

## **Northern Ireland Area Report – Autumn 2018**

We currently have 39 members in Northern Ireland, our largest membership to date. This year has been very productive in relation to learning and development as well as show casing physiotherapy services locally.

Our Autumn 2017 evening meeting was held in Antrim Hospital. Catherine Kelly, who was funded to attend by POGP Northern Ireland, shared her highlights from the POGP Conference and encouraged members to attend next year. Qufora sponsored supper and provided information on their products. Gail Jackson, a lead nurse at the Rowan Sexual Abuse Centre explained the local processes and support provided to this vulnerable group. This was very informative and relevant.

Our Winter 2018 evening meeting was well attended and held in Belfast City Hospital. Aoife Ni Eochaidh, physiotherapist from Galway, presented on Pudendal Neuralgia Assessment and Treatment.

In May 2018 the Ulster Gynae Urology Society (UGUS) Scientific Meeting was held in Craigavon. Within Northern Ireland we have 5 Health and Social Care Trusts, all of which are represented by POGP members who agreed to present a service development or review as part of the scientific meeting. This was a perfect opportunity to not only learn from each other but more importantly to inform other medical and nursing colleagues of the work happening locally in Northern Ireland.

Presentations included an SUI audit of physiotherapy services, evaluation of the Pelvic Health Squeazy dashboard platform, outcome of early telephone advice for obstetric anal sphincter injury and an audit of bowel referrals and outcomes. Initial feedback from the UGUS committee suggests this may well become an annual component of future scientific meetings. Well done girls!

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