



MATER

Volume 7

No.1

NEWS

May 2011

UPDATE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

Welcome to the May edition of MaterNews.

As you are no doubt aware this year sees the celebration of the hospital's 150th anniversary of its opening on September 24th 1861. In January, it was a great honour for us to welcome President Mary McAleese to formally launch our celebration, a truly memorable event. Gerard O' Rourke our longest serving member of staff presented President McAleese with 2 gifts. The first was our Mater publication titled 'Conservation of Eccles Street'. Read Sr Margherita's article to find out more. A 'Mater Rose' was the second gift and you can read more about this unique rose specially hybridised to mark this special year later in this publication.

The Happy Heart Campaign (February), our annual Art Exhibition (March) and our participation in an entertaining staff hike in the Wicklow hills (April) were some of the highlights of our anniversary celebrations to date. Events outstanding include a 2-day conference titled 'Compassion in Healthcare', in May, open to all staff. Find out more in Sr Margherita's article. June is very busy with a Family Fun Day (Saturday 11th June from 1pm to 6pm), Nurse's Week and the Mater Nurse's Reunion (Saturday June 18th). All staff are invited to our Staff Gala Ball, Friday September 23rd, in the Convention Centre. Please inform your retired colleagues. On September 24th a commemorative mass will take place in the Pro-Cathedral with the Palestrina Choir. Our anniversary celebrations close with a Christmas party in December and a Foundation Day Mass in the Mater chapel. So you have lots of events to look forward to, mark in your diary and watch out for updates!

The perilous economic environment continues to have a serious impact on the hospital's financial position. In response to the challenges presented, the hospital has implemented a cost reduction and income generation programme totalling €12m. This is required to bridge the gap in funding provided to the hospital in 2011. So the mantra remains the same – we must continue to work together to reduce our costs if we are all to continue to serve our patients effectively and efficiently. We will continue to press the HSE corporate and regional representatives around other aspects of the overall deficit.

Clinical governance and effectiveness, enhancing patient care is at core of our hospital ethos. We had a very successful inaugural protected Clinical Audit Afternoon in March. Professor Jim Egan's article gives an overview of this event.

In March fundraising representatives from the Care Trust visited our hospital. In the current fiscal climate funds provided by the Care Trust are important and

welcome. Read Senan's article to find out more.

We were also delighted to welcome the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Gerry Breen, to meet and greet patients in the Coronary Care Unit.

I would like to congratulate Anne-Marie Keown on her appointment as Head of Clinical Services and wish her every success in her new challenging role.

Our hospital is committed to a National HSE & State Claims Agency Pilot Project to continue to promote our culture of open disclosure to patients and their next-of-kin. In March a safety culture survey was carried out. Watch out for updates and feedback.

Our Outpatient Referrals Management Module is live in PatientCentre (rolling out to each specialty). This module allows us to scan referral letters (GP, other hospitals, etc) against the patient's record and track all activity associated to this referral (dates / times from the time the letter is received to the appointment being booked). This has been a major project for staff within our Medical Records and Information Management Services Departments - thank you.

The Daffodil Cancer Information Centre opened in our hospital. Aileen's article gives staff an insight into this service.

The launch of our new public website in March is highlighted in Ciarán's article.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend congratulations to our former colleague Frances Fitzgerald TD on her appointment as Minister for Children. For a number of years Frances worked as a Senior Social Worker in our Child Guidance Department. We wish her every success in her new role.

Have you attended your annual mandatory hand hygiene session? Check out Maternet for upcoming dates.

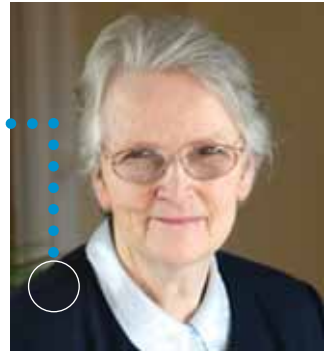
At the end of December we bade a fond farewell to many colleagues who availed of the early retirement or voluntary redundancy packages. I would like to thank them for their contribution to our hospital and extend to them our good wishes.

Brian Conlan, Chief Executive



MISSION EFFECTIVENESS

Sr. Margherita Rock,
Director of Mission Effectiveness



The 2011 Programme for Mission Effectiveness is under way. Lunchtime talks, in conjunction with our Health Promotion Department, are well received by staff. On May 18th, Breffni McGuinness (Irish Hospice Foundation) will address staff about 'Grief in the Workplace'.

run over 2 days (Thursday May 12th and Friday May 13th) with speakers of national and international note in attendance to address the topic of compassion and its place in our healthcare system today. **Places still available so book now.**

Our autumn / winter series of talks (starting in September) will be posted on MaterNet - watch out for updates!

