

Overall Abstract:

ASO Invited Symposium Session: Prevention and Treatment of obesity in Northern Ireland

Across the United Kingdom, including in Northern Ireland, a significant proportion of the population are living with excess weight which may impair health. Northern Ireland has underdeveloped obesity care pathways, with significant resource required to support those living with obesity in accordance with standards set by the National Institute for Health and Care (NICE). This ASO Invited Symposium brings together key actors in the NI obesity landscape to look at the evidence for implementation of dedicated obesity management services. It will discuss the research evidence base alongside understanding the challenges and realities of the resource required for effective obesity management in primary care, through to specialist obesity services. It will showcase successful obesity management pathways from Scotland, illustrating evidence of real-world implementation of services for those living with obesity, and how these can be interlinked with management of comorbidities.

Speakers:

Prevention and Treatment of obesity in Northern Ireland – Chair Professor Alex Miras, Professor of Endocrinology, Ulster University

Dr Laura McGowan, Lecturer in Nutrition and Behaviour Change, Queen's University Belfast: Making the case for obesity services in NI: Research Evidence

Professor Mark Taylor, Consultant Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgeon, NI Director Royal College of Surgeons. How close are we to getting obesity treatment services in NI? – the clinical perspective.

Mr Tomas Adell, Director of Elective Care and Cancer Policy – Department of Health: How close are we to getting obesity treatment services in NI? – the funder's perspective.

Laurie Eyles: The Scottish experience in developing obesity management services: Evidence from existing services

Dr Ursula Mason, Chair RCGP Northern Ireland: What would a primary care obesity management service in NI look like?