



## NCCP NATIONAL EXECUTIVE TEAM MEETING

**Date:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 @ 10.30am, NCCP Office

**Present:** R. Ó Laoide (Chair), F. Bonas, C. Faul, T. Hanan, P. Heckmann, A. Hill, T. McCarthy, L. Smyth

**Apologies:** T. Holohan, M. Keane, D. O'Shea

**Invited:** R. Conway, T. Flattery, and C. Mellett.  
For Item A1: O. Smith  
For Item A2: J. Gleeson

A. PRESENTATIONS		
A1	<p><b>Update on Children Adolescent and Young Adult (CAYA) Cancer Programme (Prof. Owen Smith, NCCP National Clinical Advisor for Children, Adolescents and Young Adult Cancers)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Executive noted the developments made in the programme and acknowledged the work of Prof. Smith, Ms Fiona Bonas, Assistant National Director, NCCP, Ms Eileen Nolan, Programme Manager, NCCP and National AYA Clinical Teams.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> O. Smith/A. Hill to discuss AYA neurological cancer service in Beaumont Hospital with Clinical Director, Beaumont Hospital.</p>	
A2	<p><b>Update on NCCP Risk Register (J. Gleeson)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All to review scores metrics and revert to J. Gleeson</li> </ul>	All
B. MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING		
B1	<p><b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes of May 12th meeting were agreed.</li> </ul>	
B2	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p>None</p>	
C. DIRECTOR'S ITEMS		
C1	<p><u>Regions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work is continuing in relation to the NCCP's engagement with the health regions, including proposed MOU.</li> <li>A meeting with the REO group has been scheduled for the end of Q2.</li> </ul> <p><u>North/South / Shared Island projects</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Request from the Department of Health to suggest relevant projects with a capital focus, for inclusion in recommendations for Shared Island funding.</li> </ul> <p><u>NCCP Clinical leads</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment for a urological cancer advisor has been completed.</li> </ul>	

	<p><u>Stakeholder events</u></p> <p>Recent events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 16<sup>th</sup> May – Launch by the Minister of Health of three national clinical guidelines in Farmleigh</li> <li>• 21<sup>st</sup> May - NCCP Hospital Pharmacist Annual meeting</li> <li>• 23<sup>rd</sup> May- Haemato-oncology Annual meeting</li> <li>• 23<sup>rd</sup> May - Irish Melanoma Forum</li> </ul>	
<b>D. STANDING ITEMS</b>		
<b>D1</b>	<p><b>EU Cancer Projects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CCI4EU</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CCI4EU is the EU project focused on developing cancer care infrastructure. TCD/SJH are leading on preparations for the third and final deep dive meetings scheduled to take place on September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>D2</b>	<p><u>National Service Plan 2025</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioning letters from the CEO have been issued, setting out the allocations for each Health Region.</li> </ul>	
<b>E1</b>	<b>Cancer Intelligence (R. Conway)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The approach to phase one of the implementation plan for surgical centralisation will be discussed at an upcoming meeting.</li> <li>• Cancer Intelligence are developing a standard escalation response to hospitals not submitting data to NCCP.</li> </ul>	
<b>E2</b>	<b>Surgical Oncology Programme (F. Bonas/A. Hill)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breast imaging in Dublin and North-East region – mitigation measures are being considered to address current capacity challenges. <b>Action: Further consideration to be given on approach to be taken to address the issue.</b></li> <li>• Noted that recruitment is underway for a replacement Consultant General Surgeon with a special interest in breast surgery at Letterkenny University Hospital.</li> </ul>	A.Hill/R. Ó Laoide
<b>E3</b>	<b>Surgical Centralisation (A. Hill/F. Bonas)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of centralisation plans is ongoing.</li> <li>• RPLND – process is progressing in relation to the designation of a national centre for RPLND surgery, as part of a broader national multidisciplinary approach to management of testicular cancer. A recommendation will be made to the Executive at an upcoming meeting.</li> <li>• Pelvic Exenteration – update awaited on new UK standards and guidelines which may be useful in providing an evidence base for approach to be taken in Ireland.</li> </ul>	

