



Irish Thoracic Society congratulates Connolly Hospital on becoming a Smoke-free Campus

On behalf of the Irish Thoracic Society I wish to congratulate Connolly Hospital on becoming a Smoke-free Campus from the 31st May 2009.

This is a highly commendable step that will greatly benefit patients, staff and visitors to Connolly Hospital as well as the wider community. Smoking is the main cause of lung cancer and COPD which combined account for half of all deaths from respiratory disease in Ireland. Measures that promote smoking prevention and cessation such as this are central to reducing the burden of tobacco related disease and death.

Hospitals are an ideal setting for such an initiative as they can also provide the educational, medical and counselling support that patients and staff require to stop smoking for good.

Both St Vincent's University and Connolly Hospitals have shown great leadership in making their campuses smoke-free, we now urge others to follow their example.

Prof JJ Gilmartin,
President, the Irish Thoracic Society