Dear Colleagues

As Christmas and the New Year are fast approaching I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the professional contribution and continued commitment you have provided throughout the year in the provision of patient care.

The requirement to demonstrate positive professional values is central to nursing and midwifery practice. Values such a kindness, compassion and empathy need to be evident in all our interactions with patients, families and colleagues.

Being able to show that the quality of care that you provide is important too and I would like to bring to your attention the national nursing & midwifery quality care-metrics project led by Ms Anne Gallen, Director of NMPDU, North West and supported by ONMSD staff around the country. A national governance group will underpin this initiative to enable its roll out across clinical services where Directors of Nursing/Midwifery have identified a demand. The project will establish seven work-streams and each stream will develop and achieve national agreement on the metrics and relevant indicators to be prioritised. A project officer in conjunction with their NMPDU Director will establish and agree a programme of work to support local implementation. The project will also secure alignment to the HSE Quality & Patient Safety Governance Framework. This is a wonderful initiative and I wish all involved every success and assure you of my full support.

We celebrate this time of year in many different ways according to our beliefs, cultures and traditions. I am particularly mindful of those of you who will be working over the Christmas and New Year period. I am looking forward to 2015 and wish you and yours a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a joyful New Year.

Yours sincerely

Dr Michael Shannon
Nursing & Midwifery Services Director
Assistant National Director, Clinical Strategy & Programmes Division HSE & Adjunct Professor UCD School of Nursing and Midwifery and Health Systems Fellow of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (FFNMRS1 ad eundem)
Medicinal Prescribing Update

To date 1,114 nurses and midwives have been funded by the ONMSD to undertake the education programmes currently provided by the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, Waterford Institute of Technology (in association with RCSI), University College Cork, University College Dublin, National University of Ireland Galway, University of Dublin, Trinity College and University of Limerick. A total of 177 health service providers (49 acute and 127 primary and continuing care) are supporting the introduction of medicinal product prescribing. The candidate and Registered Nurse Prescribers are from 106 different clinical areas.

The next education programmes are commencing in January 2015.

The number of Registered Nurse Prescribers has now increased to 767. We would like to congratulate all new Registered Nurse Prescribers, and wish them continued success in their prescribing practice.

RNP Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Days:
Four CPD days have been held this quarter, in the South, West, and Dublin Mid Leinster. Feedback from these days is always very positive, and all include presentations of case studies from RNPs and from different disciplines relating to prescribing. They offer a great opportunity to network and meet with colleagues. Note: All CPD days have Category 1 NMBI approval.

Date for your Diary:
- Psychiatric RNP CPD day: 30 January 2015, Radisson Hotel, Athlone. Theme of day will be “Deliberate Self Harm and Suicide”
- RNP CPD morning, Cavan General Hospital 29th January 9am to 1pm.

Educational Visit from Saimaa University of Applied Sciences, Finland:
A three day visit took place from 17th to 19th November of a group of candidate nurse prescribers and their lecturers from Finland. The three days were held in Waterford Institute of Technology and the INMO buildings.

Presentations were given by RNPs, Prescribing Site Coordinators, pharmacist, collaborating medical practitioners, the prescribing team, the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland, Programme Coordinator from RCSI, and the lead for Clinical Governance, HSE. A presentation was also given by the Finnish delegation on electronic prescribing. This visit marked the beginning of an international collaborative between Saimaa University and the ONMSD prescribing team.

News in Brief

Misuse of Drugs (Amendment) Regulations 2013:
- Including revision of Schedule 8 (controlled drugs nurses and midwives can prescribe) is currently under review.

Authority for Registered Nurse Prescribers to prescribe exempt (unauthorised) medicines:
- Currently RNPs cannot under legislation prescribe exempt (unauthorised) medicines. A briefing document has been developed by a group of RNP ANPs and the prescribing team, outlining the impact of this, and proposing reviewing legislation to extend this authority to RNPs.
- Meeting to progress this matter to be held in January 2015.

Strategy for Nurse Midwife Medicinal Product Prescribing:
- Review of medicinal product prescribing planned for 2015. Further information to follow.
- Capacity building of RNPs, with a particular focus on Clinical Nurse Midwife Specialist grade will continue in 2015.

