

FOUNDING MEMBERS



Queens University Belfast, NORTHERN IRELAND

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Royal Collage of Surgeons in Irealnd, IRELAND

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AIMS-RN Has Been Endorsed by the Following Organisations: to be confirmed



CONTACT INFORMATION

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AIMS
Research Network



**All-Ireland
Multiple Sclerosis
Research Network**



www.aims-rn.org

OVERVIEW OF AIMS RESEARCH NETWORK

The AIMS-RN was established to connect MS researchers on the island of Ireland, with the unifying objective of achieving our mission.

MISSION: To support collaborative research, including collaboration with people with MS, across the island of Ireland that holds potential to limit the progression of MS, to train future generations of MS researchers and to contribute to global MS research.

ETHOS: We are a collaborative, transparent and supportive network that seeks to achieve our mission through sharing our expertise, resources and global networks with one another and with new members that share this ethos. We will involve people with MS as primary partners in this endeavor. To achieve our mission, it is expected that existing and new members work together through regular meeting attendance, participation in research-focused events (e.g. research symposia, public engagement initiatives) and where possible, support collaborative studies and training initiatives within the network.



MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS (MS)

MS is a chronic, immune-mediated condition of the central nervous system (brain, spinal cord and optic nerve). In MS, myelin damage results in a range of symptoms including impairment of mobility and vision as well as cognitive difficulties and severe fatigue. It is one of the most common causes of neurological disability in young people and is increasing in incidence and prevalence around the world. Currently, there are approximately 13,500 people on the island of Ireland with MS (~4,500 in Northern Ireland and ~9000 in the Republic of Ireland)*.

* Information from UK MS Society
(<https://www.mssociety.org.uk/contact-us/northern-ireland>)
and MS Ireland (<https://www.ms-society.ie/news/multiple-sclerosis-facts>).

AIMS-RN WILL FOCUS ON SUPPORTING RESEARCH THAT TARGETS DISEASE PROGRESSION IN MS. THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NETWORK WILL BE DELIVERED THROUGH 4 STRANDS:

Deliver cutting-edge research in MS that focuses on limiting disease progression

Train future MS researchers and leaders

Communicate MS research discoveries and results to the public, to the research community and to key stakeholders

Collaborate on MS research programmes nationally and internationally to achieve the mission of the Network, working with people with MS as primary partners.

VISION

AIMS-RN will create a research community on the island of Ireland that provides a supportive environment, enhancing collaboration (including people with MS), transparency and sharing of ideas, knowledge and resources for MS research. This, in turn, will lead to the delivery of collaborative and cutting-edge biomedical, health science and clinical research in the field. This will raise the profile of Irish MS research globally.

AIMS-RN will enhance collaborative studies, training and funding opportunities, enable communication of research activities and discoveries to the public, research community and key stakeholders. Leveraging these strengths will support clinical trials and engagement with industry.

This vision will position AIMS-RN and its members at the forefront of global MS research.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

- Monthly AIMS-RN committee meetings
- Regular AIMS-RN meetings for the presentation of data by MS researchers
- Annual Research Symposium
- Training events for early-stage researchers in MS
- Public and patient interaction (PPI) to provide information and communicate with people with MS, their families and the public