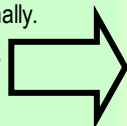


*This Communiqué concentrates on the activities of three Action Research Projects arising from the 'Palliative Care for All' Report. (2008 IHF/HSE)*

### Initial and Ongoing Work

Each project is engaged in:

- Developing and issuing questionnaires on educational needs of staff.
- Raising awareness of project at each of the sites and with all stakeholders locally and nationally.
- Literature review.
- Audit of charts.



### Examples of Current Activities

#### **Advanced Respiratory Disease and Palliative Care**

- Defining a referral protocol on the timing of palliative care in the care pathway.
- Considering pilot of joint respiratory/specialist palliative care clinic.

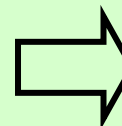
#### **Heart Failure and Palliative Care**

Seeking to establish palliative interventions based on:

- Symptom assessment and control.
- Advanced communication skills.
- Transition from curative to palliative care.

#### **Dementia and Palliative Care**

- Awareness-raising on need for palliative care for people with dementia.
- Seeking to address stereotypes and barriers that have been identified.



### Plans for next 6 months

- Holding focus groups to elicit views of key staff and stakeholders.
- Analysis of responses to educational questionnaires.
- Development of Action Research Cycles arising from data collected.
- Continued dissemination of information to interest groups, professional bodies and services through presentations, journal articles and posters.
- Further workshop on action research methodology.

### Recent Education and Dissemination

- ❖ **Awards:** Dementia and Heart Failure projects received awards for presentations at the All Ireland Gerontological Nurses Association Conference and the Irish Cardiac Society's Heart Failure Meeting respectively.
- ❖ **Feature Articles** published in Health Matters (HSE) and Cardiology Professional.
- ❖ **Synergies** established between 3 IHF-funded the Dementia Projects: Clare Mental Health Services for Older People; the Alzheimer Society of Ireland and St. Vincent's Hospital, Athy (HSE). Full details on [www.hospice-foundation.ie](http://www.hospice-foundation.ie)
- ❖ **Presentations** continue to be made to a wide range of groups and services. Full list of presentations available on IHF website.
- ❖ **Cystic Fibrosis Association of Ireland** in collaboration with IHF to distribute End of Life Discussion paper to CF teams.

### Policy and Educational Developments

- ❖ **National Cardiovascular Health Policy 2010-2019** recommends integration of palliative care into care pathway of cardiac and stroke patients (DOHC 2010).
- ❖ **National Dementia Training Programme**, rolling out nationally since May 2010, references the Palliative Care for All report as a strategic development in dementia in Ireland (NMPDU).

### Irish Hospice Foundation Resources

- ✓ DVD introducing Action Research projects in which key stakeholders outline their hopes and expectations for local and national project outcomes.
- ✓ "Palliative Care for All - Key Messages" Booklet, Posters and Presentations on Palliative Care for All Programme and projects.
- ✓ Full text of Palliative Care for All report, and all of above available on Development page of IHF website [www.hospice-foundation.ie](http://www.hospice-foundation.ie) or contact project team.

#### **Advanced Respiratory Disease and Palliative Care**

##### **Action Research Project:**

St. James Hospital with Our Lady's Hospice; Liberties Primary Care Team  
Patricia White, 01 4103763  
[pwhite@stjames.ie](mailto:pwhite@stjames.ie)

#### **Heart Failure and Palliative Care Action Research Project**

Mater/Connolly Hospitals, with St. Francis Hospice and D-Doc GP Service  
Rosemary McDevitt, 01 8545236  
[rmcdevitt@mater.ie](mailto:rmcdevitt@mater.ie)

#### **Dementia and Palliative Care Action Research Project**

Clare Mental Health Services for Older People, St. Joseph's Hospital, Ennis with Milford Hospice and local GP  
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