One of the highlights of the Mission Effectiveness year is our upcoming conference on 'Compassion in Healthcare'. Open to all staff it will

Thank you for your support.



Conference Programme	
9:00	Registration
9:30	Opening of the Conference
10:00	Dr. Eileen O'Connell - The Role of the Nurse in the 21st Century
10:30	Dr. Eileen O'Connell - The Role of the Nurse in the 21st Century
11:00	Dr. Eileen O'Connell - The Role of the Nurse in the 21st Century
11:30	Dr. Eileen O'Connell - The Role of the Nurse in the 21st Century
12:00	Lunch
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Don't forget to contact us to buy your copy of the publication 'Conservation of Eccles Street' (€25), which showcases the houses on Eccles Street. Written by Sr Margherita Rock RSM, Róisín Hanley B.Arch, RIAI, RIBA, MUBC, CEDR, DipArb in association with Florence Grehan Manager Clinical Photography / Media Services & Diabetic Retinopathy Screening.

For further information contact
Sr. Margherita Rock, Director of Mission Effectiveness
Telephone: 803 2207
Email: srmrock@mater.ie

MATER WELCOMES DAFFODIL CENTRE

Aileen McHale-Iliffe, Cancer Information Service Nurse



The Daffodil Centre, the Irish Cancer Society's new cancer information, advice and support centre has recently opened in the Mater (to the right inside the main entrance).

Healthcare professionals with questions or who want information booklets, leaflets or fact sheets for their patients are also very welcome to call.

When you're living with cancer, having the right kind of information, advice, support and someone to talk when you need it is essential. In the Daffodil Centre time is taken to listen and to answer questions or any concerns people may have. A broad range of cancer information is available in the centre and guided Internet access to reliable cancer information and cancer related health promotion is available.

I am supported in my role of managing the centre by a group of specially trained volunteers. We look forward to meeting you.

The centre is open to anyone affected by cancer or with cancer worries i.e. patients, visitors or staff. **No appointment is necessary** just drop by, email or ring the Daffodil Centre to ask questions or to talk in confidence.

The centre is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

For further information contact Aileen McHale-Iliffe,
Cancer Information Service Nurse.
Tel: 01 854 5278 Email: daffodilcentremater@irishcancer.ie

IMPORTANCE OF WORKPLACE FRIENDSHIPS!

By Ruth Buckley, Health Promotion Co-ordinator

Our Staff Wellness Day held on April 21st was once again a resounding success - thanks to you!

Finally, I would like to extend my personal gratitude to the organisers and to you the staff for attending.

In line with this years theme staff celebrated and embraced the importance of workplace friendships for health and well-being. Being able to talk about what is bothering you is so important, it's part of coping and workplace friends often understand more because they work with you.

For further information or to contribute ideas for future activities contact Ruth Buckley, Health Promotion Co-ordinator.
Telephone: 01 803 4509 Email: healthpromotion@mater.ie



LET US HELP YOU KEEP UP-TO-DATE

Angela Rice, Head of Library and Information Services

Many staff already avail of our current awareness services. We maintain mailing lists for the following alerting services:

King's Fund Current Awareness Service: <http://bit.ly/dj5YBR>

provides information on current healthcare policy issues from a wide range of material. Weekly.

Clinical Governance eBulletin from RCN: <http://bit.ly/hKr3Xt> lists resources in the areas of quality improvement, patient safety, leadership, evidence-based practice and e-health. Fortnightly.

Cochrane Journal Club: <http://bit.ly/aK7byF> introduces a recent Cochrane review, provides background information and discussion questions. Powerpoint slides and podcasts are also available. Monthly.

Behind the Headlines: <http://bit.ly/gnv0W8> analyses the evidence behind selected health stories that appear in the media.

Journal Tables of Contents Would you like us to send you tables of contents of your favourite journals as they are published? We have mailing lists for over 60 journals including BMJ, Lancet, New England Journal of Medicine, AORN, Physiotherapy.

Materlib <http://www.twitter.com/materlib> Follow us on Twitter for links to useful resources and information.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for any of these services, please send an email to arice@mater.ie listing the alert(s) - or journal titles in the case of tables of contents - you would like to receive regularly.

