

Dr Aoife O Sullivan is a GP in Cork and the current HSE/ICGP Clinical Lead in Mental Health. Aoife graduated from UCC in 1999. She completed Basic Specialist Training in Medicine with the RCPI before switching to GP training. Aoife completed GP specialist training with the Cork GP training scheme obtaining her membership of the ICGP as well as diplomas in Child Health and Travel Medicine in 2005. Aoife worked in Cork city centre initially before switching to Student Health in UCC. She discovered that she really enjoyed working with this age group focusing on women's health, travel medicine, sexual health, sports medicine and on Mental Health. She also worked with the Sexual Health Centre in Peters St Cork looking after the physical and mental health of women who returned from the UK having travelled for abortion services up until the 2016 referendum and now is a member of START and an EMA provider.

Aoife developed an interest in Mental Health while working with the student population in UCC. She was involved in developing practice guidelines in Student Health for managing patients with Eating Disorders and won first prize for her poster on this at the research conference for ACAMH Special Interest Group in Youth Mental Health in 2014 . She also developed "Bibliotherapy" self-help options working with the Boole Library and Student Counselling in UCC. This led to her working with the HSE National Clinical Programme for Eating Disorders as a GP lead from 2017-2020 aiming to to bring a GP voice to the table. Realising the dearth of GP guidelines in the complex area of Eating Disorders, Aoife went on to develop an ICGP Quick Reference Guide (QRG) on the management of Eating Disorders which was launched virtually in early 2021. She has also been a co-writer on the QRG for GP Management of Depression (2023) and the updated QRG on Early Episode Psychosis. Aoife also served on the committee for the Irish Student Health Association (ISHA) for 6 years becoming President of ISHA from 2019-2021. Aoife took up post with the ICGP as HSE ICGP Clinical Lead in Mental Health in August 2022. This role encompasses education in Mental Health including Webinars and developing CME as well as working on processes with the HSE such as E-referrals for Mental Health and the physical care of patients with severe and enduring mental illness.

Aoife is also active in her community and was chair of the Bishopstown Playground Association which was key in getting outdoor playground facilities to her community, opening just in time before the Covid lockdowns of 2020! She has served on the board of management of her local primary school as parents representative and is currently on the Board of Management of the Sexual Health Centre.

Aoife is also the first female Commodore (Chairperson) of Inniscarra Sailing and Kayaking Club where she is a very active volunteer and mum to two sailing mad teenagers!