

Institute of Community Health Nursing Summer Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 1

August 2004



Date for your diary

Annual Conference / AGM

Sat. 9th Oct. 2004
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St. James Hospital
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Dublin 8.

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Change of Office Hours

Terri Egan, our administrator, has changed her hours of work and the office will now be opened **Monday to Fridays 13.15 hrs to 17.15 hrs.**
Tel.: 01 660 2689

ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

April 24th 2004

"Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) to Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP)"

85+ public health nurses and guests attended the Annual Spring Conference. Breda Cleary the Institute's President opened the conference.

The day was positively evaluated comments included:

"Very relevant, very informative"

"provided a greater understanding of career development".

"it was both thought provoking and stimulating"

"excellent chairperson excellent panel of speakers,

"great interaction and feed back from the floor".

Read a synopsis later in the newsletter

Spring Conference

"Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) to Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP)"

President's Address

Good morning to you all, it is great seeing so many colleagues here, on a Saturday morning for our Spring meeting.

Arising from a request from you our members, our Meeting today will concentrate on Advance Nurse Practitioner (ANP). The National Council for the Professional Development of Nursing and Midwifery defines the Advance Nurse Practitioner as:

"Advanced Nursing & Midwifery practice is carried out by autonomous experienced practitioners who are competent accountable and responsible for their own practice.

Advanced Nurse Practitioners are highly experienced in clinical practice and are educated to Masters Degree level (or higher). The postgraduate programme must be in Nursing / Midwifery or an area which is highly relevant to the specialist field of practice."

The Catalysts for development in nursing are the same in Ireland as in the USA, UK & New Zealand i.e.

- ❖ WHO strategy "Health for All"
- ❖ Health care driven by consumer demand
- ❖ Increasing cost of hospital care both secondary and tertiary

Maintaining highly qualified and experienced PHNs in practice, which are currently lost to management, enhances community and client health care. The Advance Practitioner will offer a clinical pathway for Public Health Nursing.

You received a copy of Dr Sinead Hanafin's recommendations today. Sinead suggests that the development of the Advance Nurse Practitioner should include the three component areas, which would recognise each of the components of Public Health Nursing, Management, Clinical and Health Promotion. Sinead concludes her submission by

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Prof. Hugh McKenna and ICHN president
Breda Cleary

suggesting that the generalist role of the Irish Public Health Nursing Service be reflected in any Advance Nurse Practitioner development and she urges that ICHN is to ensure that the Public Health element is not lost in the overall development.

We have an expert panel here today to enlighten us on the issues around the Advance Nurse Practitioner. I wish to thank them most sincerely for giving of their time and expertise to us.

I have the pleasure of introducing our Chairperson for the day Professor Hugh McKenna who will be keeping us focused on the work in hand.

Synopsis of the Spring Conference

Professor McKenna welcomed the panel of guests many from "far away places".

The subject was introduced by six short presentations of ten minutes each by a panel of experts in this area.

Panel Members

Ms Mary O'Neill
Community Nurse Advisor Department of Health

Ms Jenny Hogan
Professional Development Officer National Council

Ms Margaret McCarthy
Education Officer An Bord Altranais

Ms Eileen Furlong
Course Co-ordinator Higher Diploma Studies UCD

Dr Therese Connell -Meehan
School of Nursing UCD

Professor Brenda Poulton
School of Nursing University of Ulster

Before the presentations Professor McKenna invited the audience to imagine the health care environment in 15 years time. What ever the future shape there will be implications on how health care professionals are educated and work. The work force will be larger with a merging of old skills and acquisitions of new skills and roles.

1. Ms Mary O'Neill

Mary focused on the special training, process and framework for creating the position of Advanced Nurse Practitioner. The main requirement is that posts must be in response to a need identified and set within the context of the various health strategies and policies.