Are we missing anything? Are there any other updates you would like to receive? Please let us know.

For further information contact Angela Rice, Head of Library and Information Service.
Telephone: 803 2241
Email: arice@mater.ie

CHECK OUT MATER WEBSITE

www.mater.ie

Ciarán Walsh, Web Developer



On March 1st our new Mater public website (www.mater.ie) was launched with over 200 staff in attendance.

Since our launch we have had over 9,000 unique visitors to www.mater.ie from all over the world.

Our new website www.mater.ie has been completely redesigned and rewritten so that all content is up-to-date, accurate and accessible.

Features of the website include:

- Full integration with Google Maps
- Send an eCard form
- Change appointment form
- Feedback form
- Events calendar
- Careers sub site
- Full directory of services
 - Clinics A – Z
 - Consultants A – Z
 - Departments A - Z
 - Wards A- Z

So don't forget to check out www.mater.ie

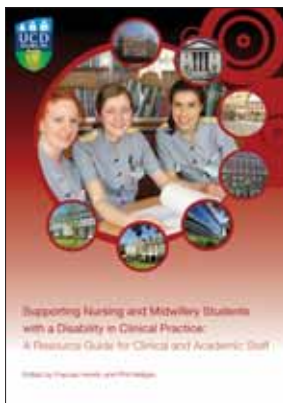
For further information, to upload content or for training contact Ciarán Walsh, Web Developer Information Management Services Department.
Telephone: 01 803 2333 Email: walshc@mater.ie



GRADUATION 2010

Ciara Dowling,
Clinical Placement Co-ordinator

Congratulations to our UCD Nursing Students who graduated December 13th 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. A Mass was celebrated in our hospital chapel and included a blessing of the graduates' hands. A presentation of hospital badges and a reception for the students, parents and families followed in the Pillar Room. On behalf of the graduates a sincere thank you to all hospital staff who supported the students over the past 4 years. We wish the new graduates every success in their future career.



DID YOU KNOW?

Guidelines titled 'Supporting Nursing And Midwifery Students With A Disability In Clinical Practice' were launched at a UCD conference in March.

Developed in partnership with UCD, the Association for Higher Education Access and Disability (AHEAD) and UCD affiliated hospitals these guidelines facilitate students with disabilities by giving them equal opportunities and support during clinical placement. They are a vital resource for staff involved in student nurse undergraduate education. Copies of the guidelines were distributed to all clinical areas.

LAUNCH OF UNIQUE PATIENT DROP-IN INFORMATION CENTRE

Professor Tim Lynch, Consultant Neurologist & Sharon Harris, Administrator

Coinciding with International Brain Awareness Week, the Dublin Neurological Institute (DNI) at the Mater Hospital opened its newest facility, the Patient Drop-In Information Centre based in 57 Eccles Street. This is a unique new service, whereby patients, family members and carers of those with a neurological diagnosis can avail of this free-of-charge information facility. The centre has information and literature available so people can educate themselves about neurological conditions and there are also volunteers on hand to help patients to find out what services are available to them.

Ireland AM, TV3 presenter Sinead Desmond joined Professor Tim Lynch, Consultant Neurologist and Clinical Director and the DNI team to officially launch this new facility.

"The opening of this Drop-In Centre is a further step in developing the DNI as a centre of excellence in clinical neuroscience and neurology," Prof Lynch said. "The development of this Institute would not have been possible without the generous support of the Irish public and the Mater Foundation, who fundraise on our behalf on an annual basis. We are absolutely delighted with this latest initiative."



GABRIEL MEETS STAFF A LAUNCH TO REMEMBER!

Diarmuid Ó Coimín, End-of-Life Care Coordinator

Since the deadline for our last publication Ireland’s Cultural Ambassador, Gabriel Byrne (Irish actor, film director and film producer, writer and audio book narrator) launched 2 exciting initiatives to support us in delivering care to patients at End-Of-Life (EOL). He met, thanked and encouraged us all to continue working to improve EOL care.

“Death and dying is an experience that touches the lives of all staff either personally or professionally,” Gabriel Byrne said. “We know that so many people die in acute hospitals but that most would choose to die in their own homes. Every member of staff has a role in good EOL care. The friendly face at reception, the porter who takes the patient for more tests, the consultant who has to break the bad news, the cleaner who is engaged in conversation with a patient who is trying to come to terms with what they have been told, the nurse who knows the patient’s worries and fears and the social worker who invites families to a memorial service a year later.”



