Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the following position:

Faculty	**Faculty of Science and Health**
Research Centre	**School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health**
Post title	**Clinical Research Nurse** **Health Service Research**
Post duration	**6 Month fixed term contract**

Dublin City University

Dublin City University (DCU) is a leading innovative European University. It is proud to be one of the world's leading Young Universities and is among the world's top 2% globally. DCU is known as Ireland's University of Impact, with a mission to 'transform lives and societies' and focuses on addressing global challenges in collaboration with key national and international partners and stakeholders.

DCU has over 20,000 students in five faculties spread across three academic campuses in the Glasnevin-Drumcondra area of North Dublin. Thanks to its innovative approach to teaching and learning, the University offers a 'transformative student experience' that helps to develop highly sought-after graduates. DCU is currently No. 1 in Ireland for Graduate Employment Rate, and for graduate income (CSO).

DCU is a research-intensive University and is home to a number of SFI-funded Research Centres. The University participates in a range of European and international research partnerships. DCU is also the leading Irish university in the area of technology transfer as reflected by licensing of intellectual property.

As a 'People First' institution, DCU is committed to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion - a University that helps staff and students to thrive. The University is a leader in terms of its work to increase access to education, and is placed in the world's Top 10 for reducing inequalities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings.

Background

COST2CARE is a Health Research Board (HRB) funded research project based in the School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health at DCU. The aim of the project is to demonstrate the potential for safer hospital care and reduced healthcare costs associated with older patients in acute hospitals in Ireland through routine measurement of missed nursing care, and sustainable and accurate reporting of nursing-sensitive adverse events using routinely collected hospital discharge data. This project offers a smart, scalable and sustainable solution to a contemporary healthcare challenge, and enables opportunities for benchmarking and quality improvement initiatives in Ireland and potentially globally.

One of the greatest challenges to health care systems today is the rapidly increasing proportion of older people (>65 years) accessing healthcare in acute hospitals. The OECD predicts that the proportion of the population aged >65 years will rise from 17.4% in 2017 to 27.1% by 2050, placing their care management high on the agenda of clinicians and policy makers. The largest group of patients in acute hospitals in Ireland and elsewhere is that of older people, accounting for half of all hospital bed days. While these patients require acute nursing care for their presenting condition, they often simultaneously require a level of fundamental care to address other needs related to advancing age, or the presence of co-morbidities. If this care is missed or incomplete, patients are at high risk of experiencing complications (nursing sensitive adverse events), which are often associated with extended lengths of stay or reduced function on discharge. Ultimately, these complications are high-cost events, both financially, to the health service, and in human costs to the patient and caregiver.

This research study recognises the importance of nursing care in the patient safety continuum and reflects the reality that where nursing care is missed or incomplete, patient outcomes are less favourable overall. In essence, it recognises that nursing care is an important determinant of patient outcome following hospitalisation. The phenomenon of missed nursing care, associated with poor patient outcomes, and linked to nurse staffing, has been an important focus for nurse researchers for the last 20 years. Nonetheless, global shortages of nurses and an ageing nurse workforce suggest the problem is likely to continue.

In Ireland Hospital In-Patient Enquiry (HIPE) is the principal source of national data on discharges from acute hospitals, through which demographic, clinical and administrative data on discharges from, and deaths in, acute public hospitals nationally are collected. To date nursing sensitive adverse events are largely invisible in reports generated from HIPE and it is likely that this reflects a lack of understanding of the potential of routinely available discharge data as a source of important patient safety data. In the COST2CARE project we intend to mine the national HIPE data for national rates of four nursing sensitive adverse events (pneumonia, delirium, urinary tract infections and pressure injuries) and to verify the accuracy of the data through an extensive retrospective chart review in one model four hospital. These four events, described as Failure to Maintain events are known to occur when fundamental nursing care is missed. Using ICD10 data and rates of occurrence verified through chart review the research team hope to calculate the cost to the Irish health service by examining length of stay, and other variables associated with cost of illness calculations. Simultaneous surveys of both nurses and patients in one hospital using

validated instruments will enable the team to examine the human cost of missed care in acute hospitals.

Role Profile

Applications are invited from interested and suitably qualified individuals for a full-time fixed term position (6 months) as Research Nurse with COST2CARE. This position is available from October 2023 and offers an opportunity to join a project team which includes an international and multidisciplinary collaboration of academic, clinical and other key patient and public stakeholders. This role will suit someone who is considering a PhD or postgraduate research in the future. It will enable them to experience the research environment, work with experienced researchers and consider future options.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities

Please see the Job Description for a full list of duties and responsibilities

Qualifications and Experience
Essential Criteria
At a minimum individuals should meet the following criteria:

- Registered General Nurse
- BSc in General Nursing
- Be on the live register with The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland.
- Have at least 5 years post-registration experience in an acute general setting.
- Have proven clinical, leadership and organisational skills.
- Excellent inter-personal skills
- Excellent IT skills
- Research skills
- Knowledge of issues relating to adverse events in healthcare and clinical nursing practice
- Experience of working with healthcare providers and health service users and liaising with multi-stakeholders

Desirable:

- Educated at postgraduate level in any area relevant to this project i.e. nursing, research, practice development, clinical specialism
- It is desirable that the individual has experience in conducting research or assisting those who conduct research
- experience in effective networking and building strong working relationships within and across organisations, disciplines and professions;
- excellent communication, interpersonal and organisational skills, be able to take initiative and work under pressure to tight deadlines, and have the ability to work effectively as part of an interdisciplinary team

Essential Training

The individual will be required to undertake the following essential compliance training: Orientation, Health & Safety and Data Protection (GDPR). Other training may need to be undertaken when required.

Salary Scale:

Clinical Nurse Manager 1 (CNM1) Salary Scale: €51,933 – €61,160*

*Appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and in line with current Government pay policy

Closing date: *Monday, 11ᵗʰ September 2023*

For more information on DCU and benefits, please visit Why work at DCU?

Informal Enquiries in relation to this role should be directed to:

Dr. Marcia Kirwan, Associate Professor, PI COST2CARE, School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health.
Email: marcia.kirwan@dcu.ie

Application Procedure:

Please email your CV and cover letter to marcia.kirwan@dcu.ie

Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: *#RF1900 Clinical Research Nurse Health Service Research*