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Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director
**Clinical Governance Group, HSE Home Birth Service**

A Clinical Governance Group (CGG) was established to identify the required systems and structures to support a model of excellence in clinical governance for the HSE Home Birth Service. The group’s terms of reference include developing policies, procedures and guidelines, review of eligibility criteria, a method of approval of self-employed community midwives for the service and a system for monitoring the HSE Home Birth Service.

**Progress to date**

Submissions were sought from stakeholders and added to the project plan. Phase one of the project saw the establishment of six sub-groups who were requested to develop a pathway of care, policies, procedures and guidelines, review eligibility criteria and document a method for the approval of home births for midwives. A quality assurance group has also been established to review the draft documents produced by each sub-group. The chair of each sub-group will present their drafts reports to the CGG on the 18th of December 2014.

**Future focus**

Each sub-group will update the draft documents following the considerations of the quality assurance group and the CGG. The agreed documents will go to the National Implementation Steering Group for home births for approval and sign off by the HSE. Phase two of the project will commence in January 2015 with the establishment of the final sub-group which will develop a method of monitoring and auditing the HSE Home Birth Service.

For further information contact: Siobhan Sweeney, Project Manager CGG, HSE Home Birth Service, St. Finbarr’s Hospital, Cork. siobhan.sweeney@hse.ie 087 2889499

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**Dates for Your Diary**

**Wednesday, 15th April 2015**

National Mental Health Nursing Conference - Dublin Castle

* A Vision for Psychiatric/ Mental Health Nursing – *A shared journey for mental health care in Ireland*

Theme: from Diagnosis....... to Dialogue

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**Tuesday 12th May 2015**

National Nursing and Midwifery Leadership and Innovation Summit - Dublin Castle:

*People Purpose Passion*

The National Leadership and Innovation Centre, Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director (ONMSD), Clinical Strategy and Programmes Division, Health Service Executive (HSE) will be hosting a *National Nursing and Midwifery Leadership and Innovation Summit: People Purpose Passion* on the 12th May 2015 in Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland. Further information will follow in the New Year.

The Summit will be hosted on International Nurses Day 12th May 2015, to celebrate how every day, nurses and midwives step forward, resolving emerging issues, embracing new technologies and accepting ever-changing roles in their professions.

Featuring both international and national experts, delegates will gain knowledge and insight in managing challenges faced by nurses and midwives in today’s complex healthcare environment. The Summit will also provide numerous opportunities for professional networking with a view to generating new and exciting ideas for improvement. Further information will follow in the New Year.

Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director
Improving Quality Exchange (IQX) Hub, HSELand

In March 2014 a sub-group of the Productive Ward: Releasing Time to Care™ (The Productive Ward) National Implementation Group (NIG) held an exploratory meeting with the HSELand team to propose the idea of developing an information repository and networking hub on HSELand for teams engaged in implementing the Productive Ward. The idea was met with enthusiasm. While brainstorming ideas for the new hub the NIG sub-group explored the potential and benefits of the hub becoming a collaborative venture with other national quality improvement initiatives, thus providing a cross-programme platform for sharing of information and networking of teams between programmes. The Productive Operating Theatre (TPOT), Clinical Microsystems (CMS), the RCSI Institute of Leadership, Leadership and Management Development Programme, and the National Quality Improvement Programme (within the Quality and Patient Safety Directorate) collectively realised the advantages and benefits and the Improving Quality Exchange (IQX) Hub was conceived.

The IQX Hub is very much a collaborative-venture and is supported by the Clinical Strategy & Programmes Directorate, the Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director (ONMSD), the Quality Improvement Division of the Quality and Patient Safety Directorate and the Acute Services Directorate.

The aim of the IQX Hub is to provide an information repository and exchange for teams involved in implementing quality improvement (QI) initiatives in the health services in Ireland. The Productive Ward initiative is the first QI section of the IQX to be developed; the remaining QI initiative sections will be developed and populated in the coming months.

Productive Ward teams from across the country attended a filming day in August 2014 in the RCSI, Sandyford, where they were filmed speaking about their Productive Ward experiences. St. Vincent’s University Hospital (SVUH), Dublin, agreed to become the IQX Hub Productive Ward showcase site and two days were spent in SVUH in September filming individuals from all disciplines in healthcare speaking about their experiences of implementing Productive Ward. All videos can be seen in the ‘In Action’ section of the IQX Hub (Productive Ward).

