



ROYAL COLLEGE OF  
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

# MASTERCLASS

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland  
No. 6 Kildare St, Dublin 2

4.00 pm Wednesday, December 3, 2008

*RCPI Masterclass Series 2008/2009*  
***Treating the Acutely Ill  
Patient*** – Update and advances  
in management of common medical  
conditions presenting on call

**Part II: Infectious  
Disease Session**



# Welcome

Dr John Donohoe  
*President, RCPI*

Dr Diarmuid O'Shea  
*Masterclass Series Convenor, RCPI*



Dear Delegates,

In line with its mission to promote excellence in medical education and to support the advancement of the medical profession, we are pleased to welcome you to today's meeting – the Infectious Disease session of the **RCPI Masterclass Series on Treating the Acutely Ill Patient**.

The RCPI Masterclass Series – which will run over seven sessions from November 2008 through to June 2009 – is aimed at keeping doctors up to date in evolving medical practice outside their specialty area and to facilitate their continuing medical education. The objective of the series is to help those who are at the front line of our health service continuously improve their skills base, effectively facilitating excellence in patient care.

The series brings together medical experts from a variety of specialties under a central theme, provides a senior forum for peer discussion and has in the past attracted unprecedented numbers for Irish training. The entire series will be live webcast to 20 regional hospitals and will also be recorded and available as a recorded webcast via the RCPI's online medical education centre.

We would like to thank the co-chairs of the session, Dr Colm Bergin and Dr Mary Horgan, and the speakers for their contribution to the programme and the Series.

Each session qualifies for 3 CME credits from RCPI (21 in total for the series).

If you have suggestions for future topics in the series please include them on the assessment form in your meeting pack. Alternatively, email your suggestions to us at [joannaholly@rcpi.ie](mailto:joannaholly@rcpi.ie).

We hope you enjoy the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Donohoe'.

Dr John Donohoe  
President  
Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diarmuid O'Shea'.

Dr Diarmuid O'Shea  
Vice President for Education and  
Professional Development  
Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

| TIME          | TITLE  | SPEAKER   | CHAIR  |
|---------------|--|---|--|
| 15.30 – 16.00 | <b>Registration</b>                                  |   |  |
| 16.00 – 16.30 | Management and treatment of meningitis/ encephalitis | <b>Dr Gerard Sheehan</b><br>Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin  | <b>Dr Colm Bergin</b><br>St James's Hospital, Dublin |
| 16.30 – 16.35 | <b>Question and Answer Session</b>                   |   |  |
| 16.35 – 17.05 | Travel-related infections and international health   | <b>Dr Claire Donnelly</b><br>Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast     |  |
| 17.05 – 17.10 | <b>Question and Answer Session</b>                   |   |  |
| 17.10 – 17.40 | Practical guide to MRSA                              | <b>Dr Dan Corcoran</b><br>Cork University Hospital                |  |
| 17.40 – 17.45 | <b>Question and Answer Session</b>                   |   |  |
| 17.45 – 18.00 | <b>Refreshments</b>                                  |   |  |
| 18.00 – 18.30 | Sepsis syndrome/fever in immuno-suppressed host      | <b>Dr Paddy Mallon</b><br>Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin    | <b>Dr Mary Horgan</b><br>Cork University Hospital    |
| 18.30 – 18.35 | <b>Question and Answer Session</b>                   |   |  |
| 18.35 – 19.05 | Skin and soft tissue infections                      | <b>Dr Catherine Fleming</b><br>University College Hospital Galway |  |
| 19.05 – 19.10 | <b>Question and Answer Session</b>                   |   |  |
| 19.10 – 19.30 | <b>Panel Discussion</b>                              |   |  |

This meeting is approved for 3 CME credits by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

Dr Colm Bergin  
St James's Hospital, Dublin



Dr Bergin will chair Session 1

Colm Bergin is Consultant Physician in Infectious Diseases at St James's Hospital, Dublin, and Senior Lecturer in Clinical Medicine at Trinity College Dublin. He is the clinical director of the Surgical and Medical Subspecialties Directorate at St James's Hospital, Dublin. He is also the consultant medical advisor for the National Drug Treatment Centre, Dublin.

After completing his MB at Trinity College Dublin in 1989, Dr Bergin completed training in General Medicine and specialist training in Genitourinary Medicine, subsequent to which he was appointed Lecturer in Clinical and Respiratory Medicine at St James's Hospital

and Trinity College Dublin from 1994 -1996. He completed a Fellowship in Infectious Diseases at Boston University Hospital from 1996-1999 and was appointed to his present clinical and academic positions in 1999.

Dr Bergin is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the European Society of Clinical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases, the European AIDS Clinical Society, the British Infection Society and the British HIV Association. He has served on the Scientific Programme Committee for International AIDS Society meetings and the Scientific Advisory Committee for the EACS meeting in Dublin, 2005.

Dr Mary Horgan  
Cork University Hospital



Dr Horgan will chair Session 2

Mary Horgan is Consultant Physician in Infectious Disease at Cork University Hospital. She graduated from UCD with an Honours Degree in 1986. She completed General Professional and Higher Medical Training in Internal Medicine at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital and at the St Vincent's University Hospital. She completed a training fellowship in Infectious Diseases in Washington University School of Medicine, St Louis, Missouri from 1990 to 1994, joining the medical faculty there as Assistant Professor of Medicine from 1994

to 1997. Her MD was conferred in 1995 in the field of Virology. Dr Horgan was appointed as statutory Senior Lecturer in Medicine in UCC in 2005 and Associate Dean, General Professional Training in RCPI in 2007.

Dr Horgan holds Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and the Royal College of Physicians of London and also holds Fellowship of both the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland and of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh.

