

Supporting research to play a vital role in planning for an ageing population across the island of Ireland.

Our e-bulletin provides up-to-date information on ageing research including seminars, funding opportunities, latest research and innovation. More detailed information is available on our website.

www.cardi.ie

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August 2010**CARDI Latest Updates****Call 3 grantees set to be announced**

The successful applicants to Call 3 of the CARDI collaborative research grants programme will be announced later this month. More information will be available shortly at www.cardi.ie/grantsprogramme

Data mining small grants programme

CARDI will announce details of a new small grants programme for data mining this month. It will support research involving the collation and analysis of existing data from an all-Ireland perspective and summarising it into information relevant for policy or practice. Full details including application forms and terms and conditions will be available at www.cardi.ie by mid August.

CARDI bursary recipients attend workshop for early career researchers

CARDI provided bursaries for three Irish researchers to attend an early researcher's workshop which took place just prior to the British Society of Gerontology (BSG) Conference in July. They were Donna Brown from the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust; Attracta Lafferty from the National Centre for the Protection of Older People, University College Dublin and Annalisa Setti from Trinity College Dublin. The workshop, for early career researchers in ageing, focussed on successfully applying for research grants. It was co-sponsored by the New Dynamics of Ageing, Lifelong Health and Wellbeing and the BSG Emerging Researchers in Ageing group.

CARDI Publications**Approaches to health policy in Ireland, North and South**

CARDI recently published a briefing document examining the healthcare systems in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. It shows the notably different approaches in terms of policy, funding,

coverage and structures. The paper discusses the theories behind health policy with particular focus on healthcare as it applies to ageing policy. The paper is available at the following link: [Approaches to health policy in Ireland, North and South](#)

Focus On...Dementia

This month marks the start of a new series of CARDI articles. Each month CARDI's Focus article will take on a topical ageing related issue. The series will provide an evidence based analysis of key issues in ageing and ageing research stories making the news. This month the focus is on dementia. You can read the article here: [CARDI Focus On...Dementia](#)

Forthcoming Publications

Government Structures in Ireland, North and South- Update

Stocktake of Ageing Public Policy Initiatives in Ireland, North and South- Update

Theories of ageing: approaches to welfare and public policy and practice in Ireland – North and South.

CARDI Events

Becoming Visible: Older People as Active Participants in the Community and in Long-term Care Settings

CARDI is leading a session for early career researchers or those new to ageing research at the second annual conference organised by the Social Policy and Ageing Research Centre (SPARC), Trinity College Dublin and the Changing Ageing Partnership (CAP), Queens University Belfast. The event will take place at Dublin Castle on the 16th and 17th November. For further information on abstract submission, registration details and form please email ageing.research@tcd.ie or visit <http://www.sparc.tcd.ie/newsAndEvents/Conf2010Home.php>

CARDI Online

For all the latest news and publications on ageing research, policy and practice please log onto the CARDI website www.cardi.ie.

Send us your news and events:

****If you have a news story, event or publication relating to ageing please send it to us at news@cardi.ie**

Get connected, start a discussion and network with CARDI:

Would like to connect with fellow researchers in ageing research, or professionals in the age sector? CARDI would like to facilitate online networking and discussion for researchers and professionals and here are some ways to make that connection:

Researchers can register at www.cardi.ie to post details including research and interests, and to post updates on their current research projects. Registered users will have their details added to the CARDI Directory of Researchers. They can also bookmark pages on the CARDI website for easy referencing and create their own personal reading list which they can access at any time as well as having the option to receive a daily digest of new content added to the website by email.