The IQX Hub will be managed and administered by a governance team, consisting of representatives from each of the hubs on the platform. All user uploads will go directly to the governance team before being uploaded onto the IQX Hub.

The IQX Hub will be available to all users via [http://www.hseland.ie/iqx](http://www.hseland.ie/iqx) and will be officially launched in mid-December 2014.

For further information contact: Miriam Bell, Project Officer, NMPD, HSE South at miriam.bell@hse.ie 051 848696 / 087 6300557
Certificate in Psychosocial Interventions for Mental Health Nurses

The Office of the Nursing & Midwifery Services Director identified in the Strategy ‘A Vision for Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing - a shared journey for Mental Health Care in Ireland (2012)’ the requirement for all psychiatric/mental health nurses to expand their scope of practice and develop additional skills and competencies to provide service users and their families with a greater range of psychological interventions and treatments including Psychosocial Interventions to deliver a Recovery orientated service. Psychosocial Interventions include a range of evidence based psychological, social and biological interventions which are delivered collaboratively with the person within a recovery perspective.

This programme of education (Certificate in Psychosocial Interventions for Nurses) was commissioned to support nurses to incorporate psychosocial interventions into their nursing practice. Those nurses who successfully complete it will be more confident, recovery orientated practitioners who can lead out on the reorientation of mental health services.

The Regional Centre for Nurse & Midwifery Education, Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown liaised closely with the Nursing & Midwifery Planning & Development Unit and the Nurse Practice Development Co-ordinators in the region to develop this programme. The programme is accredited with Quality & Qualifications Ireland (QQI) as a Special Purpose Award at Level 8 with 20 ECTS/ACCS Credits. It has Nursing & Midwifery Board of Ireland Special Purpose Award approval.

The programme was delivered by nurses with expertise in psychosocial interventions including James Lynch (Programme Co-ordinator & Solution Focused Brief Therapist), Maria McCarron (Cognitive Behaviour Therapist), Antoinette Hughes (CMHN), Anne Bolger (CNSp Liaison Psychiatry & Systemic Family Therapist) Imelda Noone (NPDC) & Con Buckley (RPN).

For further information contact: James Lynch (Nurse Tutor) Regional Centre for Nursing & Midwifery Education, Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15. james.lynch@hse.ie 01 6465457

Pictured are nurses who attended the ‘Certificate in Psychosocial Interventions for Nurses’ programme in the Regional Centre for Nurse & Midwifery Education, Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown.

Front Row (L to R): Laura O’Hanlon, Lauren Brennan, Lorna Conlon, Emma O’Connell, Patrick Mohan.

Middle Row (L to R): Rory Brennan, Paul Farrelly, Angela Sullivan, Melissa Hutton, Bernadette Nolan, Rebecca Keane.

Future Nurse Leadership Programme

Following the success of previous Future Nurse Leadership Programmes, 62 Assistant Directors of Nursing and Midwifery have commenced programmes in collaboration with the Institute of Leadership RCS. These programmes offer the opportunity to come together in a dynamic, learning and supportive environment to increase knowledge and capacity in key areas and also to debate the important challenges and opportunities facing both the professions and the health services. The initial individual assessment and development process is complete with the co design process set to begin in December. The overall aim of the programmes is to enhance leadership capacity while providing opportunity for the participants to interact, network and learn. Further programmes and events are planned to run throughout 2015/16 and will be advertised in due course.

Maternal and Child Health Communication Collaborative

In November staff and management of University of Limerick Hospitals joined the CMM’s/CNM’s and their teams to celebrate and showcase the success of the Maternal and Child Health Communication Collaborative. The Collaborative supported the implementation of the I-SBAR communication tool and was facilitated by the HSE National Quality Programme, RCPI and the National Leadership and Innovation Centre ONMSD. The Maternal and Child Health Directorate and University of Limerick Hospitals management team have committed to sustaining the learning post the collaborative by continuing to share their experiences, and supporting their teams to embed the use of I-SBAR into day to day practice.