<b>E4</b>	<b>Medical Oncology/ Haemato-oncology/Molecular (P. Heckmann/L. Smyth)</b>	
	<p><u><b>Systemic Therapy Programme (STP)/Cancer Drug Management Programme (CDMP)/Molecular</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medical Oncology KPI - To note, SIVUH have not submitted KPI data since January 2024. The approach to non-compliance with data submission mentioned above under cancer intelligence may help to address this.</li> <li>• NCCP GP Referral Manual for haematological malignancies is almost complete.</li> <li>• The NCCP Guidance on the built environment of a haematology/oncology day ward has been updated with the addition of an addendum and has been published on the NCCP website.</li> </ul>	
<b>E5</b>	<b>National Cancer Information System (NCIS) – P. Heckmann</b>	
	<p>Roll-out continuing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 22 of 26 hospitals live - including 8 of the 9 cancer centres.</li> <li>- University Hospital Waterford went live with first administration of SACT on May 28th.</li> <li>- 200,000 Medications have been administered and 28,000 patients listed for MDM in last 12 months</li> <li>- New version of NCIS Chart will be installed on June 11<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>- Wexford General Hospital and Tallaght University Hospital are progressing with implementation projects.</li> <li>- Work on Orchestra (NCIS Communication Bus) is on-going.</li> <li>- PID for Mater Misericordiae University Hospital is under review. Local priorities concentrating on stabilising their local version of CATO in advance of NCIS implementation. Discussions on PAS to NCIS interface in progress.</li> <li>- Portiuncula experiencing challenges resourcing project.</li> </ul>	
<b>E6</b>	<b>Radiation Oncology (F. Bonas/C. Faul)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KPI performance has improved due to improved staffing levels and the introduction of hypofractionation protocols.</li> <li>• A rectal spacer pilot is complete awaiting final report on outcome.</li> <li>• An issue has arisen concerning the provision of Saturday morning cover for the emergency radiotherapy service by Medical Physicists/ Dosimetrists. HR/IR discussions ongoing.</li> <li>• The Friends of St Luke's will fund ProKnow in SLRON for the next five years, also available in GUH which will facilitate the review of activity within and between centres.</li> <li>• In anticipation of the next cancer strategy a review of SABR /SRS national roll will commence in 3<sup>rd</sup> Q 2025 chaired by C. Faul, NCCP.</li> <li>• Altnagelvin contract – meeting is due to take place in July to review SLA 2025/2026.</li> <li>• Progress in relation to the Radiation Therapists Review is ongoing.</li> </ul>	<b>ROWG</b>
<b>E7</b>	<b>Cancer Networks (F. Bonas)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CHI/Crumlin Network cancer review meeting will be integrated into the IHA group meeting forum as part of Dublin &amp; Midlands Health Region.</li> </ul>	
<b>E8</b>	<b>Community Oncology (T. McCarthy)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NCCP Cancer Prevention plan is close to completion.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Aspire fellow is working on a project on tobacco related cancer in Ireland. This will be presented at an upcoming conference.</li> <li>• NCCP are involved in the cervical cancer elimination action plan (2025-2030). Work will commence in September on the following three strands: 1) immunisation, 2) screening and 3) treatment.</li> </ul>	
<b>E9</b>	<b>Cancer Nursing (T. Hanan)</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acute haematology oncology nursing service (AHOS) will mark five years in operation at a conference in September.</li> <li>• The AHOS was profiled by the Irish Times in a recent article.</li> <li>• Survivorship - the NCCP nursing team have been working with a stakeholder group to develop information on menopause and cancer.</li> <li>• The Empower programme has recently been taken over by NCCP. It is an eight-week survivorship programme developed by cancer support centres and will commence in three centres from next September.</li> <li>• A workforce planning project is underway by the nursing team on ambulatory care. A recent meeting was held with Beaumont hospital to discuss.</li> <li>• Education – The NCCP nursing team were recent recipients of a 2025 Irish Healthcare Centre Award for the National SACT competency programme.</li> </ul>	
<b>F</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION</b>	
	<b>National Cancer Care Experience Survey (CCES)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The data extraction test is ongoing with three sites and will run until the end of June. The questionnaire is being finalised by the HIQA.</li> </ul>	
<b>G</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
	None	
<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>		
<b>14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025 AT 10.30AM, MS TEAMS</b>		