The 2 initiatives launched included:

1. Final Journeys - Communications Training: Gabriel encouraged staff to attend this 1 day programme to assist staff meet the daily challenges they face in communicating with patients and their families during a difficult and vulnerable time. **Would you like to attend this course? Contact Aileen Gill, Nurse Tutor.**

Telephone: 803 2714 or Email: agill@mater.ie

2. ‘When You Experience A Bereavement’: An information leaflet, providing practical advice at an intensely personal and difficult time for relatives. Leaflets were distributed to all ward areas and are available from the Chaplaincy Department or you can download from MaterNet.

If you have any comments, ideas, questions or issues in relation to EOL care please contact Diarmuid Ó Coimín, End-of-Life Care Coordinator. Telephone: 803 2117 Email: docoimin@mater.ie

COUNTDOWN STARTED NIMIS GOING LIVE

Mandy Lewis, Principal Physicist and NIMIS Project Manager

The HSE National Integrated Medical Imaging System (NIMIS) project is investing over €40m in providing state of the art electronic radiology systems for 35 Irish hospitals.

NIMIS will allow doctors to electronically view their patient's diagnostic images quickly and easily regardless of location. NIMIS will go live in the Mater week commencing 15th August 2011.

Our project team continue to work tirelessly integrating NIMIS into our hospital, in collaboration with HSE and McKesson (chosen vendor) teams, enhancing the product to suit our requirements.

Patient Centre will remain the access point for image review, with additional functionality such as orthopaedic templates or review of images acquired at other NIMIS centres, available through the NIMIS web application.

The national NIMIS team are collecting statistics for a metrics study to examine the impact of NIMIS. With this end in mind information on NCHD resources dedicated to imaging is being collated. **Are you an NCHD? Log on to <http://radequip/NCHDSurvey.aspx> to complete this short survey.**

Clinicians will require a USERNAME (linked to their IMC number) to access any patient imaging carried out at other NIMIS centres. **Are you a consultant or NCHD? Enter your IMC number into Patient Centre to set up your NIMIS user account in advance of our go-live date.**

For more information go to <http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/newscentre/NIMIS/>

For further information contact Mandy Lewis, Project Manager Telephone: 803 2898 Email: mlewis@mater.ie Siobhan Scanlon, PACS Manager. Telephone: 803 5235

THE CARE TRUST

Senan Mullins, Chief Executive



We in the Care Trust are delighted, through our fundraising activities, to be associated with the excellent work of the Mater. It may come as a surprise to many but we have in fact been fundraising for the Mater for almost 25 years.

In former days we operated the 'Mater Hospital Pools' and today we still have a cohort of contributor agents who collect from established contributors. Nowadays, a team of dedicated fundraising representatives call on residences throughout the 26 counties to sign up new contributors on direct debits.

The motivation and commitment of our fundraisers on the doorstep was boosted and enhanced by a recent tour of the Mater, observing some of the excellent work of Mater staff first hand. We look forward to future tours.

The Care Trust conducts 3 draws every month, as a reward to our existing and new contributors. Each draw gives our contributors the opportunity to win a Ford Fiesta and generous cash prizes.



For more information on our fundraising initiatives or if you have any questions please contact us directly.

Email thecaretrust@give.ie or check out <http://www.thecaretrust.ie/>

LORD MAYOR OF DUBLIN MEETS MATER STAFF



From Left to Right: Brian Conlan (CEO), Gerry Breen Lord Mayor of Dublin, Rosemarie Cassidy (Acting CNM3) and Eric Reyes (CNM2)

DID YOU KNOW?

The Patroness of the Mercy Congregation is Our Lady of Mercy who is also Queen of Heaven.

The following is an explanation of the symbolism of each of the components of the Mercy Crest.

The Crown bearing the monogram incorporating the letters **MR** stands for '**Maria Regina**' (Mary, Queen)

The **Seven Bars** signify the **seven gifts of the Holy Spirit** and remind us of Catherine McAuley's mission for her congregation (seven spiritual and seven corporal works of mercy).



Four of the bars are red, connecting with the flag of King James of Aragon who as co-founder with St. Peter Nolasco of the medieval Order of Ransom of Mercy and whose mission was the ransom of captives, granted the privilege of adopting his ensign as the special badge of the order from which Catherine McAuley got the inspiration for the distinguishing title for her congregation, the Sisters of Mercy.