2. Ms Jenny Hogan National Council

Jenny discussed the role of the National Council and their role in professional development. They assist Health Boards in development of post-graduate education funding. They also work closely with the Nursing & Midwifery Planning & Development Units (NMPDUs)



ICHN vice president Marie Dooley and
Hon Secretary Ann T. Winters

Jenny explained that the Council does not approve CNS posts. This is undertaken by NMPDUs. Nor do they head courses for CNS / ANP or dictate where CNS posts funding should come from.

Jenny discussed the development of the role of ANP in Public Health:



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- ❖ It must equate to service need
- ❖ Education needs to be to Masters level
- ❖ Development of posts has to be on a regional basis
- ❖ Transcends geographic location

Suggested areas for development may include initiatives in any area of Public Health Nursing practice, where a service need has been identified and the advanced skills of an ANP is required to lead the development.

3. Margaret McCarthy

Margaret stated that the theme of the Conference was very timely. That PHNs need to grasp the opportunity for ANP. Public Health is a key component for health care within Europe. The register in An Bord Altranais does not have a separate register for ANPs.

4. Eileen Furlong

Eileen spoke on the future of the PHN within Advanced Nursing Practice. She advised reading the 'Book of Advanced Nursing Practitioner' (Hamnic et al 2000) which emphasises the ANP in the role of:

- ❖ Wellness, maintenance, health
- ❖ Health care interventions

UCD is currently running an ANP course. The accreditation process may take up to 5 years. Teaching is interdisciplinary and collaboration is essential with a range of clinical colleagues including doctors. She stressed that role development cannot be in isolation.

5 Dr Therese Connell Meehan

Dr Connell Meehan discussed the status and the education module of the Nurse Practitioner in New Zealand. There are seven broad areas of practice. A clinically focused Masters is required with 4-5 years practice in a particular area. The paper describes four

models of advanced nurse practice; Integrated nursing teams, nurse consultancy, independent practice, and nurse practitioner speciality services. It was suggested that models 1&4 might be helpful for PHNs in developing the role of the ANP. (The Institute has an electronic copy of the Nurse Practitioner in New Zealand 2003)

6 Professor Brenda Poulton

Professor Poulton spoke from an all Ireland and UK perspective.

The Policy Agenda in N.I. is to identify needs first and then practice. The Primary Care Trust drives the agenda where flexibility and skill to meet needs are required and not titles.

A lively question and answer session followed the panel introduction. The speakers were joined for the discussion by the following;

Mr Damien Brennan

Lecturer /Course Co-Ordinator Trinity College

Dr Marie Carney

Head of School of Nursing & Midwifery UCD

Mary Courtney

Director of NMPDU Western Health Board

Ms Margaret KyneDoyle

Child Health Development Officer ECAHB

Mr Neill Dunne

PHN Team Leader with the DCU-CCA3 ECAHB

Ms Patricia Leahy-Warren

Lecturer UUC

The questions were varied and the following is an overview of the discussion.



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Current programmes for ANP

At the time of the meeting only UCD were involved in ANP training programme for a PHN. Throughout the country there are likely to be only small numbers of ANPs and it was important that PHNs continued to develop their practice in response to the changing needs of their families and communities.

Defining the need for Public Health ANP

Public Health Nurses need to work with their Director of Public Health Nursing in identifying the need for advanced nurse practitioners. It was noted that it was important to realise how well PHNs were placed strategically, Health Policy is moving towards the public health remit and PHNs must be prepared to capitalise on this. Collaboration with other members of the PHN team will be essential and with the primary health care team.

Models

As well as the New Zealand models previously mentioned attendees were referred to Sinead Hanafin's submission to the Institute "Framework for Advanced Nurse Practitioner". (Copies available from the Institute)

Role of IT

IT support was seen as a key tool in supporting PHN to not only measure but to plan their work. A discussion on the role of the PHN then developed with a suggestion that perhaps the time had come to look at the role of the PHN through a different lens.

Clinical Nurse Specialist

The status of PHN's as Clinical Nurse Specialist as acknowledged in the Commission on Nursing was raised. There was reassurance that PHN was a fit academic requirement for progression to an ANP.

NAMIC report (Nursing and Midwifery in the Community)

There was a sense that PHN was on hold until the publication of the NAMIC report. This report is due to be published at any time now.

