



Integrating traditional music therapy methods with Neurologic Music Therapy Techniques for the effective treatment of people with a Neuro-disability

Programme

Tuesday 11 November 2025

09.00 Registration and refreshments

- 09.30** A legacy of creativity in care: Looking back at the development of formal music therapy
Michael Jenkins, Senior Music Therapist, RHN
- 09.50** Keynote: Creating and developing a person-centred Music Therapy service incorporating Neurologic Music Therapy and traditional Music Therapy approaches within an Interdisciplinary Rehabilitation team
Professor Rebecca O'Connor, Associate Professor of Music Therapy, University of Limerick, Ireland
Creative Arts Therapy Lead and Senior Music Therapist, National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dublin
Researcher and Clinical Supervisor
- 10.50** Transformational Design in Action: Embedding NMT Techniques in Music Therapy Research and Practice
Dr Shane Cassidy, Senior Music Therapist, National Rehabilitation Hospital, Founder and Clinical Director of Neurolinks Music Therapy

11.30 Refreshment break

- 11.50** Does music motivate? Exploring the effects of music therapy on mood and rehabilitation engagement for patients with acquired brain injury in post-acute and sub-acute settings
Oliver Swan, Music Therapist, RHN
- 12.10** Finding our rhythm: Applying Neurological Music Therapy techniques within an Interdisciplinary group to address specific rehabilitation goals
Dee Gray, Senior Music Therapist, National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dublin
Róisín Hayes, Senior Music Therapist, National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dublin



12.50 Lunch break

13.50 Strengthening social bonds through musical experiences (workshop)

Michael Jenkins, Senior Music Therapist, RHN

Tony Almond, Senior Music Therapist, RHN

14.00 Breakout discussion groups

1: Challenges with developing a music therapy service

2: Connecting with and supporting interdisciplinary teams

3: Including and supporting families in music therapy

15.00 From Silence to Sound: Bridging Inner Conflict and Neural Repair through Music Therapy

Amanda Thorpe, Music Therapist, RHN

15.20 Refreshment break

15.40 Reflections and insights on integrating Music therapy methods drawn from 34 years of clinical supervision with Music therapists from a wide spectrum of approaches and backgrounds

Professor Rebecca O'Connor, Associate Professor of Music Therapy,

University of Limerick, Ireland

Creative Arts Therapy Lead and Senior Music Therapist, National Rehabilitation Hospital, Dublin

Researcher and Clinical Supervisor

16.10 Panel discussion

16.30 Close of day

*please note this programme is provisional and may be subject to change