



**A Voice for Palliative Care in  
Ireland**



**Irish Association  
for Palliative Care**

## January Newsletter 2024

Happy New Year!

As we commence a new year, we extend a warm welcome to both our longstanding members and those joining us for the first time. We are eager to engage with you as we collectively navigate the upcoming year ahead.

Our first noteworthy event on our 2024 agenda is the IAPC's 23rd Education and Research Seminar, on February 8th, themed "Ensuring Dignity: Ethical Reflections in Palliative Care."

This in-person gathering, in Hotel Riu Plaza, The Gresham, Dublin, serves as a great opportunity for inspiration and knowledge-sharing, embodying our commitment to academic excellence and collaborative research.

Below you will find the Programme for the day. To register, please email [admin@iapc.ie](mailto:admin@iapc.ie), please note that registrations are not complete until payment has been received. We sincerely look forward to seeing you there.

As we embrace the new year, we are particularly enthusiastic about the prospect of expanding and strengthening the Irish Association for Palliative Care. This year, we aspire to grow our membership, fostering a diverse and inclusive network of professionals dedicated to this vital field. We encourage you to join us on this journey, contributing to our shared mission and vision for the advancement of Palliative Care.

Best wishes,

Jacinta Cuthbert, CEO

## **January Updates**

### **National Grief Awareness Week**

From January 22 to 28, National Grief Awareness Week, themed 'Be Grief Aware – Show You Care,' will be observed for the fourth consecutive year under the leadership of the Irish Hospice Foundation (IHF). IHF will conduct two webinars in collaboration with the campaign: 'Bereavement Networks Lunch & Learn: Grief in the Workplace' and 'Living with Loss – Bereavement Information Evening' on Thursday, January 25. Both webinars are free and open to the public. Organizations are encouraged to participate by hosting stands, organizing group webinar viewings, or engaging in the online campaign. All campaign details, assets, and resources can be found on the Irish Hospice Foundation website. For additional information or to express interest in supporting the campaign, contact IHF at [bereavementdevelopment@hospicefoundation.ie](mailto:bereavementdevelopment@hospicefoundation.ie).

### **UCC led consortium on Dementia Palliative Care Awarded EU Funding**

University College Cork (UCC) researchers have secured €7.5 million in EU funding to launch the In-Touch project, addressing advanced dementia care in nursing homes. Led by Professor Nicola Cornally and Professor Suzanne Timmons, the In-Touch Consortium comprises 13 institutions across Europe, the UK, and Canada. Over the next five years, the project aims to improve palliative care for dementia patients in 56 care homes across seven countries, focusing on pain and symptom management, staff capabilities, polypharmacy, and decision-making. The intervention, emphasizing non-pharmacological approaches, strives to enhance the quality of life for individuals with advanced dementia while involving families in comfort care and future plans. The consortium's multidisciplinary team, supported by South South West Hospital Group (SSWHG)-UCC, is set to revolutionize dementia care through ethical, evidence-based, and cost-effective interventions.

Laura Lynn is recruiting a Community Team Lead/CNM 2 to provide leadership in children's palliative care. The closing date for applications is Friday, January 26th. For further information, see [here](#).

As part of ongoing efforts to enhance communication and collaboration among representatives of EAPC national associations, the EAPC are currently establishing a dedicated WhatsApp Group.

## Registration Form

Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services', in conjunction with their Education and Research centre is offering a 12-week programme for professional development resulting in the Dublin Certificate in Evidence-Based Palliative Care! Whether you're new to specialist palliative care or working in non-specialist areas, this course provides an exciting opportunity to boost your confidence and skills. Adopting a blended learning approach, the program covers crucial topics such as pain management, respiratory symptoms, gastrointestinal symptoms, non-malignant conditions, palliative care emergencies, communication, ethical issues, and end-of-life care. Commencing on Tuesday 30th January, register or enquire for further details below.

[Register Here](#)

Where: Hotel Riu Plaza, The Gresham Dublin

When: February 8th 2024, 8:30am

Email [admin@iapc.ie](mailto:admin@iapc.ie) to register today

## 'Ensuring Dignity: Ethical Reflections in Palliative Care'

### Programme

*Please note, there will be a short Q&A after each presentation*

**8:30-9:30am**

Registration & Poster Viewing

**9:30-9:45am**

Opening & Welcome

Dr. Claire Kruger Chairperson, Education and Research Forum

**9:45am**

**Presentation 1: Dr David Murphy**

'Venous Intervention for Swelling in Lower Limbs Secondary to Pelvic/Abdominal Cancer'

