Call for ASSISTID-Marie Curie proposals 2015

Fellowships in Intellectual Disability (ID), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Intellectual Disability with Dementia

What is ASSISTID?

Deadline: 30th September 2015

ASSISTID is a €9M EU Marie Curie COFUND research programme which is funded by RESPECT and the EU for 5 years from 2014-2019 and coordinated by the DOCTRID Research Institute. ASSISTID will fund 40 researchers to carry out individual projects in Intellectual Disability and/ or Autism, examining how Assistive Technologies can improve quality of life and inclusion. Researchers will be based in universities, industry partners and ID service providers throughout Ireland, the UK, the USA and other countries.

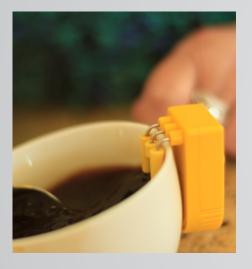## Potential ASSISTID research questions include

- ☑ Benefits of AT to the community-is there an increase in Quality of Life for AT users and/or their carers.
- ☑ Application of existing technology to a new cohort or novel use.
- ☑ Assessment of existing technology.
- ☑ Training tools for health care professionals.
- ☑ What is the cost benefit of AT?.
- ☑ Development of new technology/interfaces.
- ☑ Review of policy and provision of AT-gaps and future directions.
- ☑ Ethics of AT.
- ☑ Online tools, platforms, online learning.

Visit www.assistid.eu for more information

Disciplines welcome:

Researchers from a wide range of disciplines are welcome to apply including Social and Behavioural Scientists, Nurses, Occupational/Physical Therapists, Behavioural Psychologists, Speech and Language therapists, Computer Scientists, Engineers and Healthcare professionals.

ASSISTID is not all about developing new gadgets or Apps! Competitive proposals will address how quality of life, independence, social inclusion, education, employment and service provision can be enhanced for people with ID/ASD through the use of Assistive Technologies. **Proposals in moderate to severe ID/ASD are encouraged.**

Next Steps for applicants:

1) Check Eligibility-Do you have a PhD or equivalent research experience?

2) Identify suitable research project-must involve ID and some aspect of AT

3) Contact potential supervisor who you feel would be a good match

4) Write project proposal (10 pages max)

5) Submit online www.assistid.eu

Why is ASSISTID important?

ASSISTID is coordinated by the DOCTRID Research Institute which was established as a research network in 2010 to undertake research and training in ID/ASD.
See www.doctrid.ie for more information.

There is currently a significant lack of evidence based research in the area of Assistive Technologies (AT). AT refers to devices or tools which help people to participate in daily activities and to participate in social activities, employment and education. These can be 'low tech' e.g. walking aids, grab rails or adapted cutlery, or 'high tech' e.g. specialised seating; sensors in the home to control doors & lights; mobility scooters; eye gaze technology, voice recognition software, screen readers. ASSISTID will help to establish a solid evidence base to 1) bring new cost effective AT to people with ID or ASD and 2) to allow health care professionals, carers and family members, policy makers and service providers to make informed decisions around provision of appropriate AT for ID and ASD.

DOCTRID Programmes Manager: Dr. Sheeona Gorman
E-mail: sgorman@respect.ie
Telephone: +353 1 685 6004