



*Progress on the activities of the Palliative Care for All Programme is described below. These activities arise from the recommendations of the report 'Palliative Care for All: Integrating Palliative Care into Disease Management Frameworks'. IHF & HSE 2008*

### Action Research Projects

All three action research projects have now commenced. Below are details of the part-time research project officers appointed for each project:

**Advanced Respiratory Disease and Palliative Care – Patricia White**  
St James's Hospital, Our Lady's Hospice and Liberties Primary Care Team

**Heart Failure and Palliative Care – Rosemary McDevitt**  
Mater Misericordiae/Connolly Hospitals, St. Francis Hospice and Northdoc Primary Care Network.

**Dementia and Palliative Care - Marissa Butler** St Joseph's Hospital, Clare Mental Health Services for Older People, with links to Milford Hospice

### Monitoring and support

- An **Advisory Group** to oversee the work of each research project and representative of all stakeholders has been established in each site.
- The first of a series of **information workshops on Action Research Methodologies** for all involved in the projects took place in February.
- These workshops will provide a forum to assist necessary synergies and communication as progress takes place in these projects.

### Relevance of Action Research

Action research is pertinent to dissemination of palliative care into the generalist setting. Educationalists have embraced action research as a way of bridging the theory/practice gap. The two significant features of action research are the research partnership with key participants and the cyclic process that involves planning and taking action with reflection and evaluation. (*Hockley Pall. Med 2006 and Coghlan & Brannick 2009*)

### Other life-limiting diseases

- The Cystic Fibrosis Association along with the IHF is preparing a discussion paper and information leaflet on end-of-life care for people with cystic fibrosis.
- Irish Raynaud's and Scleroderma Society in collaboration with the IHF is planning a round table discussion on palliative care needs of people with scleroderma.
- A poster on palliative care for people with renal disease is in preparation with the Irish Nephrology Nurses Association for the INNA conference in March 2010.

### Education

#### Moving Points Conference

The Irish Hospice Foundation have teamed up with Our Lady's Hospice for the annual Moving Points Conference which is taking place 3 & 4 March. The theme is 'Crossing Boundaries: Addressing the need to integrate palliative care into disease management'. Key speakers include Dr. Barry White, Professor Scott A. Murray, Professor Mari Lloyd-Williams.

Included in the programme are presentations on palliative care for people with dementia; end-of-life care from the cystic fibrosis perspective; decision-making in end-stage renal disease and updates from the Action Research Projects. Click on this link for more information:

<http://www.olh.ie/media/click%20here.pdf>

#### Dementia and end of life

IHF awarded a number of education bursaries to participate in the dementia and end-of-life post graduate education modules at Stirling University.

### Dissemination and Synergies

- Presentations and posters continue to be made at national conferences and to relevant professional groups
- Key Messages booklet, based on Report, is available in hard and soft copy.
- The Palliative Care for All page on [www.hospice-foundation.ie](http://www.hospice-foundation.ie) has downloadable copies of report, booklet and posters.
- This website also provides more details on progress with action research projects and other life-limiting diseases as well as relevant links
- The project team continue to cross reference their work with other end-of-life initiatives in Ireland, including the Hospice Friendly Hospitals programme.

*"Palliative care is a key component in the development of a Dementia Care programme in St. Joseph's - this action research links closely with our Programme in Person Centred Care."*

**Marissa Butler, Research Project Officer**

### Contact Points

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