**Presentation 2: Ms Zhuangshuang Li**

'Exploring Chinese Diaspora Understanding and Experiences of Advance Care Planning: A Qualitative Study'

**Presentation 3: Mr Ciaran McAdam**

'Pharmacist-led deprescribing of potentially inappropriate medications for cancer patients in a specialist palliative care setting'

**Presentation 4: Dr Andrew Swanton**

'Pain amongst older people in Ireland - Insights from TILDA'

**Presentation 5: Dr Lauren Boland**

'EMPOWER: an Occupational Therapy self-management anxiety group programme for community based palliative care patients'

**10.45 - 11am**

Discussion Q & A

**11am - 11.25am**

Comfort break

Poster Viewing



11.25am

**Presentation 6 Dr Cian O Leary**

'Disease Progression and Survival in Patients with Advanced Cancer Receiving Cannabidiol Oil: A MEDCAN-1 Sub-Study'

**Presentation 7 Ms Siobhan Murphy**

'Devising an approach to evaluate Caru – A Programme to Support Care and Compassion at End-of-Life in Nursing Homes in Ireland'

**Presentation 8 Dr Anna Hayes**

'Use of Indwelling Pleural Drain In Patient with Recurrent Left sided Post Traumatic Hepatic Hydrothorax'

12.00 – 13:15pm

**Plenary Speaker: Dr Peter May**

Topic: 'Ready for the future? Projected palliative care needs, healthcare costs and outcomes among people aged over 50 in Ireland'

Research scientist focusing on economics of care for people with serious and life-limiting illness  
Q&A

13:15-14:15

**Lunch Break**

View Poster Presentations

14.15pm

**Presentation 9 Dr Jennifer Hayes**

'Does Simulation Have a Role to Play in End-of-Life Care Medical Education?'

**Presentation 10 Mrs Lisa McGirr**

'The creation of a novel interdisciplinary ambulatory model for community-based hospice patients'

**Presentation 11 Dr Noreen O Shea**

'Defining the palliative care needs of people with Tauopathies: A Cross-sectional Study'

14:55–15:10pm

Discussion Questions & Answers

15.10 – 15.20pm

Closing Remarks

**Dr Hannah Linane**, Chair, IAPC

15.20 – 15.40pm

**Forever Young Choir**

A singing group created by and for older people supported by CDETB

15.40–15:50pm

**Announcement of Poster Winners**

15:50–16:00pm

**Announcement of Platform Presentation Winners**

**Dates for your Diary:**

**22nd-28th January 2024:** National Grief Awareness Week, to register for Webinars and find further information, please follow this [link](#)

**23rd January - 14th March:** Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR), Online in conjunction with St. Francis Hospice. Further information can be found [here](#).

**24th January 2024:** Trinity College Dublin Micro-Credential Course, Enacting Human Rights in the Lives of Adults with Intellectual Disabilities, see [here](#) for further information.

and Research Seminar: 'Ensuring dignity: Ethical reflections in Palliative Care'. Register today by emailing [admin@iapc.ie](mailto:admin@iapc.ie)

**15th February 16:00pm - 17:00pm:** IAPC Virtual Workshop 1.

Topic: 'Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Act: implications for palliative care?'

Chair: Dr. Thomas Heffernon

Presenter: Prof. Shaun O' Keeffe, Consultant Geriatrician and Honorary Personal Professor

Registration forms to be sent to [admin@iapc.ie](mailto:admin@iapc.ie)

**22nd February 16:00pm-17:00pm:** IAPC Virtual Workshop 2.

Topic: Assisted dying, how can we protect our specialty?

Chair: Esther-Ruth Beck

Presenter: Dr. Matthew Dore, Palliative care consultant, Northern Ireland Hospice.

Registration forms to be sent to [admin@iapc.ie](mailto:admin@iapc.ie)

**27th Feb 2024:** Irish Hospice Foundation's Forum on End of Life. In person, Royal College of Physicians, Dublin. Register [here](#)

**29th February 16:00-17:00pm:** IAPC Virtual Workshop 3

Topic: Palliative Care, Dignity and Intellectual Disability

Chair: Barbara Sweeney,

Presenter: Dr Owen Doody, registered Intellectual Disability nurse

Registration forms to be sent to [admin@iapc.ie](mailto:admin@iapc.ie)

**12th-15th March 2024:** Course - Advanced European bioethics "Suffering, Death and Palliative Care". In-person, Nijmegen, the Netherlands. See [here](#) for further information.

**25th March 2024:** Abstract Submissions closed for the 2024 European Grief Conference. Further information about submissions is available [here](#).



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reserved.

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