The three green bars represent the special works undertaken by the Mercy Congregation (service of the poor, sick and uneducated).

The **Celtic Cross** indicates the Irish origin of the congregation.

The **Anchor** testifies to Catherine McAuley's unwavering faith and trust in God.

The motto '**Misericordia**' meaning 'Mercy' signifies the special spirit, which Catherine McAuley wished to identify as the spirit of the congregation.



MATER ROSE

This unique and beautiful specimen has taken 8 years to reach its current state of maturity. Renowned rose breeder Colin Dickson of Newtonards hybridised the 'Mater Rose' specifically for our hospital. The rose was named the 'Mater Rose' to mark and celebrate our 150th Anniversary. President Mary McAleese at the formal launch of our 150th celebrations was presented with a 'Mater Rose'.

"This rose is a symbolic representation of the Mater hospital. The rootstock represents our long, enduring and stoic service to the nation over the last 150 years and into the future. The Mater hospital has grown and proliferated surviving significant historical events, economic hardship, times of abundance, social upheaval and through many achievements of our proud nation," Brian Conlan CEO said. "The stem exemplifies our growth, strength, professionalism, outstanding ability to research, develop and foster excellence as the premier acute teaching hospital on the island of Ireland. The leaves signify our energetic unity while encompassing our diversity and multiplicity. The flower portrays to us the beauty of our work together as healers and patients alike."

To reserve your Mater Rose (cost €25)
Email: mater150@mater.ie
Limited stock available. All roses are certified.

CLINICAL GOVERNANCE & EFFECTIVENESS AT THE CORE OF OUR HOSPITAL ETHOS

Professor Jim Egan, Consultant Respiratory Physician



On March 1st our Inaugural Clinical Audit afternoon took place with a format of parallel sessions structured within a framework of clinical directorates. Topics discussed included cancer, anaesthesia and intensive care medicine, acute medicine, neuro science, cardiovascular, pathology and radiology. In excess of 180 consultants and NCHDs attended and the feedback was extremely positive and constructive. Going forward the format is likely to change based on participant feedback, in particular there were requests to have the opportunity to hear audits from across a number of sectors within the hospital.

I would like to extend my gratitude to my colleagues Dr John McCaffrey, Mr Eamon Brazil, Prof Declan Sugrue, Prof Tim Lynch, Mr Ashley Poynton, Dr Fidelma Flanagan, Dr Niall Mulligan, Dr Brian Marsh and Dr Harry Frizell for chairing sessions. The Audit Operational Group (Regina Prenderville, Nóirín Bannon, Florence Grehan, Breda Doyle, Deirdre Hyland, Mich Vartuli, Jenny Clarke and Crona Bolger) facilitated the smooth running of this event – thank you!

Of particular importance is that 2 CME credits were awarded to clinical staff for attending, fundamental for consultant accreditation in the future and more specifically NCHD training.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

I look forward to seeing you at our next hospital clinical audit event on **Wednesday 22nd June 2011**. A programme will be circulated in the near future. Watch out for updates!

MATER CAMPUS HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT

Dara Carroll, Arts and Environment Manager

Progress is continuing on the construction of the new adult hospital development. Structural work for levels -2 to 8 is complete with construction of the Phase 1A Level 8 building well underway. Block work, erection of partitions and mechanical and electrical works are ongoing and the façade of the building is almost complete. The North Circular Road entrance lobby is currently being built. The contractor, John Sisk and Son are maintaining their programme for handover of the building to the hospital in Spring 2012.



MCHD continues to hold regular meetings on quality control and submittal reviews with the JSS team and Mater user groups. A process of planning for the smooth transfer of personnel and assets to the new hospital has commenced. This planning brings together hospital policy decisions, business planning, equipping requirements and communications.



MCHD is also liaising with the Children’s Hospital of Ireland design team and the Railway Procurement Agency on their respective programmes. Following the granting of the Railway Order for Metro North last year, the RPA tendered for enabling works at the Mater site in February 2011.

(8)

President Mary McAleese Launches Mater's 150th Celebrations



HOSPITAL HYGIENE

Mairead Mulhern,
Hygiene Services Standards Co-ordinator

In January St Theresa's ward received a Gold Standard Award (equates to 95.95%) at the Irish Accommodation Services Institute (IASI) awards.

The IASI hosts accommodation awards annually and was initially set up to primarily focus on issues pertaining to the hotel industry. Over the years (since 2003) healthcare sector members have become involved. Mary Mulligan, Household Services Supervisor pioneered our hospital's participation in this competition.

