

National Office for Traffic Medicine

Clinical Update Webinar 2024.

The National Office for Traffic Medicine (NOTM) presented the annual Clinical Update in Traffic Medicine Webinar on **Wednesday 27th of November 2024 (17:30 – 19:30)**.

The event will featured presentations from experts in respiratory and sleep medicine, occupational therapy, gerontology, and older people transport and driving. Attendees at this two-hour event will received two CPDs from Trinity College Dublin.

Further enquiries about the Clinical Update can be forwarded to notm@tcd.ie.

Agenda

Time	Topic	Speaker
17:30 – 17:40	Introduction	Prof Desmond O’Neill, Director, NOTM
17:40 – 18:00	Sleep apnoea and driving	Prof Walter McNicholas, St Vincent’s University Hospital Dublin
18:00 – 18:20	Older people, transport and driving	Prof Charles Musselwhite, University of Aberystwyth, Wales
18:20 – 18:40	Off-road driving assessment	Prof Tadhg Stapleton, Trinity College Dublin
18:40 – 19:05	Alcohol use disorders and driving	Prof Desmond O’Neill, NOTM
19:05 – 19:25	Panel discussion	Chair
19:25 – 19:30	Closing remarks	Prof Desmond O’Neill

Speaker Biographies

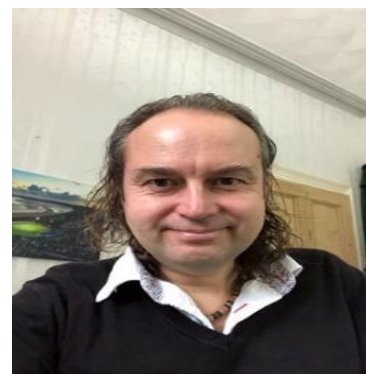
Prof Walter McNicholas

WALTER MCNICHOLAS MD, FRCPI, FRCPC, FERS is a Consultant in Respiratory and Sleep Medicine at St. Vincent's Hospital Group, Dublin, and a Full Clinical Professor at University College Dublin, Ireland. He is Past President of the European Sleep Research Society (2016-20), the European Respiratory Society (2003-04), and the European Board of Accreditation in Pneumology (2005-10). Walter Chaired the COST Action B26 on OSA (2005-10), and was the Founding Chair of the bi-annual ERS-ESRS Sleep and Breathing Conference (2011-21). At a national level, he was President of the Irish Thoracic Society (1994-96), the British Sleep Society (1993-95), and was the Founding President of the Irish Sleep Society (2004-10). Walter has over 290 peer-reviewed publications (H-index 84) and is Associate Editor of the European Respiratory Review and ERJ Open Research. He chaired a Working Group of the European Commission on OSA and Driving (2012-14), which led to a mandatory EU Directive on fitness to drive in individuals with OSA. Walter is an Executive Board Member and Work Package Leader in the ongoing 15-million-euro EU Horizon 2020 funded research grant "Sleep Revolution". He received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to Respiratory and Sleep Medicine from the ERS in 2022.



Prof Charles Musselwhite

Charles Musselwhite is Professor of Psychology, with a Chair in the Psychology Department at Aberystwyth University. He is also currently Head of the Psychology Department. He has worked on 53 research projects as PI or Co-I totalling £25.5m research income. He is Principal Investigator and co-Director of two Welsh Government funded projects, the £3.1m [Centre for Ageing and Dementia Research \(CADR\)](#) project and a £400k [Transport and Health Integrated Research Network \(THINK\)](#). He is also Co-Director the University's [Research Centre for Transport and Mobility \(CeTrAM\)](#). He is a [Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences](#). He is incoming Chair for the UK wide [Universities' Transport Study Group](#) from June 2025. He has been an Executive Committee Member of the British Society of Gerontology (BSG; 2015-20) and founder and co-lead the Special Interest Group at BSG on mobilities and transport in later life. He is also a board member of the Transport and Health Science Group and a partner of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing. He is a member of United Kingdom's Research Institute's (UKRI) Economic and Social Research Council's Peer Review College, a Panel Reviewer for the Volkswagen Foundation, Hannover, Germany from 2022, been a panel reviewer for UKRI's Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), and been a Panel Moderator for UKRI's Arts and Humanities Research Council and member of the steering group on Planetary Health for UKRI. He is a member of the Welsh Government's *Ministerial Advisory Forum on Ageing*, the Older People's Commissioner for Wales' *Age Friendly Partnership Group*, and Transport for Wales' *Disability Rights Taskforce: Working Group on Transport*. He is Editor-in-Chief for Elsevier's [Journal of Transport & Health](#), Section Editor for [Cogent Gerontology](#) and on the editorial board for Age Cymru's [EnvisAGE](#) and Elsevier's [Research in Transportation Business & Management](#) and [Journal of Cycling and Micromobility Research](#) journals.



Asst Prof Tadhg Stapleton

Tadhg Stapleton joined the lecturing staff in the Discipline of Occupational Therapy in Trinity College Dublin in 2001. Prior to taking up his current post he worked as an occupational therapist in Ireland, UK, and USA, principally in the areas of adult neurological rehabilitation and older adult rehabilitation in both hospital and community settings. His research interest include driving and community mobility for people with medical conditions, outcomes of occupational therapy interventions across a variety of clinical conditions including stroke, dementia and mild cognitive impairment, inflammatory arthritis, obesity, prolonged disorders of consciousness and others.



The main areas of research interest include community mobility and fitness to drive for people with disabilities, particularly those after stroke, brain injury, and age-related cognitive decline. Provide supervision for postgraduate research at MSc and PhD level on driving issues after stroke and driving and mental health conditions. Currently, he is PI for the Irish arm of an International descriptive study on transportation usage and community mobility among older adults (I-CHaT, International Expert panel on Community Health and Transport). Other research interests include supporting and implementing clinical-based research directly stemming from specific areas of occupational therapy practice. Recent research includes: an occupational therapy memory strategy training programme for people with mild cognitive impairment and dementia, impact of providing care for people with progressive disorders of consciousness on informal family caregivers, the occupational impact of obesity and piloting an occupational therapy intervention programme for people with obesity, impact of inflammatory arthritis on employment and wider participation.