



*The progress on activities emanating from Palliative Care For All Programme are described below, and arise from the recommendations of the report 'Palliative Care for All: Integrating Palliative Care into Disease Management Frameworks'. IHF & HSE 2008*

### **Palliative Care in Disease Management Frameworks**

Three action/exploratory research projects are planned in the area of dementia, heart failure and advanced respiratory disease. The aim of these projects is to devise, implement and evaluate appropriate palliative care responses within these disease management frameworks. The following sites for the 3 projects have been selected, and all have links with SPC and Primary Care

**Dementia - Cappahard Lodge, Ennis, MHSOP**

**Advanced Respiratory Disease - St James's Hospital, Dublin**

**Heart Failure - Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin**

*See contact details below*

Recruitment for the 3 part time project officers has commenced. The development section on IHF website will provide regular updates of these 2-year projects. All 3 projects will have consistency in their methodology and the outcomes will seek to have national application

*Funding for these research projects has been sourced from the Irish Hospice Foundation, Irish Heart Foundation, Irish Alzheimer's Society and the Baxter Foundation.*

### **Education**

•The Palliative Care Education Taskforce made a submission to the HSE Education, Training and Research Committee, setting out the education policy requirements relating to palliative care for all diseases, with specific references to non-malignant disease.

*(This submission is available on IHF website).*

•The 2010 Moving Points Conference of Our Lady's Hospice will be run in collaboration with the Irish Hospice Foundation, and the theme will be to examine the interface between specialist palliative care, secondary and primary care. This will provide an opportunity to discuss and debate the issues emerging from the *Palliative Care for All* Programme. Plans are at an early stage, but it is likely there will be a range of international speakers as well as sessions covering emerging developments in Ireland.

### **Dissemination**

- The 'Key Messages' booklet, which is based on the contents of the *Palliative Care for All* report, is now available for distribution.
- Presentations on the findings of the report continue to be made across all care settings.
- Abstracts on the report findings have been accepted and will be presented at a range of conferences, including those arranged by the Irish Thoracic Society, Irish Gerontology Society, Irish Association for Palliative Care, International Society for Quality in Healthcare, and Dementia Services Development Centre, Scotland.
- A dedicated section on the IHF website has been established providing updates, resources and links in this area.
- Features and articles on developments in this area have been included in a number of medical and nursing journals/circulars.

### **Monitoring / support / synergies**

Plans to establish a National Steering Committee will commence in August 2009. The immediate role will be to oversee the work emanating from the research projects, and this committee will also inform other emerging projects arising from the *Palliative Care for All* report. Every effort will be made to ensure any developments complement other end of life and palliative care initiatives in Ireland.

### **Other life limiting diseases**

- The Cystic Fibrosis Association, in conjunction with the IHF, have committed to preparing an action plan on the end of life issues for people with CF. This will be based on feedback from a questionnaire that has been circulated to CF teams, and CF advocates
- The IHF made a joint presentation with the Irish Raynaud's and Scleroderma Society at the EULAR international rheumatology conference in June on the palliative care needs of people with Scleroderma. Liaison with key clinicians on this area is planned.

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