You can also now join CARDI's LinkedIn discussion group where you can make connections and discuss new research and hot topics: [Join CARDI's discussion group on LinkedIn](#)

You can also engage in discussion and discover new connections by joining CARDI on Twitter and Facebook where you can also find the latest news in ageing research and age-

related issues. Here's how to do it:

Follow CARDI on Twitter

Keep up to date with the latest news on ageing research and connect with national and international organisations and people engaged in ageing research and active ageing projects by following CARDI on Twitter at: <http://twitter.com/CARDItweets>

Become a fan of CARDI on Facebook by clicking [here](#)

Ageing Research Updates

[Scientists urge investment and action plan to tackle global ageing](#)

Now that scientists have learned so much about ageing through laboratory studies, it's time to translate those findings into medicines that can benefit our ageing population. That was the message delivered by a panel of 10 preeminent ageing experts that included Jan Vijg, Ph.D., chair of genetics and the Lola and Saul Kramer Chair in Molecular Genetics at Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University. The expert panel was convened by the [LifeStar Institute](#), a nonprofit organisation that educates the public about the consequences of global ageing and supports medical research aimed at preventing and curing age-related diseases. Their report was published in the July 14 issue of the journal Science Translational Medicine. The report is available here: [The Demographic and Biomedical Case for Late-Life Interventions in Aging](#)

[Researchers Identify Factors That Lead To "Successful Ageing"](#)

What, exactly, does "successful ageing" mean? For more than a half century, researchers and gerontologists have argued whether successful aging is better defined subjectively (how older adults view their own state of ageing) or objectively (physical disease-related disability or mental decline). Answering this question is more than an academic exercise. As the first members of the famed "baby boom generation" reach age 65, understanding what it means to remain healthy and independent in later life could have an enormous impact on health care delivery and medical policy. Full article: [Researchers Identify Factors That Lead To "Successful Ageing"](#)

[Scottish study reveals one-fifth of dementia patients given anti-psychotic drugs](#)

Almost a fifth of older people in Scotland who have dementia are being given anti-psychotic and psychotropic drugs, research has shown. Scientists at the University of Dundee said the drugs are "known to be of limited benefit" and may cause "significant harm" to patients. The scientists scrutinised data from 315 GP practices, including the records of around 270,000 older people - about one third of the older population. Of these, 10,000 had some form of dementia and 1,785 of them were given anti-psychotic drugs. The research was carried out by Bruce Guthrie, professor of primary care medicine at Dundee, alongside a team from NHS Fife. The findings were published in the Age and Ageing journal.

[€6.4 billion EU research fund announced](#)

The Irish EU commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn has launched Europe's biggest ever fund for scientific research as part of ongoing efforts to push Europe back into growth. The €6.4bn fund will be available to researchers, industry and small and medium sized business and will concentrate on research into health, energy, climate change and food security. This funding comes under what is known as the seventh framework programme, which governs the EU's annual system of awarding grants to scientific research. Full article: [€6.4 billion EU research fund announced](#)

[Future Leaders in Ageing Research in Europe Fellowship Fund now open](#)

The Future Leaders in Ageing Research in Europe (FLARE) programme is now open for applications. Early-career post-doctoral researchers have three months to apply for three-year FLARE 2 Fellowships in multi-disciplinary ageing research in Europe. Funded by a number of

European countries, Fellowships will be open to applications from candidates who embrace the two innovative features of the programme: part of the fellowship must be spent in another country and it must also involve a cross-disciplinary collaboration. The deadline for applications is 15 October 2010 - Fellowships will start in mid-2011. **More information:** [Future Leaders in Ageing Research in Europe Fellowship Fund now open](#)

[**New Irish documentary to explore the "End of Ageing"**](#)

A new Irish documentary series will explore the issues around "ending ageing". Tile Films are currently in production with 'The End of Ageing' for RTÉ. The series will look into recent scientific moves that may make it viable to stop signs of ageing and, ultimately, cheat death. Presented by Dr. Rose Anne Kenny, Trinity College Dublin, the documentary suggests that eternal life may soon be a reality. Full article: [New Irish documentary to explore the "End of Ageing"](#)

[**New research project aims to make technology more inclusive**](#)

[NCBI's Centre for Inclusive Technology](#) (CFIT) recently launched a new project to develop novel ways to make sure everyday products such as mobile phones and washing machines are easier to use for older people and people with disabilities. The [VICON project](#) aims to change the way products are designed, developing 'virtual humans' that will make it easier for designers to take account of the needs of older users with physical and sensory impairments. Full article: [NCBI CFIT Making Virtual Users a Reality](#)

