



ROYAL COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

MASTERCLASS

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

4.00 pm Wednesday, June 3, 2009

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

**Part VII: Neurology
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 **Neurology 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.

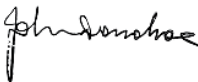
The objective of the series is to help those who are at the front line of our health service continuously improve their skills base, effectively facilitating excellence in patient care. The series brings together medical experts from a variety of specialties under a central theme, provides a senior forum for peer discussion and has in the past attracted unprecedented numbers for Irish training. The entire series will be webcast live to 22 regional hospitals and will also be available as a recorded webcast via the RCPI's online medical education centre.

We would like to thank the chairs of this session, Prof Michael Hutchinson and Dr Riona Mulcahy, and the speakers for their contribution to the programme and the series.

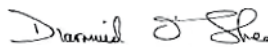
Each session qualifies for 3 CME credits from RCPI (21 in total for the series).

If you have suggestions for future topics in the series include them on the assessment form in your meeting pack. Alternatively, email your suggestions to us at helenmurray@rcpi.ie.

We hope you enjoy the meeting.



Dr John Donohoe
President
Royal College of Physicians of Ireland



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	Registration		
16.00 – 16.25	Transient Ischaemic Attack – Who to Admit, How to Investigate and Manage	Dr Joan Moroney Beaumont Hospital, Dublin	Prof Michael Hutchinson St Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin
16.25 – 16.30	Question and Answer Session		
16.30 – 16.55	Parkinson's Diseases Management in the Older Patient	Dr Riona Mulcahy Waterford Regional Hospital	
16.55 – 17.00	Question and Answer Session		
17.00 – 17.25	Acute Headache in the Emergency Department – Pearls of Wisdom	Dr Michael Hennessy University College Hospital Galway	
17.25 – 17.30	Question and Answer Session		
17.30 – 18.00	Refreshments		
18.00 – 18.25	Investigation and Management of the Acute Confusional State	Dr Peter Boers Limerick Regional Hospital	Dr Riona Mulcahy Waterford Regional Hospital
18.25 – 18.30	Question and Answer Session		
18.30 – 18.55	Weakness in Limbs Over the Last Few Days	Dr Aisling Ryan Cork University Hospital	
18.55 – 19.00	Question and Answer Session		
19.00 – 19.30	Panel Discussion		

Prof Michael Hutchinson
St Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin



Prof Hutchinson will chair session 1

Michael Hutchinson is a Consultant Neurologist at St Vincent's University Hospital and Newman Clinical Research Professor in University College Dublin. He is also a lecturer in Neurology at Trinity College Dublin School of Medicine and is a member of the MS Ireland Research Committee.

His special areas of clinical and academic interest are General Neurology, Multiple Sclerosis, Dystonia and Creutzfeld-Jacob Disease.

Dr Riona Mulcahy
Waterford Regional Hospital



Dr Mulcahy will chair session 2

Riona Mulcahy qualified from UCD in 1990. She did her post graduate training in Dublin followed by two years in research in Mercers Institute for Research in Ageing. She then moved to Newcastle upon Tyne where she gained further expertise in her areas of specialist interest including Stroke, Neurocardiovascular instability and Parkinson's disease. She was appointed to Waterford Regional Hospital in 2000. She is also senior lecturer for the RCSI and secretary to the Irish Gerontological society.

Session 1

16.00 – 16.25

Transient Ischaemic Attack – Who to Admit, How to Investigate and Manage

Dr Joan Moroney
Beaumont Hospital, Dublin



Biographical Sketch

Joan Moroney is a University College Galway graduate and completed neurology residency training and subspecialty stroke fellowship at New York University and Columbia Presbyterian Medical Centre in New York City, USA. Her research was recognised with an NIH-NINDS clinical investigator development award during her time in the USA.

Dr Moroney currently works as a Consultant Neurologist with subspecialty expertise in stroke at Beaumont Hospital and the RCSI. Particular interests include acute stroke interventions; early revascularisation after stroke; utility of TOE in stroke and role of PFO closure; TIA recognition and management; venous sinus thrombosis and arterial dissection; and cerebral vasculitis.

Overview of Presentation

Definition of TIA is discussed and how thinking on underlying pathophysiology has evolved culminating in the most recent tissue-based definition: a transient episode of neurological dysfunction caused by focal brain, spinal cord or retinal ischaemia, without acute infarction.