Building Resilience Masterclasses

Masterclasses on ‘Building Resilience’ for the Leading in Uncertain Times facilitators are currently being delivered nationally. The first masterclass, held in Dublin on the 24th November was positively evaluated by the facilitators. The next masterclass will be held in Cork (15th December) and the final masterclass is planned for Galway early 2015. Sincere thanks to Anne Power, Wellness at Work/Equality Officer, HSE South and Mona Eames, Management Facilitator, Performance & Development Unit, HSE West, for their support and collaboration in delivering these masterclasses nationally. To date there are 68 Leading in Uncertain Times Facilitators registered to deliver this programme in services across the country. Further facilitator preparation (train the trainer) programmes are being planned to run in 2015 and will be advertised accordingly.

Supporting the Development of Nursing in Older Persons Services

Ms. Deirdre Lang has recently commenced as Director of Nursing for the Clinical programme for Older People (NCPOP) with an additional role with the Leadership & Innovation Centre in leadership development for nurses who care for older people.

Deirdre can be contacted at: Email: deirdrelang@rcsi.ie Tel: 087 7662466
**REACH - A Nursing and Midwifery Research capacity development programme.**

REACH stands for Research Excellence Across Clinical Healthcare and it is a nursing and midwifery research capacity development programme underway in Dublin North services. There has been several REACH research capacity building events for nurses and midwives in Dublin North services in recent months.

An inaugural REACH Nursing and Midwifery Clinical Research Conference took place on June 12th 2014. The conference hosted 150 attendees, two keynote speakers, 31 clinical nursing/ midwifery poster presenters and 15 oral presentations from nurses and midwives participating in REACH. Professor Anne Scott spoke on ‘The importance of nursing and the future of the Irish health service’. There were two awards for poster presenters.

- Staff from St. Mary’s Hospital Campus, Phoenix Park, were awarded first prize for their research entitled ‘Implementing & Supporting Holistic Continence Awareness (ISHCA): creating a new culture of continence awareness’.
- Second prize was awarded to Michelle Sheerin CNSp from Temple Street CUH for her research ‘Nurse’s Experiences of Death and Dying in the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit’.

REACH hosted a two day writing workshop on September 3rd and 4th 2014 with 25 nurses and midwives in attendance. The writing workshop was facilitated by Professor Graeme Smith, editor of the Journal of Clinical Nursing. Additionally, 37 nurses and midwives availed of an opportunity to advance knowledge in evidence based practice for nursing, literature searching, reference management and writing for publication through attending REACH Information skills study day, September 17th 2014. REACH is continuing to develop a research programme of excellence across clinical healthcare settings in Dublin North. Further REACH events are being planned for 2015 such as research methodology based seminars.

**For further information contact:** Linda Nugent, Post-doctoral researcher, NMPD, HSE, Dublin North.

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**Designing and Implementing a Clinical Supervision Framework for Nurses**

Over the past thirty years there has been much discussion about clinical supervision and its benefits within nursing practice, yet in 2014, it remains a process which is largely unknown and non-accessible for nurses throughout Ireland. In recognising the benefits clinical supervision can offer nurses, the Directors of Nursing and Midwifery in Cavan, Monaghan, Meath and Louth are working in co-operation with Nursing and Midwifery, Planning and Development (NMPD), to design and implement a clinical supervision framework for their nursing teams.

The clinical supervision format varies and can include one-to-one, group, team or a peer arrangement and there are many models to influence how the process is provided. Ultimately Clinical Supervision is about reflecting and providing nurses time to focus on themselves professionally. All sessions are confidential and studies on clinical supervision tells us that reflecting on nursing practice within this structured setting creates opportunities to learn, obtain support and for nurses to become re-energised in the care they provide every day.

Education sessions and workshops on clinical supervision will be commencing soon and it is envisaged that clinical supervision sessions will begin within some nursing teams mid 2015.

**For further information contact:** Mairead McGahon, Project Officer, Clinical Supervision, NMPD, Mellifont Suite, St Brigid’s Complex, Ardee, Co Louth.

mairead.mcgahon@hse.ie 042 9370200 ext 2985

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**Members of the Clinical supervision steering group**

**Left to Right** Dr. Malachy Feely, Nurse Practice Development Co-ordinator, Eileen Carruthers, Director of Nursing, Mairead McGahon, Project Officer, Bridie Mooney, Staff Officer , Miriam Kelly, Midwifery Practice Development Co-ordinator, Catherine Smyth, DPHN, Padraig O’Beirne, Area Director of Nursing.