Ageing research pioneer Robert Butler dies

Dr. Robert N. Butler, a psychiatrist whose painful youthful realisation that death is inevitable prompted him to challenge and ultimately reform the treatment of the elderly through research, public policy and a [Pulitzer Prize](#)-winning book died in early July. His pioneering work has deeply impacted popular notions of ageing and improved the lives of older people. Full article: [Robert Butler, Ageing Expert, dies](#)

[**The vital role of grandparents explored from China to Ireland**](#)

The role of grandparents in society is often underestimated. A [recent report in the UK](#) found that the care giving contribution they make to family, social and economic life is often not fully recognised. An Irish [report published by Family Resource Centre National Forum and Family Support Agency](#) underlined the increasing role Irish grandparents are playing in caring for children. Ageing within the familial context and the important role of grandparents in society were also the topics of a recent seminar hosted by the [School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin](#) and the [Living with Dementia Programme](#). The seminar featured [Merril Silverstein Phd](#), Professor of Gerontology and Sociology, University of Southern California, whose presentation explored issues relating to ageing in China. Full article: [The vital role of grandparents explored from China to Ireland](#)

Ageing Policy Updates

[**EU launches public debate on the future of pensions**](#)

The European Commission recently launched a Europe-wide public debate on how to ensure adequate, sustainable and safe pensions and how the EU can best support the national efforts. Ageing populations in all EU member states have put existing retirement systems under massive strain and the financial and economic crisis has only increased this pressure. The consultation document, a [Green paper](#), poses a series of questions inviting all interested parties to contribute views, opinions and ideas on confronting the pension challenge - one of the biggest facing Europe and most parts of the world today - and how the EU can contribute to the solutions. The consultation period will run for four months (ending 15 November 2010) during which anyone with an interest in the subject can submit their views via a dedicated [website](#). Full article: [EU launches public debate on](#)

[the future of pensions](#)

[Irish government press ahead with pensions framework consultations](#)

The Irish government continued the consultation process on the implementation of its National Pension's Framework. A total of 22 organisations met in Dublin in July for a consultative forum. This included representatives of employers, trade unions, older people, insurers, pension funds and youth groups. Initial presentations were made by the Minister for Social Protection, Eamon O'Cuív, and the chair of the implementation group and Dr Orlaigh Quinn, an assistant secretary in O'Cuív's department. Each of the 22 bodies was given a chance to contribute to the proceedings. A spokeswoman for the Department of Social Protection said that the purpose of the meeting was to give participants an update on progress to date and also give them "an opportunity to present their initial views on the implementation of the framework". Full article: [Irish government to press ahead with increased retirement age](#)

[New £700,000 arts fund launched to engage older people in the arts: Northern Ireland](#)

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland is to invest £700,000 in a new three year programme designed to encourage older people to take part in the arts. Jointly funded by The Atlantic Philanthropies, the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's Arts & Older People Programme will provide new opportunities for older people to engage with the arts, by joining a workshop or trying out a new arts activity. **All application forms and guidance notes are available to download at [the funding page on artscouncil-ni.org](#) or telephone: 02890 385 200.** Full article: [New £700,000 arts fund launched to engage older people in the arts: Northern Ireland](#)

Older person's rights website

[Advice NI](#) is creating a website focusing on older persons' rights which will be an essential tool for anybody who works with or cares for older people and older people themselves. The project brings together a wealth of expertise in the Age Sector including Access to Benefits, Age NI, Age Sector Platform, CARDI, Engage with Age and Belfast City Council. To track the progress of the project until it goes live in Spring 2011, please visit <http://www.bloggingiii.com> or contact Ciarán Arthurs at ciaran@adviceni.net.