Professional Development

The ANP is only one aspect of professional development. PHN must continue to develop their practice in light of the changes in the delivery of health care and the needs of the population that they serve.

Recommendations

The following were suggested as possible ways forward;

An agreed policy for the professional development of all PHNs.

The standardisation of a community health needs assessment tool is essential to enable a needs led professional development and allocation of resources.

Adequate resource allocation to the public health nursing service in order to facilitate PHNs to work to the broad scope of the role of PHN.

Grainne Lynam-Quinn Conference

Sponsor: National Dairy Council –

The literature range of the National Council has been updated in the last two years to incorporate the results from the Irish population survey on what we eat.

The council website is www.ncd.ie

Closure of the meeting Breda Cleary President of the ICHN

Breda firstly thanked Professor Hugh McKenna for his excellent chairing of the Conference, and especially for keeping the event on time. She also thanked all the speakers and panel of guests for giving of their expertise and time to travel to Athlone.



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Breda then thanked Grainne of the National Dairy Council for sponsoring the Conference lunch.

She thanked Lily McPeake, development officer who organised the day along with the ICHN Executive for all their hard work. Breda also thanked her daughter, Maeve, for helping with the administration, and taking the photographs on the day.

Before thanking all for attending and wishing them a safe journey home Breda offered condolences on the recent death of Mary Sloan PHN on behalf of the ICHN.

A fuller synopsis of the day can be obtained from Terri at the ICHN.

Introduction to Maura Connolly

Maura was “converted” to the importance of public health nursing whilst working as a midwife in Africa. On returning to the UK she undertook health-visiting training. Her clinical experience includes family planning, and community practice teaching. The increasing shift of focus from acute to primary and community health care is a time of change and challenge for Public Health Nurses. Public Health Nurses with their “holistic” view of the individual and the community are ideally placed to take a key role in many of the forthcoming changes. She believes that the contribution of Public Health Nurses in improving the health status of their communities, although often unrecognised, already makes a significant impact on the health of the whole Nation.

Maura has a very mixed portfolio of experience including professional and general management, as well as consultancy work all predominantly within the Community and Primary Health Care sectors. She holds a Masters in Health Management. She has worked both in the statutory and NGO sectors including a short period within the Nursing Division of the European Region of the World Health Organisation in Denmark. Whilst in Denmark she also worked for the Danish Red Cross with asylum seekers and refugees. Having previously worked as a professional development office with the Queen’s Nursing Institute in the UK she is looking forward to the challenges of a similar position with the Institute of Community Nursing and especially to meeting its members.

ICHN BRANCH REPORTS 2004

SLIGO / LEITRIM SUB BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT

The North West Sub Branch Annual General Meeting Report.

Membership: The membership has increased in our Sub Branch. Currently, Sligo Leitrim Sub Branch has 18 members.

Chairperson:	Margaret Maguire
Secretary:	Una Brady
Council Representative:	Sr Elizabeth

The following meetings have been held.

May 14th

26 members attended the Regional Annual General Meeting hosted by the Donegal Branch in Bundoran.

The invited Guest Speaker, Jeneve Becker gave an enlightening talk on the long term effects of breast feeding.

6th December

Held in Carrick-on-Shannon. The topics for the meeting included; a talk on enuresis and continence

management from Dymrna McNulty, information on re-organisation of working hours, an up date and feedback from the Council and an overview of ICHN following which two new members joined.

2nd March

Members met to discuss and prepare for the Representative Meeting and to prepare for the Annual General Meeting to be held in Donegal on May 12th 2004

Members of the Sub Branch attended various educational events throughout the year and presented their reports at the Branch meetings.

