



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

The Marie Skłodowska- Curie Actions (MSCA) Doctoral Networks provide high-quality international doctoral training that builds creative, innovative, and employable researchers. They unite academic and industry partners to offer advanced research, interdisciplinary mobility, and structured skills development across sectors.

SELECTED KEY OUTCOMES

- 1 Recruitment of a Project Manager aligned with the grant start date to support seamless project operations and delivery of milestones.
- 2 New supplier set up completed
- 3 Recruitment of doctoral candidates initiated eight months in advance of the project start date, ensuring timely appointment and readiness at project commencement.
- 4 Coordination of Press Release
Set up of Programme Website

MEET THE INVESTIGATOR

Dr William Ronan coordinates the MEDALLOY Doctoral Network from the Institute for Health Discovery & Innovation and the School of Engineering at the University of Galway, Ireland. Dr Ronan's research group specialises in materials for medical devices, including superelastic Nickel-Titanium alloys, biodegradable polymers, and other advanced materials. The group applies computational solid mechanics and multi-physics modelling to develop and characterise next-generation materials for medical device applications.



RESEARCH ACTIVITY

MEDALLOY is a European Industrial Doctoral Network that will train 9 Doctoral Candidates (DCs) across 6 countries, focusing on Nitinol, a high-performance material vital for cardiovascular medical devices. The project addresses key industry challenges by:

- Developing enhanced Nitinol alloys
- Optimising manufacturing processes
- Improving defect tolerance and fatigue life prediction
- Creating validated simulation tools

Supported by a consortium of academic, clinical, and industrial partners, MEDALLOY offers a comprehensive interdisciplinary training programme. This includes technical research, clinical trials, ethics, sustainability, communication, and entrepreneurship. The goal is to equip DCs with the skills to become leading innovators in the European Nitinol medical device sector, with a clear path to commercialisation and exploitation of their research.



IHDI SUPPORT

- Post award setup, including legal review, insurance, IP, and overall grant activation support.
- End-to-end recruitment coordination for Project Manager and PhD candidates, including job description development, HR liaison, advertisement planning, shortlisting support, interview logistics, and ensuring recruitment documentation aligns with institutional requirements.
- Structured project initiation support, including preparation of kick-off meeting materials, and review of early deliverable documents to support clear project start-up and milestone alignment.

TESTIMONIAL

"The team at IHDI have provided fantastic support to the MEDALLOY MSCA project. The pooling of resources through the IHDI allowed me to easily recruit a project manager and their expertise made the advertisement interviewing, and selection of a PM very straightforward. The institutes growing reputation made advertisement more effective and attracted a strong field of candidates. In the pre-kickoff and early stages of the project, the IHDI provided invaluable support to navigate the project initiation tasks including linking in with legal, HR, and RAO. They have a wealth of knowledge in the team and were very supportive."

Dr William Ronan
MEDALLOY Project Lead