[Older patients 'leaving NI hospitals malnourished': Age NI](#)

Age Northern Ireland recently claimed that older patients were being left hungry because they were unable to eat the food left on their hospital tray. The claim received widespread media attention highlighting the important issue of nutrition in hospital and care facilities. In a statement, the Department of Health said nutritional standards for patient food in hospitals was launched in 2007. Since then trusts had adopted a screening tool to identify those patients who are at most risk, the department said. More information: [Trust says sorry for allowing patients to go hungry](#)

[UK government unveils team tasked with finding ways to fund long-term care](#)

UK ministers have unveiled the membership of the commission tasked with producing a formula for reform of long-term adult care funding. The three-member commission, to report within a year, will be chaired by Andrew Dilnot, an Oxford economist and former head of the Institute for Fiscal Studies. He will be joined by Dame Jo Williams, chair of the Care Quality Commission, and Labour peer Lord Warner, a former health minister and director of social services in Kent. The commission has to produce a system for England able to cope with an expected increase over the next 20 years of 1.7 million people with a care need. This is largely, but not entirely, attributable to the ageing population, with a projected doubling of the number of people aged 85 or over by 2026. Full article: [UK government unveils team tasked with finding ways to fund long-term care](#)

[Older workers facing discrimination from recruiters: TAEN and Age UK](#)

Figures published recently by the UK Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) as

part of the *Citizenship Survey: 2009-10* indicate hundreds of thousands of mature workers are facing ageist attitudes from recruiters. The CLG survey shows ageism is still the biggest single factor for being discriminated against in recruitment. Four percent of all workers aged 50 and over – estimated in excess of 300,000 – say they have been refused a job because of their age in the past five years. This is the highest percentage among any age group after people aged 16-24, five per cent of which feel they have been discriminated against by recruiters because of their age. Full article: [Older workers facing discrimination from recruiters: TAEN and Age UK](#)

Research and Policy Publications

[International study calls for greater care to 'quality of death'](#)

A recent report by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) said greater care must be paid the quality of care people receive at the end of their lives. Britain topped the scale in terms of end of life care while Asian countries fared worst. The report argued as the global population ages, the demand for end-of-life care is expected to surge, and governments and other providers are racing against time to meet these needs. It said "Few nations, including rich ones with cutting-edge healthcare systems, incorporate palliative care strategies into their overall healthcare policy". Full article: [International study calls for greater care to 'quality of death'](#)

[Life expectancy gap in UK 'widest since Great Depression'](#)

The poorest people in Britain are twice as likely to die before the age of 65 than the richest. The gap between the two has not been greater for the last 80 years, according to a study recently published in the [British Medical Journal](#). Researchers from the universities of Sheffield and Bristol found that inequalities continued to rise steadily during the first decade of the 21st century, and could become worse. The full paper is available: [Inequalities in premature mortality in Britain: observational study from 1921 to 2007](#)

[Trends in world inequality in life span since 1970](#)

The trends in the variance of length of life, and in the variance of length of adult life in particular, are not well understood, while world inequality in length of adult life has remained stagnant. This research from the National Bureau of Economic Research (US) examines life-span inequality in a broad, balanced panel of 180 rich and poor countries observed in 1970 and 2000. While the share of inequality within countries has decreased over time, inequalities between different countries have unambiguously increased. The full paper is available: [Trends in world inequality in life span since 1970s](#)

[Living with uncertainty - older people and HIV](#)

The over-50s are the fastest-growing group of people with HIV in the UK, yet until recently, older adults living with HIV have received little attention within social research and HIV services. This study by JRF, Terrence Higgins Trust and Age UK looked at how improved treatments are allowing people with HIV in the UK to live longer into later life, revealing that there are high levels of uncertainty about future health and care. A summary of the report is available here: [Living with uncertainty - older people and HIV](#)

[Review of the HIQA Inspection Process for Residential Care Settings for Older People: Nursing Homes Ireland](#)

The objective of this report, commissioned by Nursing Homes Ireland (NHI), is to help improve further the HIQA inspection regime that is now one year old having commenced on 1st July 2009. The report, titled "[High-level Review of the HIQA Inspection Process for Residential Care Settings for Older People](#)", examined a sample of 40 published inspection reports, completed since July 1st 2009, a questionnaire available to all private and voluntary nursing homes in Ireland and completed by 133 respondents, a third of all operators. The report also reviewed practice in other

comparative jurisdictions as a means to inform the development of recommendations to advance the continuous improvement of the inspection process. The report includes 29 specific recommendations. For more information: www.nhi.ie