# Session 1

16.00 – 16.30

## Management and treatment of meningitis/encephalitis

Dr Gerard Sheehan  
*Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin*



### Biographical Sketch

Gerard Sheehan is a 1979 University College Cork graduate who trained in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases (ID) and Intensive Care Medicine (ICM) at the University of Manitoba, Canada. He was a consultant in ID and ICM at the University of Alberta Hospital, Edmonton, Canada from 1987-1993. In 1993 he was appointed as the first ID consultant physician in the Republic of Ireland to both the Mater Misericordiae University and Beaumont Hospitals and set up and developed HIV services for North Dublin, including the rapid roll-out of anti-retroviral therapy from 1996.

He set up the National Isolation Unit (NIU) at the Mater which opened in 2008, to deal with infections that are both highly contagious and dangerous. From 2005 he has practised solely at the Mater. In 2006 he was appointed Director of the MED project to improve the Mater's response to the A&E crisis and lead developments in General Internal Medicine.

### Overview of Presentation

This presentation will overview CNS infections, with the main focus on pyogenic meningitis and Herpes simplex encephalitis. For bacterial meningitis the emphasis will be on assessment, aetiology, and

antimicrobial therapy. The effect of vaccines and prophylactic antimicrobial agents will also be covered. The role of steroids for pyogenic and tuberculous meningitis will be covered. Illustrative cases will be presented.

16.35 – 17.05

## Travel-related infections and international health

Dr Claire Donnelly  
*Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast*

### Biographical Sketch

Claire Donnelly studied at Queen's University Belfast. After finishing General Professional Training in Belfast, she worked in Australia for four years, and completed Infectious Diseases training in Ireland in 2004. She completed a diploma course in tropical medicine in Peru in 2004. She was appointed as a Consultant in Infectious Diseases in The Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast in 2006.

### Overview of Presentation

This presentation will highlight the important issues when assessing the sick returned traveller. This is not meant to be an extensive review of tropical diseases, but will give an overview of some of the more common infections and less common

but serious infections. At the end of the presentation, a general physician should be able to appropriately investigate a febrile patient, and initiate treatment for some important travel related infections.

## Session 1

17.10 – 17.40

### Practical guide to MRSA

Dr Dan Corcoran  
*Cork University Hospital*



#### Biographical Sketch

Dan Corcoran is Consultant Medical Microbiologist at Cork University Hospital. He qualified in Medicine in UCD in 1982, and completed General Medical Training in St Vincent's University Hospital and St James's Hospital, Dublin. He completed Clinical Microbiology Training in St James's Hospital, Dublin, University College Hospital, Galway and University College Hospital, London.

Dr Corcoran's previous appointments included Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, Western Infirmary, Glasgow UK and Senior Lecturer, University of Glasgow from 1994-2004. He was also Medical Director of the Scottish Parasite Reference Laboratory from 2001-2004. He has also been Assistant Editor of the Journal of Hospital Infection since 1999.

Dr Corcoran's research interests include: infection control, the immunocompromised host and clinical parasitology.

#### Overview of Presentation

MRSA infections have a higher mortality than MSSA infections. New antimicrobial agents are available and are being evaluated for the management of serious MRSA infections, offering increased therapeutic choice. Clinical surveillance is central to assessment of the extent of the problem of MRSA infection.

Issues surrounding the management of sporadic and endemic MRSA colonisation remain. These are increasingly the focus of political imperatives and targets are being set. It is crucial that such targets acknowledge local priorities and that good clinical practice is facilitated. Universal screening remains controversial and should be addressed in the context of available resources.

## Session 2

18.00 – 18.30

### Sepsis syndrome/fever in immuno-suppressed host

Dr Paddy Mallon  
*Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin*



#### Biographical Sketch

Patrick Mallon graduated in Medicine from Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland. He underwent training in Infectious Diseases in Sydney, Australia and completed a PhD in the clinical and molecular aspects of HIV-associated Lipodystrophy (the commonest long-term side effect of antiretroviral therapy) before returning to Ireland in 2007 to take an Infectious Diseases Specialist position at the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, a major Irish teaching hospital that cares for a large cohort of HIV-infected patients, and a College Lecturer at University College Dublin.

Dr Mallon's research areas include translational research into toxicities of antiretroviral therapy and cardiovascular disease, and pharmacology of anti-infectives. He has published widely in these areas and also acts as a reviewer for several international peer-reviewed medical journals.

#### Overview of Presentation

Dr Mallon will discuss sepsis syndrome/fever in the immuno-suppressed host.

## Session 2

18.35 – 19.05

Skin and soft tissue infections

Dr Catherine Fleming  
*University College Hospital Galway*

### **Biographical Sketch**

Catherine Fleming graduated from UCD in 1990. She trained in Infectious Diseases at Boston Medical Centre, Boston, Massachusetts, and received a Masters in Public Health from Harvard University. She took up her appointment as Consultant in Infectious Disease in Galway University Hospital in 2004.

### **Overview of Presentation**

Dr Fleming will discuss skin and soft tissue infections.

**UPCOMING SESSIONS in the *RCPI Masterclass Series. Treating the Acutely Ill Patient 2008/2009***

|           |                           |                  |                |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Part III: | Gastroenterology Session  | February 4, 2009 | 4.00 – 7.30 pm |
| Part IV:  | Haematology Session       | March 4, 2009    | 4.00 – 7.30 pm |
| Part V:   | Rheumatology Session      | April 1, 2009    | 4.00 – 7.30 pm |
| Part VI:  | Cardiology Session        | May 6, 2009      | 4.00 – 7.30 pm |
| Part VII: | Medical Neurology Session | June 3, 2009     | 4.00 – 7.30 pm |