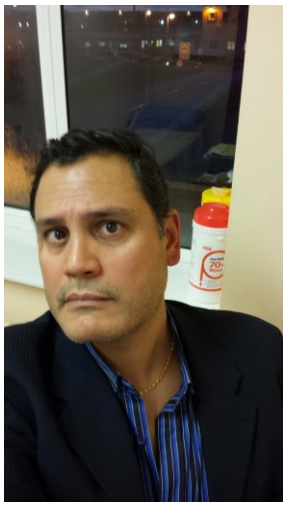

**Project investigating the effects of eNOS and IL10 on acute ischaemic injury in myocardium in an ovine model.**

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This is a collaboration between NFB (Network for Exellence in Functional Biomaterials) based in National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG) and the Lithuanian University of Health Sciences (LUHS). This collaboration developed as a result of Dr Mindaugas Rackauskas working closely with me as a Senior Registrar in our department. After discussing ways of moving this project forward, Dr Rackauskas facilitated this collaboration through Professor Pauza, and Professor R. Benetis. NFB is funding this project through a grant bestowed on Professor Abhay Pandit, Director of NFB.

This project continues ongoing and previously published work from NFB studying the effects of eNOS and IL10 on acute myocardial injury in a rat model after LAD ligation. This current project is unique in 3 ways: the ovine model used is unusual as sheep are not the most common mammal used for these studies, secondly, the model of acute myocardial ischaemia is novel, and lastly, the delivery vehicle for eNOS and IL10 is a innovative hydrogel developed by scientists in NFB led by Professor Abhay Pandit.

This is the first collaboration between groups in NFB and LUHS and promises if successful, to translation in a clinical trial.