



IN BRIEF

Dr Ambrose McLoughlin appointed to the Board of Vhi Healthcare

DR Ambrose McLoughlin, the Registrar and Chief Executive Officer of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI), is one of three people who have been appointed to the board of VHI Healthcare.

Last month (March 2012), Dr James Reilly TD appointed the PSI chief as well as Mr John Melvin and Mr Martin Sisk to the board of Vhi Healthcare for a period of three years.

Welcoming the appointments, Mr Bernard Collins, Chairman, Vhi Healthcare, said, "I would like to welcome the three new Board members, they bring a wealth of relevant experience and expertise to the Board of Vhi Healthcare and I look forward to working with them. I believe they will make an important contribution in helping us to build on the cost containment initiatives we have pursued over the last four years, continuing to deliver quality healthcare to our customers and achieving our target of Financial Regulation with the Central Bank."

Malaria vaccine trial underway in Ireland

THE first malaria vaccine clinical trial to be carried out in Ireland is currently underway.

The clinical trial is being carried out by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) in collaboration with the Jenner Institute at Oxford University in the UK. It is funded by the European Vaccine Initiative (EVI), a European Economic Interest Grouping (EEIG)

The clinical trial is contributing to building Ireland's international reputation as a world-class centre for innovation and research and development of new medicines and builds on Ireland's existing large pharmaceutical and vaccine manufacturing industrial base.

To date, 18 people have volunteered for a pre-enrolment health check-up, and nine people have begun the study. Further healthy adults who have not had malaria are needed. People interested in finding out more can visit the RCSI website www.rcsi.ie/tropmedresearch or email tropmed@rcsi.ie for further information. The first results from the trial are expected later this year.