The IASI undertook a very comprehensive audit, which included general condition, appearance of the environment, cleanliness, hand hygiene, waste management, equipment and laundry. Other areas including public toilets, cleaner's storeroom, staff breakout area and corridors leading to and from these areas and our hospital entrance were also audited.

This is a fantastic achievement, congratulations and well done to all the staff involved!

DID YOU KNOW?

Previous IASI award winners in our hospital include:

- St Theresa's ward in 2010
- St Bernard's ward in 2009
- St Agnes's ward in 2008
- Our Lady's ward in 2007
- Heart / Lung Transplant ward in 2006
- St Vincent's ward in 2005



St Theresa's Ward 2010 Gold Standard Award Winners
Standing From Left to Right: Rasa Masaitiene (Noon Services Operative), Sarah Roche (Staff Nurse), Paula Allison (CNM 1), Dolores Coughlan (CNM 2), Mary Mulligan (Household Services Supervisor), Valsamma Kvv (Staff Nurse) and Violeta Jasiuneviciene (Noon Services Operative)
Seated From Left to Right: Kathleen Cully (Household Services), Gemma Hamilton (Staff Nurse), Sandra Mc Cabe (Staff Nurse) and Emma Phoenix (Household Services)



St Bernard's Ward 2009 Gold Standard Award Winners

INNOVATIVE DRUG SAFETY INITIATIVES

Maria Creed, Drug Safety Facilitator

In response to local, national and international incidents and publications our Drug Safety Committee was involved in a number of hospital wide drug safety initiatives, in 2010. These include but are not limited to:

- A 'Safe Insulin Use' audit referencing best practice guidelines produced by the Irish Medication Safety Network;
- Root cause analysis of all drug allergy variances reported over one month;
- Work on 'Guidelines for the Safe Use of Neuromuscular Blocking Agents';
- Establishment of a multidisciplinary 'Epidural Working Group' reviewing all aspects of safe epidural use;
- Participation in a multidisciplinary 'Electrolyte Working Group' producing policies on all aspects of concentrated IV electrolyte storage, ordering and use;
- Introduction of a dedicated 'Day Case Drug Chart';
- Piloting a new 'Nutritional Chart';
- Reviewing drug storage in the new build in collaboration with MCHD;

- Provision of 3 half-day sessions on 'Prescribing Skills' to UCD medical undergraduates;
- Production and circulation of safety alerts electronically and in hard copy;
- Participation in the inaugural Irish Medication Safety Network (IMSN) conference titled 'Networking for Safety' in Farnleigh House with Ciaran Meegan, Head of Pharmacy Services and IMSN Chairman and myself presenting;
- Presenting at the biannual medical Grand Rounds on Medication Safety; and
- Ensuring Drug Safety Committee representation nationally via the National Medication Safety Forum, Irish Medication Safety Network www.imsn.ie and the Implementation Group for the Patient Safety Commission.

We hope to continue to build on these safety initiatives and with the support of all key stakeholders to continue to promote safe medication practices in our hospital.

ADVANCED MUSCULOSKELETAL ASSESSMENT SERVICE - Mater Physiotherapists Take The Lead

Dervilla Danaher, Acting Physiotherapy Manager

Our physiotherapy musculoskeletal triage team launched the Mater's Musculoskeletal Assessment Clinic (Mater MAC). For outpatients referred to our hospital this innovative service fast tracks their access to assessment and treatment.

Initially established in 2008 as part of Mr Ashley Poynton's orthopaedic service it provides accelerated access to assessment for patients presenting with low back and neck pain. A Spinal Review Clinic was set up recently, as part of the Mater Smithfield Rapid Injury Clinic initiative.

Mater senior physiotherapists recently successfully completed the 1st national advanced musculoskeletal practice programme for physiotherapists.

In line with developments within the HSE Directorate of Clinical Strategy and Programmes, the Mater MAC programme supports the changing roles within physiotherapy, the wider health service and promotes improved patient access plus interdisciplinary working within healthcare in Ireland.

The commitment of the staff involved in setting up and maintaining this patient focused service cannot be underestimated, congratulations to all involved.



From Left to Right: Tina Curran (Senior Physiotherapist), Breon White (Senior Physiotherapist), Anne-Marie Keown (Head of Clinical Services), Dervilla Danaher (Acting Physiotherapy Manager), Maire Brid Casey (Senior Physiotherapist) and Sarah Kavanagh (Senior Physiotherapist).

