

Post Award Support

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH DISCOVERY AND INNOVATION

The Institute for Health Discovery and Innovation at the University of Galway is an interdisciplinary, cross college, Institute focused on supporting high quality research activity across the domains of health discovery and innovation research. The Institute's mission is to advance fundamental and applied understanding of disease and drive innovative health solutions. Its vision is to be a world-leading centre for health discovery and innovation through excellence in research, people and partnerships. The Institute prioritises developing talent and fostering internal and external collaboration. The Institute's thematic structure includes three pillars:

1. Fundamental Discovery
2. Enabling Technologies and Innovation
3. Health-Based Challenges

POST AWARD SUPPORT/ VALUE PROPOSITION

Post-Award support offers comprehensive assistance to help research teams **manage administrative and operational requirements** with clarity and ease. This includes guidance on **data protection** and **ethics submissions**, **coordinated project management** for kick-off meetings, planning, and progress tracking, as well as **end-to-end help with recruitment activities**. Operational workflows are strengthened through **close collaboration with central university offices**—including Legal, Insurance, Procurement, IP, and clinical or regulatory units—to ensure processes are aligned and efficient.

DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH PROGRAMME

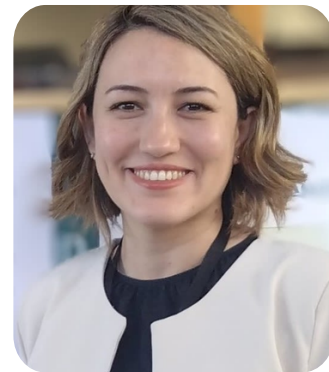
EU4Health is the EU's largest health funding programme (2021–2027), supporting initiatives to strengthen health systems, improve public health, and enhance preparedness for cross-border health threats. It funds projects across areas such as disease prevention, healthcare workforce development, and digital health, with a strong focus on translating research into practical health impact across Europe.

KEY OUTCOME

1 The Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) for this study was completed following an initial draft submission in November 2025. Having a completed DPIA has positively impacted the timeline of the project and allows the team to begin the recruitment of participants.

MEET THE INVESTIGATOR

Dr. Duygu Sezgin is an Associate Professor/Senior Lecturer in General Nursing in the School of Nursing, Midwifery & Evidence Science. She is a member of the IHDI since April 2026. Dr. Sezgin is part of the MELODIC project for which she works with Dr. Martin Power and Dr. Saintuya Dashdondog (School of Health Sciences) and Dr. Maura Dowling (School of Nursing, Midwifery & Evidence Science), who form the University of Galway team for the Irish site of the project.



RESEARCH ACTIVITY

MELODIC project aims to promote the mental health and well-being of young adults with cancer and their loved ones. The project has 13 partners from six European countries. The MELODIC project will provide information

- on the mental health support needs of young adults with cancer (18-35 years) and their loved ones
- on the experiences of health professionals in supporting young adults with cancer.

The project will develop and test

- an intervention to support young adults and their loved ones to maintain and improve their mental health and well-being during the first year after diagnosis.

The intervention will include natural health and well-being activities in a group setting (social prescribing), combined with information provision (psychoeducation). The project will develop training for health professionals and a recommendation aimed at increasing health professionals' knowledge of mental health issues throughout the patient care pathway. The aim of the training is to increase professionals' skills in screening, early identification and management of the mental health needs of young adults and their families. The project team believes that by investing in the training of health professionals, inequalities in access to support can be reduced. Further details on the project are available here <https://melodic.turkuamk.fi/>.



IHDI SUPPORT

- Provided targeted post-award support facilitating the timely completion of the Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) in collaboration with the Research Data Compliance Manager at University of Galway by facilitating a review and feedback session ultimately enabling project progression while maintaining alignment with data protection requirements.

TESTIMONIAL

I did not know IHDI could support me for getting the DPIA review completed. The IHDI post award team provided excellent support to keep the process moving until the very end. I truly appreciate their support! We can now start recruiting participants.

Dr Duygu Sezgin
MELODIC Project