Absent from Photograph: Deirdre Mulligan, Catherine O’Rourke, Paula Hand, Myles Hackett, Joan Donegan, Maura Coyle Meade, Angela McNamee, Una Tomyany and Elaine O’Connell
Wound Management & Wound Closure Education Programme for Registered Nurses

A new Wound Management and Wound Closure education programme was developed by nursing staff in Roscommon Hospital in partnership with Ms Ruth Hoban, CNME, Castlebar, Ms. Deirdre Jones, Plastic Surgeon and Ms. Maura Daly Loftus, Director of Nursing. The course is specifically aimed at front line registered nurses working in Emergency Departments, Urgent Care Centres and Plastics Service.

The aim of this programme is:
- To develop registered nurses expertise and clinical skills in wound management and wound closure
- To support professional and educational development of staff
- Provide safe quality care and meet service needs

The programme is a six week competency based programme (NMBI Category 1 approved - 18 CEU’s) which is running from September – December 2014 on Saturdays. It includes theoretical instruction of 1.5 hours and skills based workshop of 1.5 hours. A variety of teaching and learning strategies are utilised, including face to face lectures, group work, skills based workshops, observation, clinical instruction and supervision, feedback, reflection, reading, and eLearning. On programme completion each participant is required to successfully complete an MCQ theory test, practical exam and attainment of clinical competence. Ms. Valarie Small, RANP St James’s Hospital, will be facilitating the assessment process on the final day in December. There are fifteen participants including Registered Nurses, RANP and ANP candidates.

The Minister for Health Mr. Leo Varadkar dropped in to the education programme on a recent visit to Roscommon Hospital.

For further information contact: Ms. Maura Daly Loftus
Director of Nursing Roscommon Hospital, Saolta University Healthcare Group maura.loftus@hse.ie 090 6626200

An exploration of the relationship between positive patient experiences in acute hospital settings and person-centred care activities

This explorative research study led by Dr Randal Parlour and commissioned by the Saolta University Health Care Group will commence in January 2015. Hospitals included in the study are as follows: Letterkenny General Hospital, Sligo Regional Hospital, University Hospital Galway, Merlin Park University Hospital, Mayo General Hospital, Portiuncula Hospital and Roscommon County Hospital.

Key objectives within the study are:
- To examine the processes consistent with development of person-centred workplace cultures for both patients and staff
- To examine how a person-centred workplace culture may improve the care experiences of patients and their families
- To establish a consistent and valid approach for analysing patient experience information and circulating the findings
- To examine an approach to inter-organisational benchmarking, specific to specialties, departments or wards

The study design is based upon a mixed methodology incorporating both quantitative and qualitative approaches to data collection and analysis. Data will be collected from both patient and health professionals across the medical directorate of seven groups acute hospital settings within the Saolta University Healthcare group.

It is anticipated that study findings will provide statistical evidence of the relationship between the provision of person-centred care (person-centred processes) and positive patient experiences (person-centred outcomes). This should increase our understanding of the impact of the former upon the latter and underpin the development of a cogent approach towards measuring and sustaining person-centred practice.

For further information contact:
Dr. Randal Parlour, Assistant Director & Senior Researcher (NMPD), HSE West randal.parlour@hse.ie 087 9088435
Performance Management Presentation, HSE South, Dunmanway Project

‘Don’t count the days; make the days count’.

Dunmanway Community Hospital is a residential care service for older people. The service recently presented their project Implementing the HSE Performance Management (PM) Guidance document to all grades of staff in the Hospital to managers in HSE South on their project -

The project team comprised of: Teresa O’Donovan, General Manager, HSE South; Catherine White, Director of Nursing, Dunmanway Community Hospital; CNM2, Staff Nurses, Support Staff and Administration Staff. An independent external facilitator was engaged to support education and training sessions for the project team. Amendments were made to the original HSE PM document. The project was piloted over a 12 month period followed by an independent review.

Staff Evaluations were positive:

- ‘It has very much helped to motivate me in my job’;
- ‘A very worthwhile experience’
- ‘Highlighted things I already do but did not understand the value of’
- ‘We are always so busy it gives you time to think about where you are and what you want to achieve’;

This HSE Handbook for managers and staff can be used as a guide to Performance Management. It is available on HSEland.