NURSES TAKE CHALLENGES HEAD ON AND GRADUATE

Paula Briscoe, Staff Nurse

It is always great for the Mater to celebrate and highlight our ongoing commitment to education. Congratulations to the nurses pictured below (9 in total) on their successful completion of our clinical professional development course in Oncology / Haematology and their graduation in November 2010.

It was a challenging few months of training and studying for this group. Learning new skills and advancing one's knowledge is always demanding. A testament to the calibre of students involved is that they remained positive and dedicated throughout. As their facilitator I know that they will make what is a difficult journey for our patients somewhat easier.

The management and staff in the clinical area were so supportive, their assistance, support, availability to answer questions and to deliver informative presentations should be acknowledged. Elaine Hanley, Specialist Co-ordinator / Nurse Tutor deserves a special mention for all her hard work and for obtaining An Bord Altranais Category 1 approval for this course.

Finally on a personal note I would like to thank the graduates for their enthusiasm and dedication. Good luck in your future careers.



Back Row Left to Right: Paula Briscoe, Brid Whelan, Gillian Gleeson, Barbara Barry, Mary Day, Emer Hannigan and Olivia Merrigan. Middle Row Left to Right: Elizabeth Karimi and Helen Hancock. Front Row Left to Right: Rosie Cassidy, Andrea Kelly, Aimee Donnelly, Emma McKinney, Colette Hussey and Elaine Hanley



Congratulations to **Anne-Marie Keown** appointed Head of Clinical Services

MATER REACHING OUT TO LOCAL PRIMARY CARE SERVICES

Dr Austin O Carroll, Chairperson of Safetynet and Programme Director of the North Dublin GP Training Programme



The Mater is situated in what could claim to be the most socio-economically deprived area in the country (when taking into account deprivation indices, concentration of homelessness and drug usage) and ironically an area that has the lowest GP to patient ratios (1:2500 compared to 1:1800 nationally and a recommended ratio of 1:1500).

From my perspective the story of the Mater 's involvement in 3 projects concerned with the development of primary care services to redress the health inequalities endemic in the north inner city community is as follows:

1. Safetynet was founded in 2005 to network primary health care professionals working with homeless people. It now provides specialised primary care and drug treatment services in health clinics operating from 12 different homeless hostels / food halls or drop ins in Dublin, Cork and Galway. Safetynet provides 12 -15,000 consultations per annum to over 2,500 homeless patients. As a Board Member and Chair of the Governance Subcommittee Dr John McInerney, Consultant in the Mater's Emergency Department has been central to the development of quality initiatives. Additionally he provides emergency consultations and telephone advice for homeless people attending Safetynet's services.
2. The second project started with a telephone call. 'Would you like a bus?'....'A what?'....'A bus!'. Yes Dr Dermot Power, Consultant Geriatrician and Director of Postgraduate Education in the Mater offered an old mobile outreach clinic. Now known as the 'Bus' it was dormant in St Mary's clinic and was about to be decommissioned. The 'Bus' was refurbished to the tune of €40,000 (raised through charity and kick started by Dr Power). It is now the

lynch pin for a project jointly coordinated by Safetynet Primary Care Services for Homeless People, Dublin Simon Rough Sleepers Team, Chrysalis Project and the Order of Malta whereby GP trainees go out twice a week to provide out of hours services every Thursday night to homeless people and every Wednesday night to street working women. Clients can avail of full primary care services including blood testing (in the near future cervical and STI screening) plus needle exchange. The service is so successful it is intended to extend it to other nights.

3. Agreement was reached with the HSE to set up what is not only the 1st GP training programme on the north side of Dublin but the 1st GP training programme internationally to specifically focus on training GP's to work in areas of deprivation. American research has shown that training undergraduate medical students to work in socio-economically disadvantaged communities increases the chances that they will end up in such settings. UCD (via Prof Bill Powderly Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics, Head of UCD School of Medicine and Medical Science) in close collaboration with the The Department of Postgraduate Medical Education in the Mater (via Dr Dermot Power) were instrumental in supporting this initiative, which is now housed in the Catherine McAuley Centre. It has just accepted its 2nd intake of twelve GP trainees. It also provides trainees to fill 6 SHO posts in the Mater hospital.

