

## #SundayWiMIN24 Week 14: Professor Patricia Campbell

Prof Patricia Campbell is a Consultant Cardiologist and Heart Failure Lead in the Southern Trust in Northern Ireland since 2018, and in 2023 she was appointed the first Clinical Lead for Heart Failure for Northern Ireland.

Hailing from Newry Co. Down, she studied medicine in UCD and graduated in 2000. She did her medical and cardiology specialist training in Dublin between Mater Hospital and AMNCH, with a 6-month residency stint in the Mayo Clinic, Arizona. She then did her Heart Failure training and Echocardiography research in Brigham & Women's/Harvard Med School, Boston, under the tutelage of Lynne Stevenson, Scott Solomon and Marc Pfeffer.

During her time in Boston, working a 1:3 acute heart failure/cardiac transplant on call she managed to squeeze in an engagement, marriage (to the same man, the lovely Belfast born Declan!) and, after some fertility/pregnancy related heartache, to get and stay pregnant, and miracle baby Eve was born in 2012.

From Boston, to ensure both Eve's parents could live in the same country, she took up Assistant Professor post in the University of Calgary where she spent 3 years establishing a VAD programme and concrete community outreach HF clinics. While the Canadian way of life was idyllic, family health issues called them home to Ireland.

She then took up post as Clinical Assistant Prof in University College Dublin/St Vincent's University Hospital, but rapidly declining ill health in ailing family members meant a need to take up active carer roles and as such, the family returned to her hometown and she took up her current post. Through all those difficult life challenges, in 2020 baby Violet was born to lighten up lockdown, as miracle baby number 2.

She works full time in acute cardiology and as HF Lead in the local trust, where service improvements have led to hugely improved patient access and reduced wait times for patients living with HF. Her NI role as Clinical Lead for HF aims to establish the baseline level of care across the region and to identify the gap from reality to gold standard care delivery, and to assist trusts to apply for commissioning to fit the needs of the population. Its central tenet is to ensure there is equity of access across the entire region, that no patient should have worse HF outcomes based on their postcode.

She spends a large proportion of her free time volunteering in professional and patient advocacy – she sits as treasurer on the British Society for Heart Failure board, secretary of the Irish Cardiac Society, Clinical Advisory Board member of the HF charity 'Pumping Marvellous'. Her team have helped develop a patient support group in Northern Ireland, Heart Failure Warriors NI, who are already making waves in Stormont to hopefully effect real positive change for patients living with HF in this region.

She is currently centre PI for 2 international randomized control trials (HERMES and REDEFINE-HF). Her published research focuses on HF hemodynamics, the right heart in HF, and more recently on optimal clinical pathways for HF patients, with a particular focus on HFpEF. She is cognisant that academic opportunities in cardiology still have a male predominance and is grateful for her male cardiology colleagues across the globe who recognise female talent and invite collaboration, culminating recently in her first-author paper for The Lancet in March 2024.