

Prof Alice Coffey Introducing E-Resource

Hello, my name is Alice Coffey Professor of Nursing and co-director of the Centre for Implementation Research at University of Limerick. I have co-led the project to develop this digital education resource which is focused on the recognition prevention and management of delirium with Dr Gary Mitchel of Queens University Belfast.

Delirium is a global health care concern that can result in death and prolonged disability. However, delirium is both preventable and reversible but often goes undetected and undiagnosed. Early recognition of delirium is essential to improve patient outcomes and the education of health professions is a first step in achieving this.

This project is funded by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) as part of the Irish government's Shared Island Initiative. The HEA investment supports the deepening of links between researchers and multidisciplinary health professional researchers and students at University of Limerick and Queen's University Belfast and has the potential to shape the provision of undergraduate delirium education across the island of Ireland.

Therefore, the project supports collaborative research innovation and excellence within our higher education sectors and opens opportunities to engage with further HEI's across the island.

Our cross disciplinary research team comprises researchers from nursing, pharmacy, medicine and Allied health with expertise in the topic of delirium, co-design methodology, implementation science and learning technology.

Throughout the project we have encouraged the shared and collective voice of our students who will use or benefit from this resource. The use of co-design methodology ensured that the voice of the end-users (health profession students) was key in informing the development of the learning resource. Using implementation science methods, we have ensured that that the resource is robustly prepared for implementation into appropriate health profession curricula.

Our research was also supported by an Expert Advisory Group (ERG) with representation from the North and South including individuals with lived experience of delirium, educators, and clinicians with expertise in delirium. I wish to acknowledge their advice and expertise in guiding the project.

The partnership between UL and QUB has and will continue to facilitate cross-border collaboration between researchers and health profession students, providing participants with an opportunity to create meaningful networks and learn from each other.

In collaborating to develop this educational resource our partnership ensures that key public health messages relating to delirium education are relevant and applicable to individuals across the Island of Ireland.