It is a great credit to the Mater, UCD and the individual personnel who have been involved in enabling the Mater reach out to its local primary care services. If we are truly going to be in a position to address the health needs and inequalities inherent within the north Dublin community such cooperation needs to be fostered and nurtured.

MATER PHYSICISTS RUNNING OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Dr Lynn Gaynor, Medical Physicist & Brenda Byrne, Senior Medical Physicist

November 24th 2010 saw the arrival of 20 enthusiastic physics teachers to our Radiology Department to see the science that underpins the work of a medical physicist. This outreach event was hosted by medical physics in conjunction with the Institute Of Physics in Ireland. The evening started with a talk about the applications of physics in medicine, topics discussed included imaging with x-rays and gamma rays, the use of lasers in theatre and ultraviolet and visible light therapies employed in dermatology. A tour of the Radiology Department followed, where the teachers had the opportunity to see equipment in ultrasound, x-ray, interventional fluoroscopy, CT and nuclear medicine.

The medical physics team have volunteered at a number of



outreach programmes in recent years promoting overall awareness and education on the use of physics in medicine. Programmes have included school visits and participation at the Institute of Physics stand at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition.

The support of Dr Patrick Kenny, Dr John Murray and Ann Dolan is gratefully acknowledged. We would also like to thank the Institute Of Physics in Ireland for a donation made to the Mater Foundation Breast Cancer Appeal.

FUNDRAISING FOR THE MATER

Mary Moorhead, Chief Executive The Mater Foundation

2010 was an extremely tough year for fundraising however as always our supporters gave so generously.

Overall we raised a fantastic €3.9 million for services within the Mater hospital.

Here is just a sample of what was funded in 2010:

The Mater Neurological Appeal raised over €459,000, which will be allocated to The Dublin Neurological Institute on Eccles Street;

The Mater Heart Appeal raised over €582,000 for The Family Heart Screening Clinic. This clinic screens direct family members who have lost a loved one to Sudden Adult Death Syndrome (SADS); and

The Mater Breast Cancer Appeal raised over €701,000 for the BreastHealth Mater unit. A proportion of these funds will be used to purchase a new MRI machine.

Through our annual Grants Appraisal Programme the following hospital projects were allocated funds in 2010:

- €200,000 towards the refurbishment of the Dialysis Unit;
- €40,900 to purchase an ultrasound machine in the Emergency Department; and
- €13,135.49 for a new bath hoist in St Vincent's Ward.

We are now also 'blogging' on a daily basis. To keep up to date



with our work check out www.materfoundation.ie or visit our facebook page www.facebook.com/materfoundation

The Mater Foundation this year, in recognition of the 150th anniversary celebrations are looking for a team of 150 ladies to take part in this year's Flora Women's Mini Marathon. If you can help mark this special occasion please contact us directly. Sign up NOW!

For more information contact the Mater Foundation. Telephone: 830 3482 Website: www.materfoundation.ie

On behalf of the Board, Executive and staff, I would like to acknowledge and extend our good wishes to the following staff on their retirements. Thank you for your outstanding contributions to this hospital over the years. We wish you health and happiness in your retirement.

Brian Conlan, Chief Executive

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|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Dr William Blunnie | Consultant Anaesthetist |
| Phil O'Neill | Head of Operations & Clinical Support |
| Margaret McCarthy | Director Centre For Nurse Education |
| Catherine Guihen | Assistant Director of Nursing |
| | Nurse Practice Development Unit |
| Andrew Conway | Psychologist |
| Finola Fahy | Freedom of Information Officer |
| Anne Dillon | Household Services Manager |
| Maureen Dempsey | Patient Accounts Supervisor |
| Fridolin Kerr | CNM2 |
| Mary O'Carroll | CNM2 |
| Joanne Duffy | Clinical Nurse Specialist |

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| Kathleen Dillon Malone | Staff Nurse |
| Triona Gilchrist | Phlebotomist |
| William Armstrong | Supplies Officer |
| Therese Martin | Household Services |
| Kathleen Glynn | Household Assistant |
| Denise Farrell | Administration |
| Adrienne Fox | Administration |
| Marie McCarthy | Administration |
| Patricia McCarthy | Administration |
| Barbara Walsh | Administration |
| Ellen McGlynn | Administration |



YOUR VOICE

If you have a question, suggestion or issue that you would like to put to Brian Conlan CEO please email yourvoice@mater.ie

When was the last time you checked MaterNet 'Latest News' and 'Events Calendar' sections <http://maternet/?>

Thank you to everyone who contributed and the Photography Department.