Cancer Nursing Education Programme for nurses in an inpatient setting (in non specialist oncology roles).

Programme Aim
The aim of this CPD programme is to enhance the cancer knowledge, skills and competence of nurses in non specialist oncology roles in:

- Inpatient settings
- Care of the elderly units
- Nursing homes
- Community based hospitals/hospices.

It will enable nurses to:

- Promote cancer prevention
- Provide support through the diagnostic process and the treatment pathway
- Promote survivorship
- Provide palliative and end of life care.

Educational Approval
The programme has been granted Category One approval with 21 Continuing Education Units (CEU) by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI).

Programme Participants
The programme is aimed at nurses in non specialist oncology roles who care for inpatients with a diagnosis of cancer. The recommended maximum number attending each programme is 25.

Entry criteria require the nurse to:

- Provide confirmation of his / her current registration with NMBI on the active Register in General Nursing
• Be caring for cancer patients in acute hospitals, care of the elderly units, nursing homes or community based hospitals / hospices
• Complete the application form in advance of the programme, signed by the relevant manager, with commitment to full attendance
• Have worked for a minimum period of six months post registration
• Agree to study the recommended reading and undertake the work based learning.

Duration
The programme is delivered as a three day (21 hours) theoretical programme, to include group work based learning, reflection on practice and additional self-directed learning.

Programme Outline
The programme consists of three days of learning:
Day 1: Cancer Statistics, Epidemiology, Cancer Biology and Nursing Care
Day 2: Treatment Modalities, Oncological/ Haematological Emergencies and Support
Day 3: Psycho-oncology, Survivorship, Palliative and End of Life Care.

Assessment of Learning
There will be no formal assessment of learning but participants will take part in workshop based scenarios. Reflection on learning and practice will be encouraged and facilitated.

Programme facilitators
The curriculum development and programme delivery are facilitated by the NCCP, the Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director (ONMSD), the Centres for Learning and Development (CLD), the Centres of Nursing and Midwifery Education (CNME), Centres of Nurse Education (CNE), Nurse Practice Development Departments (NPDD) and Education Facilitators in Oncology / Haematology.

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