



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

The Faculty of
Health Sciences presents

The Inaugural Lecture of Professor Edna Roche

16th October 2025

School of Medicine

www.tcd.ie/healthsciences/





Professor Edna Roche
School of Medicine

“Sweet Child O’ Mine” - the changing face of diabetes

Edna Roche is Professor of Paediatric Endocrinology and Diabetes at the University of Dublin, Trinity College and a paediatric consultant at Childrens Health Ireland, Tallaght University Hospital where she leads a busy tertiary service in paediatric endocrinology and diabetes.

She graduated in Medicine from Trinity and undertook her specialist clinical training in Dublin, London and North America. She was awarded an MD from the University of Dublin, Trinity College for her work on childhood diabetes. Professor Roche has a keen interest in management and was awarded a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from Trinity for which she received the Sir Charles Harvey Award and John Good Prize. Professor Roche also holds a postgraduate qualification from the National University of Ireland, Membership and Fellowships from the

Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, Edinburgh and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health London.

She was appointed by the Minister for Health to the Board of the Irish Medical Council and Chairs the Education and Training Committee of Council. She was invited to join the Department of Health and Children National Diabetes Policy and Services Review Group, is a member of the Paediatric Clinical Advisory Group of the RCPI, which guides national policy in child health and former Chair of the Nutrition Council of the Irish Heart Foundation.

An enthusiastic teacher she received a Provost’s Award for Teaching Excellence. She has introduced a number of academic innovations at Trinity, including developing the first national Clinical Skills Laboratory in TCD. Professor Roche designed and introduced the study of management to healthcare programmes



in the Faculty of Health Sciences in the late 1990s, a radical move at the time. She developed and was Programme Director of the innovative and highly successful MSc in Health Services Management, which led to the development of the important TCD Centre for Health Policy and Management.

Her clinical and research interests include Diabetes–epidemiology and clinical care, growth and development, and the rare disorders of Prader Willi and Turner Syndromes. Professor Roche established and leads the Irish Childhood Diabetes National Register, now in its 18th year. This remains the unique source of robust national data to inform health planning, resource allocation, enable audit, research and optimise clinical care in paediatric diabetes. She is a member of key international networks, such as: the Hvidoere. and EURODIAB international Diabetes Research Groups, the Prader

Willi Syndrome UK and Ireland Clinical Research Network, and the international Globe Registry PWS Expert Working Group. She has introduced a number of clinical innovations and works closely with patient support organisations and advocacy groups, such as Diabetes Ireland, the Prader Willi Syndrome Association of Ireland (PWSAI) and is the national professional delegate to the International Prader Willi Syndrome (PWS) Organisation (IPWSO). Professor Roche collaborates closely with Diabetes Ireland to deliver health promotion campaigns.

She has published widely in the medical literature with over 150 peer reviewed publications and was elected to Fellowship of the University of Dublin in recognition of her research and scholarship.

The Inaugural Lecture
of Professor Edna Roche
16th October 2025



Trinity College Dublin

Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath

The University of Dublin

Inaugural lectures provide newly appointed professors with the opportunity to showcase their academic activity to the College community and members of the public. An inaugural lecture is a significant event in an academic staff member's career.

At Trinity College, inaugural lectures are a ceremonial occasion, which is why academic robes are worn by the inaugural professor and the rest of the platform party.

www.tcd.ie/healthsciences/