[WHO Guidelines On Retaining Health Workers In Rural Areas](#)

Globally, approximately one half of the population lives in rural areas, but less than 38% of the nurses and less than 25% of the physicians work there. While getting and keeping health workers in rural and remote areas is a challenge for all countries, the situation is worse in the 57 countries that have an absolute shortage of health workers. After a year-long consultative effort, this document proposes sixteen evidence-based recommendations on how to improve the recruitment and retention of health workers in underserved areas. The full publication is available: [Increasing access to health workers in remote and rural areas through improved retention](#)

For other research, policy and practice publications please visit: <http://www.cardi.ie/directory>

Events and Seminars

FLARE Showcase Event 4th August 2010

FLARE will host a showcase event on 4th August 2010 in London. This event aims to profile the FLARE initiative, its achievements so far, and the role of FLARE 2. The programme will include presentations by FLARE Fellows. For information about this event please visit: <http://era-age.group.shef.ac.uk/>

An Introduction to End of Life Care for the Person with Dementia

The Dementia Services Information and Development Centre (DSIDC) will host a seminar entitled "An Introduction to End of Life Care for the Person with Dementia" on Wednesday 18th August, 9am-4pm. For further information on the event please click here: <http://www.dementia.ie/images/stories/palliative%20care.pdf>

6th World Ageing & Generations Congress

The 6th World Ageing & Generations Congress will take place from the 25th to 28th of August 2010 at the [University of St. Gallen](#). The aim of the World Ageing & Generations Congress is to address important topics related to demographic change and its effect on the labour market and social security, on health issues, on the development of new products and markets and on changing lifestyles in society. More information: <http://www.wdaforum.org/en/>

International Conference on Ageing, Disability and Independence

The International Conference on Ageing, Disability and Independence (ICADI) will take place from the 8th to 10th September 2010 in Newcastle, UK. The conference will focus on approaches to support people as they age in maintaining independence in daily living at home, at work and in the community. For more information visit: <http://conferences.ncl.ac.uk/icadi/index.php>

Long Term Care 2010 Conference

The International Long-term care Policy Network (ILPN) will host a conference on the 8th-11th September 2010, London UK. The conference aims to provide a platform for exchange on key long-term care policy topics such as how to organise, deliver, fund and regulate services. The focus of the conference is on evaluative research and its impact on social policy. This conference is organised as part of the International Long-term care Policy Network (ILPN). For further information go to the [Network website](#).

Ageing, Health and Quality of Life of People with Intellectual Disability

"Ageing, Health and Quality of Life of People with Intellectual Disability: Preparing for Policy and Service Responses in Ireland" is the title of an International Conference on Ageing and Intellectual Disability will be held on the 17th September 2010 in the School of Nursing & Midwifery, Trinity College Dublin. The purpose of the conference is to bring together people who are interested in the ageing population of people with intellectual disability in Ireland. Please see [programme](#) and [registration](#) form for more details.

A hindrance or a help? The contribution of inspection to the quality of care in homes for older people

SPARC, Trinity College Dublin and the Living with Dementia Programme ([Lid](#)) presents a seminar entitled "A hindrance or a help? The contribution of inspection to the quality of care in homes for older people" on the 13th September 2010 from 4:00pm - 5:30 pm. The guest speaker will be [Sheila Furness](#) Lecturer in Social Work at the University of Bradford. For bookings please contact: ageing.research@tcd.ie. Early booking is advised. Phone: 01 896 2914/2442 For further information and directions, please go to the [SPARC website](#)

Changing Ageing Partnership (CAP) Research Showcase

The CAP research showcase event will take place in the Great Hall at Queen's University Belfast on Monday 27th September. The event will showcase CAP funded research completed in 2010 and will feature studies from schools and disciplines across the university including: anthropology, criminology, drama, economics, law, management, medicine, psychology and sociology. Admission is free but places are limited – early booking is advised. To register please email michele.young@ageni.org or telephone Michele Young at 0044 (0)28 90 245 729

