

## NATIONAL CANCER INFORMATION SYSTEM

### NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #1 March 2022



### Welcome to the first NCIS Newsletter

As the roll out of NCIS continues and the system and project evolves, we endeavour to provide this newsletter in order to keep you all informed on the project status and developments.

Despite the limitations imposed by Covid 19 and the 2021 HSE-wide Cyberattack, there was superb engagement with the NCIS office, with attendance at remote meetings and virtual workshops and demonstrations. The increased use of virtual webinars for implementation purposes by the NCIS office has proved very successful. Multiple sites have been attending these webinars thus increasing efficiencies from the NCIS office and enabling cross-site collaboration, expertise and knowledge transfer.

We acknowledge the challenging times we have been through and take this opportunity to thank you all for your on-going support with NCIS.

### Feedback from Sites

Reported Benefits of NCIS include:



We recently asked GUH and SLH Dublin about their experience using NCIS:

*"..doses delivered on NCIS means no prescriptions were lost or illegible. All points in the process are now time stamped from planning of therapy to administration. For the first time we can track patient journeys and as we scale up, we will use this functionality to redesign patient flow"* Peter Kidd, Chief II Pharmacist  
Galway University Hospital

*"For me the one of the key benefits of NCIS is that the prescriber, nurses and pharmacists have instant access to the most up-to-date prescription, notes, and medical results. Prescriptions, dose calculations and adjustments are clear and easy to follow"* Laura Gittinger, Chief II Pharmacist  
St Luke's Hospital, Dublin

### News and Events

#### Go Live at Beaumont Hospital and St. James's Hospital

December 2021 saw significant progress for the National Cancer Information System (NCIS) project with two more Cancer Centres now live.

Beaumont Hospital went live on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, followed quickly by St. James's Hospital on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December. Both sites have introduced a substantial increase to NCIS data and activity.



We hope to facilitate the addition of University Hospital Kerry and Midlands Regional Hospital, Tullamore in the coming weeks.

#### New Version of NCIS

The latest release of NCIS is currently being tested. The NCIS office thoroughly test each new version, including new and updated functionality and the interfaces between the two applications.

The new release contains improved functionality of the system which should improve the overall user experience.

This will include a number of exciting new features. The NCIS office will notify Super Users once this is ready and available for deployment to Production.

#### Launch of the Telephone Triage Assessment Form in NCIS

The NCIS Implementation Group agreed to the release of the Telephone Triage Form in NCIS which was developed with the assistance of the Patient Documentation Standardisation Working Group.

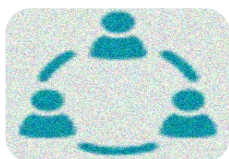
## Present Activity

NCIS is live in five hospitals; St Luke's Hospital, Rathgar, Galway University Hospital, Mayo University Hospital, Beaumont Hospital and St. James's Hospital. A steadily increasing usage of the system in terms of medications prescribed, dispensed and administered is reported across live sites. There are now 276 Regimens approved for use in the system, to date 140 regimens have been used to create therapy plans for patients.

These doses utilised the NCIS capability for electronic SACT prescribing; pharmacy verification and production; three-point barcode verification at SACT administration; and patient cancer data recording.

Up to the end of February 2022, Galway University Hospital and Beaumont hospitals have utilised the Multi-Disciplinary Meeting (MDM) on NCIS to facilitate the discussion and recording of outcomes for in excess of 2,000 patients, improving the accessibility and quality of the MDM record. MDMS have been conducted for Haematology, Head and Neck, Lymphoma, Gynaecology, Medical Oncology and Breast patients.

## Overview of the NCIS Project Groups



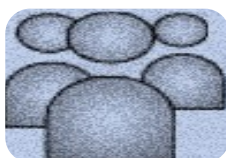
NCIS Steering Board



NCIS Implementation Group



NCIS Usergroup



NCIS Local Implementation Team

### NCIS Steering Board:

To oversee the Implementation of NCIS

### NCIS Implementation Group:

To implement and provide project assurance for the National Cancer Information System. This group is clinically led with a high level of expertise.

### NCIS User groups:

Provides a balanced representation of the user base and an opportunity for collaboration, providing peer support across sites on most effective and/or the recommended use of NCIS.

**NCIS Local Implementation Teams:** all sites signed up to NCIS are invited to nominate relevant personnel to join this form.

### Feedback, Questions, Queries?

Please contact

[ncis@cancercontrol.ie](mailto:ncis@cancercontrol.ie)

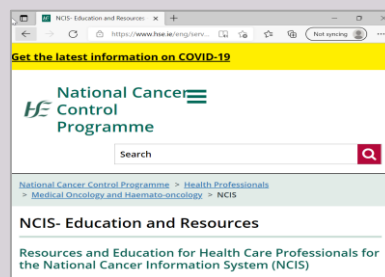
## Education & Resources

The NCIS office has developed an education and resource repository for users, accessible via the HSE intranet which enables user access to up to date training material and other communication resources. Site can be accessed by users with access to HSE intranet at:

[http://hsenet.hse.ie/HSE\\_Central/NCIS\\_Professionals/About\\_the\\_NCIS\\_project.html](http://hsenet.hse.ie/HSE_Central/NCIS_Professionals/About_the_NCIS_project.html)

Or at:

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/5/cancer/profinfo/medonc/projects/ncis%20userguides%20.html>



## Meet the NCIS Project Office Team

The NCIS Project Office is comprised of a dedicated and experienced team from various clinical and IT backgrounds. The team is responsible for the roll out and implementation of the system across the 26 sites, as well as ongoing development and improvement of the system.

Patricia Heckmann	NCIS Project SRO
Nicola Newcombe	NCIS Programme Manager
Grant Carroll	NCIS Chief II Pharmacist
David Dowling	NCIS Senior Systems Manager
Meadhbh Lysaght	NCIS Application Lead
Siobhan Warren	NCIS Application Lead
Caroline Meade	NCIS Application Lead
Claire Donald	NCIS Senior Pharmacy Technician
Caoimhe O Leary	NCIS Senior Pharmacist
Linda O Farrell	NCIS Senior Pharmacist