



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

**Postdoctoral Researcher/Research Associate: Patient Involvement in Patient
Safety- The PIPS Project**
Discipline of General Practice, School of Medicine
Ref. No. 011229

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a full-time, fixed term position as a Postdoctoral Researcher with the Discipline of General Practice and the Irish Centre for Applied Patient Safety and Simulation at the University of Galway, Ireland.

This position is funded by the Health Research Board and is available from December 1st 2025 to contract end date of November 31st 2028 (36 months).

The PIPS Project

Approximately 12% of adult inpatients in Irish hospitals will experience an adverse event, with the vast majority (70%) preventable. Each adverse event costs approximately 5,550e. Although efforts to understand and improve patient safety have become increasingly commonplace, the patient 'voice' has largely been ignored. Current practices position the patient as passive, merely experiencing safety incidents and healthcare delivery, and fail to recognise the active role patients can play in ensuring safe care. The Irish Health Service Executive's Patient Safety Strategy includes "*Empowering and Engaging Patients to Improve Patient Safety*" as a key goal.

Accordingly, the aim of the PIPS Project is to utilise existing research, relevant theory, and stakeholder engagement to co-design an approach to involving patients in safety data collection in adult inpatient hospital care. The PIPS project will draw upon existing literature, prior learning internationally from experiences of implementing approaches to involving patients in safety data collection, and engagement with all stakeholders in order to support the co-design of an approach to involving patients in safety data collection. The proposed research will provide evidence-based guidance for policy makers, health service managers, and health service providers on 'how' patients can best be involved in safety data collection to support improved patient safety.

Salary: Postdoctoral Researcher salary scale €45,846 - €58,481 per annum, (subject to the project's funding limitations), and pro rata for shorter and/or part-time contracts.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 17:00 (Irish Time) on Friday 5th September 2025. It will not be possible to consider applications received after the closing date.

Interviews are planned to be held on Monday 29th September 2025.



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***Please review full job description for further details and essential requirement**

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Description:

This post offers an excellent opportunity for the successful candidate to be immersed within a multi-disciplinary research team at the Irish Centre for Applied Patient Safety and Simulation (<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/icapss/>) with a strong track record of developing and delivering research projects focused on understanding and improving the quality and safety of patient care. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day coordination and management of the study working closely with the PI (Dr Sinéad Lydon). They will be responsible for engaging a range of stakeholders in order to develop an understanding of how best to support patient involvement in safety data collection. The successful candidate will use a range of data collection and analysis methodologies. The candidate will be supported and mentored in their professional development, be able to avail of a range of training opportunities, and have the potential to write first author journal articles. Occasional travel within Ireland and work outside normal hours will be required.

Duties:

- assist with the coordination and planning of the research activities in the project;
- complete a review of the existing research literature;
- prepare applications for ethical approval;
- conduct and document data protection impact assessments;
- recruit stakeholders to participate in the research project;
- collect and analyse quantitative and qualitative data;
- assist with the preparation of manuscripts and other outputs;
- engage stakeholders to disseminate the findings of the project; and
- any other duties assigned commensurate to this level of post.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Essential Requirements:

- PhD in Psychology, Health Services Research, or a related discipline (candidates who have submitted their thesis and are awaiting viva may apply)
- Demonstrated experience of qualitative data collection and analysis
- Experiencing of conducting a systematic or scoping review
- Evidence of research publication in peer-reviewed journals.
- Evidence of excellent communication and organizational skills
- Evidence of prior involvement in Health Services Research

Desirable Requirements:

- Demonstrated experience in working in a multi-disciplinary team
- Demonstrated interest in engaging patients or members of the public in healthcare research
- Previous involvement in co-design activities



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- Prior involvement in research focused on patient safety

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Continuing Professional Development/Training:

Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans. University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see [HERE](#) for further information.

FURTHER INFORMATION

TO APPLY: [Search Current University of Galway vacancies](#). Applications must be submitted online. A [How to apply guide](#) is available.

Please note the following:

- We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.
- University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.
- All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment.

For informal enquiries, please contact Dr Sinéad Lydon (Associate Professor in Primary Care, School of Medicine) by email to sinead.lydon@universityofgalway.ie.

Further information on research and working at University of Galway is available on [Working in Research at University of Galway](#). Additional information of interest to applicants is available at: [Applicant Information](#). For information on moving to Ireland please see [Moving to Ireland \(Euraxess\)](#)

To learn more about University of Galway's School of Medicine please see [School of Medicine Webpage](#). Information on the Irish Centre for Applied Patient Safety and Simulation can be found at [Irish Centre for Applied Patient Safety and Simulation](#)