For more events go to: www.cardi.ie/events

Funding, Awards, Research and Training Opportunities

2010 FLARE 2 Funding Call now open

The Future Leaders in Ageing Research in Europe (FLARE) programme is now open for applications. Early-career post-doctoral researchers can apply for three-year FLARE 2 Fellowships in multi-disciplinary ageing research in Europe. The deadline for applications is 15 October 2010 - Fellowships will start in mid-2011. **Details of the call are on the ERA-AGE website: www.era-age.group.shef.ac.uk.**

Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke: Scientific Research Grants Call 2011

Northern Ireland Chest, Heart & Stroke (NICHS) is inviting proposals for funding of research grants. Funding is available for research projects on respiratory and on cardiac illnesses to the total value of £175,000. Scientific research grants are available to researchers working in Northern Ireland carrying out research that will primarily benefit the people of Northern Ireland. The closing date for receipt of outline applications is Friday 3 September 2010. To download an application form, guidance notes and other information, please visit our website www.nichsa.com <http://www.nichsa.com/> or contact Caoimhe Devlin, Research Assistant by email: cdevlin@nichsa.com or by phone: on (028) 9026 6714 / (028) 9032 0184.

NUI Galway introduce diploma in social gerontology

The [Irish Centre for Social Gerontology](#) at NUI Galway is introducing a diploma in Social Gerontology starting September 2010. The Diploma in Social Gerontology is a two-year, stand-alone, part-time programme for mature students. The programme covers a broad range of economic, social and political theories relating to ageing and examines public policy for older people across a number of fields. **More information contact:** Aine Ní Léime, Course Coordinator, Irish Centre for Social

Gerontology, Phone: 00 353 (0)91 495458 Email: aine.nileime@nuigalway.ie or Christine De Largy, Development officer, Irish Centre for Social Gerontology, Phone: 00 353 (0)91 495461, Email: christine.delargy@nuigalway.ie

Accredited Training in Age Issues: Advice NI

Advice NI is recruiting participants for the 'Advantage' training courses (accredited training on age issues). The courses have been developed in partnership with Age NI and A2B. They are aimed at those who work in an advisory capacity with older people, and other groups working on age sector issues. The courses are accredited with Open College Network Northern Ireland at level 3. Learners can attain accreditation for individual modules or for the full course. If you would like to participate in any of the courses or would like further information about the courses or bespoke training please contact Emma Murphy at Advice NI emma@adviceni.net or 0044 (0)28 9064 5919.

Health and Social Care Doctoral Fellowship Awards

The [HSCNI](#) (Health and Social Care Northern Ireland) is offering a maximum of four doctoral fellowships to support research training and build an evaluative evidence-based culture. The awards are available for 3 years full-time and 6 years part-time. The awards are open to individuals employed in the HSC or in voluntary/not-for-profit organisations in Northern Ireland involved in health or social care provision. The deadline for applications is Friday, 15th October 2010 at 16.00. **For further information please contact: eimear.donnely@hscni.net or telephone 0044 (0) 2890553617**

Please feel free to circulate the information within your organisation as appropriate. If you do not wish to receive this E-bulletin email info@cardi.ie and your details will be removed from our mailing list.

CARDI Staff Team

If you want to explore how to be involved in progressing ageing research or want to find out more about our work please contact our team.

CARDI staff are:

[Roger O'Sullivan](#)
Director

[Elaine Cartmill](#)
Administrative and Finance Officer

[Paul Mc Gill](#)
Strategic Research Officer

[Nicola Donnelly](#)
Communications Officer – New Media

[Conor Breen](#)
Policy Officer – Research Translation

CARDI Steering Group

CARDI has been developed by leaders from the ageing field across Ireland (North and South).

Our Steering Group Members are:

Professor Davis Coakley
Co-Chair of CARDI

Professor Robert Stout
Co-Chair of CARDI

Owen Metcalfe
Institute of Public Health

Dr Denis O'Mahony
Cork University Hospital

Anne O'Reilly
Age Concern Help the Aged NI

Professor Eamon O'Shea
Irish Centre for Social Gerontology

Robin Webster
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Dr Roger O'Sullivan
Director of CARDI

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