This project was nominated for and achieved runner up status in two National awards -

- The Biomnis Health Care innovation awards 2013
- The Irish Health Care Achievement awards 2014

For further information contact: catherine.white3@hse.ie 023 8845102

Project team members from left to right
Eileen O’Donovan, Support Staff; Marie Holland, Staff Nurse; Theresa Healy Kingston, CNM2; Catherine White, DON; Teresa O’Donovan, General Manager; Majella Duggan, Administration; Eileen Coakley, Senior Staff Nurse; Natalie O’Driscoll, Staff Nurse.

South East Recovery College

The Regional Centre of Nursing and Midwifery Education in the South East is currently supporting the development of a Recovery College within the Mental Health Service. This initiative is congruent with and arises from national mental health policy which is now strongly recovery orientated.

The college which is expected to be an integral part of mental health service provision in the South East will offer a wide range of recovery focused educational programmes and resources aimed at supporting people in recognising and making the most of their talents and resources. Providing people with opportunities to identify their goals and aspirations, it will give them the confidence, skills and support to access a broad range of learning opportunities.

The college will bring together two sets of experience, harnessing both the professional and personal expertise. Promoting a non-stigmatising learning environment, learners will be facilitated in availing of learning resources and educational programmes within mainstream adult education. People with lived experience will co-develop and deliver a range of courses relating to mental health, social inclusion, employment and addiction challenges, with the common goal of creating a recovery culture for the individual, the HSE as an organisation and the wider community.

We believe that nurses have a central role to play in this process. They will act as innovators and drivers of change, supporters and mentors of the service user’s journey and ultimately beneficiaries of a diverse range of educational programmes available at the college.

For further information contact: James O’Shea, Director, Regional Centre of Nursing and Midwifery Education, HSE South (Waterford, Wexford, Carlow, Kilkenny, South Tipperary) james.oshea@hse.ie 087 6809428

Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director
Focus on HSE Dublin Mid Leinster

Celebrating Nursing and Midwifery Innovation across Dublin Mid Leinster

Health care is constantly evolving and developing and consequently nurses and midwives need to change in order to adapt and transform services to enhance the quality of care delivered to patients throughout our hospitals, residential units and community settings.

NMPDU staff in Tullamore and Palmerstown held special events in October and November to celebrate and promote nursing and midwifery innovative developments that they have funded for some services in our region. These events provided a forum for nursing and midwifery staff to share exemplars of quality nursing and midwifery practice developments, in a networking and learning environment.

Over the 4 days we heard nearly 50 presentations of which 42 were different examples of transitional and transformational change that were introduced by various nurses and midwives across the region.

Innovations presented demonstrated both a direct and indirect impact on the:

- Quality and experience of patient care
- Organisation of nursing or midwifery work
- Environment including the use of technology
- Work processes that we engage in
- Measurement of process and outcomes of care

In addition there were keynote speakers and excellent exemplars of innovation and quality care showcased through the display of 55 posters from services.

All innovations presented demonstrated a systems approach within organisations and a commitment for change. They emphasised the importance of effective nursing leadership in all aspects of the innovations and described many positive outcomes of the changes that were introduced for example positive outcomes for patients and service users and for staff in relation to their experience of work or their experience of professional development opportunities.

Nearly 400 staff from the region attended these days and the evaluations were very positive. Participants were delighted to have the opportunity to network and share their developments with colleagues from across the region.

For further information contact:
Mary Manning A/Director NMPD Tullamore
marym.manning@hse.ie 057 9357870

or Susanna Byrne, Director NMPD Palmerstown
susanna.byrne1@hse.ie 01 6201713

Detailed information on all innovations presented will be available on the websites of the NMPDs.
http://www.hse.ie/eng/about/Who/ONMSD/NMPDU/

Presenters and organisers: Palmerstown event November 2014
L to R: Dr. Michael Shannon, Colette Twomey, Brendan Power, Paul Leavy, Paul Gallagher, Bennery Rickard and Susanna Byrne.

Presenters, organisers and attendees: Tullamore event October 2014
L to R: Marian Wyer, Patrick Glackin, Dr. Philip Crowley, Mary Manning, Liz Roche and Kathleen Griffin.