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PRESS RELEASE

10 August 2023

20th Annual Gay Health Forum (GHF 2023) Unveils Keynote Speakers and Expert Panel on Sexual Health Futures

Dublin, Ireland — August 9, 2023 — The Gay Health Forum (GHF 2023), an annual conference dedicated to advancing the sexual health and well-being of gay, bisexual, Men who have sex with Men (gbMSM) and trans communities, is set to take place on Friday, August 18th, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Hibernia Conference Centre within Dublin Castle. Coordinated by the Gay Health Network (GHN) and the Gay Men's Health Service (GMHS), this year marks the forum's 20th edition.

The Gay Health Forum serves as a vital platform for disseminating the latest research, policy updates, clinical insights, and surveillance data concerning HIV and sexual health. With its distinguished lineup of speakers and panels, the conference brings together experts, service providers, policymakers, and the gbMSM community to collaboratively drive the advancement of sexual health and overall well-being.

Conference Highlights:

Ministerial Opening and Clinical Updates (9:30 am - 9:55 am)

The forum will commence with a welcome address by the Minister of State for Public Health, Wellbeing and National Drug Strategy, Hildegard Naughton, followed by an overview of the morning's plan. Prof. Fiona Lyons, the HSE Clinical Lead for Sexual Health, will deliver a clinical update, offering valuable insights into ongoing developments in sexual health.

Keynote Address by Dr. Maurice Nagington (11:30 am - 12:10 pm)

Dr. Maurice Nagington, a distinguished lecturer in Health Sciences at the University of Manchester, will deliver a captivating presentation titled "The Culture of Chemsex: what can we learn from Manchester?" Drawing from his interdisciplinary research, Dr. Nagington will delve into cultural representations and lived experiences of chemsex, shedding light on its complex dynamics.

Keynote Address by Dr. Chase Ledin (2:10 pm - 2:50 pm)

Dr. Chase Ledin, an Interdisciplinary Research Fellow at the University of Edinburgh, will take the stage to discuss "STI Innovation, Doxy PEP and Sexual Health Futures." Dr. Ledin's expertise lies at the intersection of critical public health and

queer science and technology studies, with a focus on innovations in HIV/STI care and sexual health promotion.

Expert Panel on Sexual Health Futures (3:15 pm - 3:45 pm)

The conference will culminate with an enlightening panel discussion featuring notable experts in their field. Dr. Grainne Courtney, Dr. Maurice Nagington, Dr. Chase Ledin, Adam Shanley, Dr. John Gilmore, and Ciara Mulcahy Linehan will engage in a thought-provoking discourse on the future of LGBTQI+ sexual health.

A full schedule of the day is available to view at <http://gayhealthforum.ie>

GHF2023 offers a unique opportunity to engage in meaningful discussions, learn from leading experts, and contribute to the advancement of sexual health and well-being for gbMSM communities. The event is free to attend, but spaces are limited and allocated on a first-registered basis. Early registration is recommended. For inquiries and registration visit <http://gayhealthforum.ie> or email ghf@ghn.ie.

For those unable to attend in person, a live stream of the forum will be available on the [GCN YouTube Page](#) and [GHN Facebook Page](#).

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