services.

**Anna Volkmer (*Speech and Language Therapist / NIHR Doctoral Research Fellow*)**

Anna Volkmer trained at University College London (UCL) as a speech and language therapist. She has since worked with adults with acquired neurological conditions for 15 years across the UK and Australia. She completed her masters of clinical rehabilitation at Flinders University, SA and is currently undertaking her PhD at UCL. Anna lectures across UCL and the Institute of Psychiatry on the role of the speech and language therapist's in dementia. This is where her particular interest in decision making and mental capacity arose from. Anna has consequently written two books for speech and language therapists working with adults around decision making and mental capacity. She was recently involved in writing the new NICE SCIE guidelines on decision making and mental capacity and is currently a co-author on the forthcoming Royal College of Speech and Language Therapy web pages on the subject.

**Dr Colin Wilson (*Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist, RABIU, Belfast HSC Trust*)**

Colin is based at the Regional Acquired Brain Injury Unit (RABIU), Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast HSC Trust. He completed clinical psychology training at Queen's University, Belfast in 1995. From 2002 onwards, he has provided clinical neuropsychology leadership to the development and subsequent delivery of services at the Regional Acquired Brain Injury Unit (RABIU).

Over the last two decades, he has co-authored around forty papers, three invited book chapters mainly in the area of brain injury assessment and rehabilitation as well as one test of children's executive functioning. Colin is currently a BPS National assessor in Neuropsychology and Neurological Rehabilitation as well as Chief Assessor for the Qualification in Clinical Neuropsychology (QiCN).