Patients with TIAs are at high risk of early stroke and their risk may be stratified by clinical scale, brain and vascular imaging. Current diagnostic recommendations support neuroimaging (MRI_DWI) within 24 hours; non-invasive imaging of cervical

vessels should be performed; non-invasive imaging of intracranial vessels is reasonable in selected patients; ECG should be performed as soon as possible after TIA and Holter monitoring and echocardiography are reasonable once large-artery disease has been excluded; routine bloods are reasonable; and it is reasonable to hospitalise patients with TIA if they present within 72 hours and have an ABCD2 score ≥ 3 , indicating high risk of early recurrence, or the evaluation cannot be rapidly completed as an outpatient.

16.30 – 16.55

Parkinson's Diseases Management in the Older Patient

Dr Riona Mulcahy
Waterford Regional Hospital



Biographical Sketch

Riona Mulcahy qualified from UCD in 1990. She did her post graduate training in Dublin followed by two years in research in Mercers Institute for Research in Ageing. She then moved to Newcastle upon Tyne where she gained further expertise in her areas of specialist interest including Stroke, Neurocardiovascular instability and Parkinson's disease. She was appointed to Waterford Regional Hospital in 2000. She is also senior lecturer for the RCSI and secretary to the Irish Gerontological society.

Overview of Presentation

This presentation outlines the complexities of treating Parkinson's disease in the older patient. Management of the motor and non motor complications are outlined with an emphasis on maximising the motor function and minimising the complications of the disease and its treatment.

The talk also highlights recent advances in treatment of Parkinson's disease including newer methods of drug delivery and surgical options.

Session 1

17.00 – 17.25

Acute Headache in the Emergency Department – Pearls of Wisdom

Dr Michael Hennessy
University College Hospital Galway



Biographical Sketch

Michael Hennessy graduated from University College Dublin in 1990. After completing Neurology training in the National Hospital, Queen Square and Kings College Hospital, London he became Consultant Neurologist to the Walton Centre for Neurology and Neurosurgery in Liverpool. Since 2002 he has practised as a Consultant Neurologist in Galway Regional Hospitals.

Overview of Presentation

Accurate diagnosis of acute headache in the emergency department depends on careful history taking. Most such headaches will prove to be benign, occurring in the context of a primary headache syndrome.

The clinical associations of acute severe, “thunderclap”, headache will be emphasised as this form of headache is most readily identified with acute life-threatening pathology.

Session 2

18.00 – 18.25

Investigation and Management of the Acute Confusional State

Dr Peter Boers
Limerick Regional Hospital



Biographical Sketch

Peter Boers is a Consultant Neurologist at the Mid-Western Regional Hospital, Limerick. Prior to this Dr Boers was a Staff Specialist (Consultant) in Neurology and Stroke Unit Director, St. George Hospital, Sydney. In addition, Dr Boers has worked as Australasian Fellow/Neurology Specialist Registrar at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London.

Dr Boers completed his undergraduate medical training (MB BS) at the University of New South Wales (UNSW). He also undertook undergraduate and postgraduate research (BMedSc and PhD) in antimigraine drugs and their CNS effects at UNSW. He carried out his Clinical Neurology training at Prince Henry and Prince of Wales Hospitals, Sydney, and was also a Clinical Neurophysiology Fellow at the Prince of Wales Hospital. Dr Boers holds Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, and also of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland.

Overview of Presentation

Delirium, or an acute confusional state, is an acute change in mental state characterised by abnormal and fluctuating attention. It is a common problem in hospitalised patients, particularly the elderly, but can be seen in

younger people as well. This presentation will look at the features of delirium, discuss the common causes, important points to look for in the assessment, and principles of management.

18.30 – 18.55**Weakness in Limbs Over the Last Few Days**

Dr Aisling Ryan
Cork University Hospital

**Biographical Sketch**

Aisling Ryan is a graduate of University College Cork; Dr Ryan received her MB, BCh, BAO in 1995. She subsequently trained in general medicine in the Cork University Hospital and allied hospitals before specialising in neurology. Following a period of specialist neurology training in Dublin, she moved to Germany to undertake a PhD in neuromuscular channelopathies at the Department of Physiology, University of Ulm.

Dr Ryan returned to Ireland in 2002 to complete her clinical neurology training. She subsequently spent a year at the Centre for Neuromuscular Disease, National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery, Queen Square, London before returning to a post as Consultant Neurologist in Cork University Hospital.

Overview of Presentation

An approach to the assessment of acute or subacute neuromuscular weakness will be presented. The focus will be on the management of common conditions at

presentation in the emergency department. Rarer but important conditions will also be discussed. Some illustrative case histories will be presented.

Dates for the 2009/2010 Series are currently being confirmed and will be available on www.rcpi.ie shortly.