



Franco Davies is a musculoskeletal physiotherapist working in Mater Dei hospital in a new Physiotherapy service at the emergency department. He obtained his BSc Honours as a physiotherapist in 2001 from the University of Malta and is experienced in a variety of clinical areas, working as a senior in neurology, oncology, paediatrics, MSK, orthopaedics and trauma and finally in emergency. He has been working with the Maltese national health service for the past 19 years but has also worked at Christie's oncology centre in Manchester and is experienced in the private sector where he has worked in local football and rugby premierships. He is a member of the Society Of Musculoskeletal Medicine where he is currently following up his studies towards an MSc, investigating effectiveness of MSK Physiotherapists in treating back pain and was a workgroup member of the national framework for the treatment of low back pain among the many research and service development projects he participated in. Apart also from being an avid historical fencer, Franco holds an MA in history (Hospitalier Studies, melit.) where he has researched early modern military training and has published a number of papers on the subject.



Marilyn Cash is an experienced Consultant Anaesthetist with special interest in interventional pain management working in public and private practice. Skilled in Interventional Pain Management, Clinical Research, Medical Education and

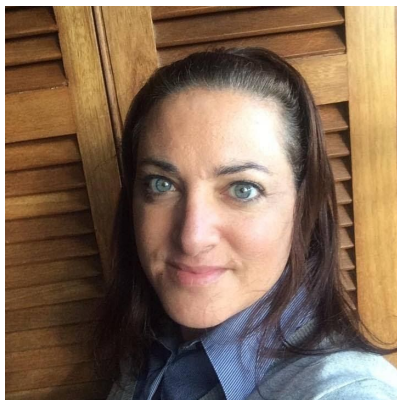
Pain Management, she was responsible for starting a specialised pain clinic for cancer related pain and also introduced dorsal column stimulation and other peripheral neuromodulation techniques in Malta.



Victoria Massalha is a state registered physiotherapist in Malta and the UK and holds the position of Professional Lead of Physiotherapy Services in the Ministry for Health. She is also an Educator and has held the post of Senior Lecturer with the University of Malta since 2005. Between 2014 and 2018, Ms Massalha was the elected President of the Malta Association of Physiotherapists. She sits on various boards and committees including the Professional Issues Working Group of the European Region, WCPT to which she has directly contributed to the development of the European Quality Assurance Standards of Physiotherapy Practice and Delivery and related audit tools. Throughout her career of over thirty years, Ms Victoria Massalha has always strived to advance the Physiotherapy Profession and the role of the Physiotherapist. She continues with determination to focus all efforts to bringing the Profession to the forefront on all issues and levels. Her research interests focus on the transformation of local physiotherapy through service developments grounded on evidence; work force planning and support of the workforce; and the promotion of better health behaviour and improved wellbeing



Owen Sant' Angelo graduated with an honours degree in physiotherapy in 2000, following which he gained extensive clinical experience until opting for further studies in the two fields of aquatic therapy and bioethics. His thesis in part fulfilment of his Master's degree in Bioethics, broke new ground by analysing the local physiotherapy practise against an international background. Since then he has been involved in shaping the MAP'S code of ethics, delivered various talks and presentations on the subject and is currently co-authoring a publication by the University of Malta. Outside of work, Owen enjoys a full family life, DIY, reading and occasionally travelling.



Pauline Fenech graduated in 2002 with a B.Sc. from UOM and in 2009 she helped co-establish the Back unit at the Physiotherapy outpatients Dept KGH, after having carried out a vast research project on the effects of exercise on back pain with another senior member of staff. Since 2018 Pauline has been the team leader of this unit which consists of 6 team-members with a mixed case load. Besides the normal clinical case load, Pauline with other team members, attends outpatient clinics with spinal orthopedic surgeons, partially mapping the role of the physiotherapist as an ESP, assessing patients as part of the team and establishing a clear care pathway earlier on. This includes referral for further investigations, consultations to other units or for physiotherapy whilst always

keeping case by case liaison with the orthopedic team. Pauline also helped establish the use of outcome measures while giving attention to new aspects into psychosocial elements of pain within the management of spinal conditions by organizing specific courses within the same department on this matter. She helped introduce classes as another care pathway to patients suffering from spinal conditions. She was involved in the final stages of the national back framework and in its dissemination amongst physiotherapists in the public service. Pauline is a clinical supervisor and mentor for students and rotating members of staff and is responsible for induction of students and rotating staff for the management of spinal conditions within the said department. Besides working in the national health service, Pauline has set her own private practice and works as a sports and musculoskeletal physiotherapist; being the head physiotherapist for the national rugby team as well as a local premier division football team. Pauline has read for a Masters in Sports Physiotherapy from the University of Bath and likes to share knowledge and learning experiences with colleagues & students. She has a keen interest in evidence-based practice and has gained renowned reputation in organizing high quality courses and hosting international tutors on an annual basis.