#

# Welcome to the 2025 All-Ireland Interprofessional Healthcare Challenge for Students

The best health outcomes for patients with complex or chronic healthcare needs often depend on effective teamwork and collaboration between various healthcare professionals with different skills and knowledge. The All-Ireland Interprofessional Healthcare Challenge (AIPEC) aims to develop this important skill set before graduation in a way that is transformative, authentic, and fun!

The AIPEC is an intervarsity education competition that provides an opportunity for students from all health disciplines to work collaboratively with colleagues from different professions to meet a challenge based on complex care issues.

The event includes representation from competing teams from Queen’s University Belfast, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Trinity College Dublin, Ulster University, University College Cork, University College Dublin, University of Galway, and the University of Limerick.

In 2025, the AIPEC event will be hosted by **University College Dublin.**

**Why Participate?**

* Meet and work with students from other health disciplines and universities.
* Represent your profession and your university/organisation on a national level.
* Improve your communication, teamwork, and clinical skills.
* Expand your professional knowledge.
* Form lasting networks with a cohort of future leaders in healthcare, practitioners, and potential employers.
* Enjoy the prestige of participating in a national interprofessional education (IPE) event.
* Boost your CV and stand out in the job market.
* Receive a Certificate of Participation.
* Win prizes and gain recognition.
* And last, but not least… it’s FUN!

**What Is Involved?**

Students work in interprofessional teams of three to eight members. Teams are tasked with preparing a patient management plan lasting no more than eight minutes in response to a complex case study, which they will present at the live event. A minimum of 30 seconds of the presentation must include students’ reflections on their own interprofessional learning journey. A time bell will notify students when they are approaching the final minute of their presentation.

Students may be juggling multiple commitments, so all meetings are arranged at the discretion of

each individual team. Past participants have indicated that an average of eight to ten hours was spent preparing the management plan. This included team meetings, individual preparation, and independent research. Teams may communicate by any means, including digital platforms, to plan for this. It is entirely up to your team and what works best for everyone.

On **Friday, 28th March 2025**, student teams will gather at University College Dublin for an in-person event featuring guest speakers and live presentations. Travel costs will be covered by the respective universities (please liaise with your local contact for details). You will present your response to the case study to an audience, including a panel of judges.

The case presented is intentionally detailed to allow input from the multidisciplinary team. The judging panel will understand that it is not possible to cover all aspects within the eight minutes available. It will be up to each team to prioritise the care issues they wish to discuss within the allotted time.

Each university will have different disciplines represented in their teams, and not all disciplines may be taught at every university. Teams can expand the case study to ensure that each profession represented in their team has a meaningful input. There is no predetermined aspect that must be covered. The team that demonstrates the greatest mastery of teamwork and interprofessional collaboration will be declared the winner. The prize will be awarded at the conclusion of the event.

**Conditions of Entry**

All students wishing to participate in the AIPEC must be enrolled in a health science programme or degree in the same calendar year as the competition. Students must be pre-registration. Students who have graduated before the current year and entered full-time employment are not eligible to compete on behalf of their professional discipline. Additionally, students who have previously represented their university in the AIPEC competition are not eligible to compete.

**Commitments Associated with Participation**

By registering for the AIPEC, students commit to:

* Working within an interprofessional team to develop an eight-minute presentation of a management plan in response to the case study provided.
* Emailing their presentation to health.affairs@ucd.iebefore the deadline of **9am on Monday, 24th March 2025**.
* Attending the AIPEC Event Day on **Friday, 28th March 2025**, in person at University College Dublin. The event will be live-streamed to colleagues and students in the participating universities.

If you have any questions or require further information, don’t hesitate to reach out. We look forward to seeing you at AIPEC 2025!