Plans for the Branch:

- ❖ Recruitment of new members
- ❖ To establish at least one interest group
- ❖ To have each member more actively involved in the development of the Branch at local level
- ❖ To have more educational input around areas of interest to PHNs

THE NORTH EASTERN BRANCH

The future looks bright for the North Eastern Branch of the Institute of Community Health Nursing. Our members to date are fifty. Since the last Annual Conference the branch has met on four occasions:

- ❖ 12/11/03 Annual General Meeting and a day of pampering
- ❖ 07/05/03 Dr Gormley - Paediatrician
- ❖ 29/01/04 Overview of pre-school services
- ❖ 22/04/04 The PHN experience with non nationals



Rosemary Perkins Assistant Director of Public Health Nursing presenting the Miller Trust Scholarship 2004 to Siobhan O'Brien on March 5th 2004

All meetings were sponsored and well attended. The committee also met on several occasions throughout the year.

Our members expressed anxiety over the challenging and changing times ahead and with this in mind, we arranged to have Dr Sinead Hanafin speak to us at our regional AGM in September on the future role of the Public Health Nurse.

THE SOUTHERN BRANCH

Total membership of the Southern branch is now 75

Members of the Branch attended the AGM in Dublin and a representative attended the four council meetings.

Branch activities throughout the year.

13th November 2003 Area meeting

8th January 2004 The Miller Trust Committee meeting

11th February Address to student PHNs at UCC

5th March 2004 Presentation of the Miller Trust Scholarship and Seminar on Deprivation and Social Marginality

February to March 2004 philosophy course.

WESTERN BRANCH

May 2003. The Palliative Care Team in Mayo contributed to the meeting and was very well attended.

All correspondence was passed on to members and non-members for ARM / AGM meetings throughout the year.

December 2003. A new committee was elected. Breda Connolly who was the joint Branch Secretary for many years, resigned but will continue to be an active member. Breda was thanked for her contribution over the years to the Branch.

The new Committee consists of:

- ❖ Christine Coll Chairperson
- ❖ Nessa Scully Treasurer
- ❖ Mary O'Malley Secretary

The plan for 2004 is to hold separate meetings in Galway, Roscommon and Mayo and this plan has commenced with great success. There is renewed interest with numerous requests for membership application forms.

Branch membership: 47 members

Newsflash

Two Public Health Nurses appear in the latest issue of ERHA Times

Josephine Bolger

Josephine a Public Health Nurse from Carnew in Co. Wicklow is pictured at Dublin Castle where she received an Award for Excellence in Public Service for her work with the "Keeping People Well- The Carnew Initiative". The award was presented by the Taoiseach Mr. Bertie Ahern

The initiative is to empower and enable the local older people and the community in general to accept responsibility for their own healthcare.

Congratulations Josephine



Liz McManus

Liz is pictured with the Minister of State at the Department of Health and Children Mr Brain Lenihan TD at the Open Day of the Early Years Service in Ballymun.

Liz is a public Health Nurse in the area and was one of 30 agencies that mounted a display at the open day which was organised by the local early years subgroup.



AGM and Conference 9th October 2004.

If you missed the spring conference put the date for the AGM in your diary now. The conference will take place in the Trinity Centre. The title of the day is "Developing through Change". The full programme will be sent to members with their papers for the AGM and published on the website.

Report launched May 2004

"A study of the Role and Work load of the Public Health Nurse in the Galway Community Care Area" available from the School of Nursing and

Midwifery Studies University of Trinity College email: nursing.info@tcd.ie

New Development Officer

Maura Connolly joined the Institute on the 5th July as a part time development officer working alongside Lily Mc Peak. Maura will normally work all day *Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday* and can be contacted on **01 634 9666**. Lily will continue to work one week on, one week off.

Newsflash to Members

If you have changed your address please let us know at head office by returning the following information

Change of address details:

Name:

New Address:

.....

.....

Telephone e-mail address:

Region or Branch.....

Change of Office Hours

Terri Egan, our administrator, has changed her hours of work and the office will now be opened
Monday to Fridays 13.15 hrs to 17.15 hrs.
Tel.: 01 660 2689

Web site

We are updating our website and need photos which reflect the work and role of the Public Health Nursing for our introductory banner. If you have any suitable photos please send them to Terri at the Institute.

Why not pay us a visit online

www.ichn.ie

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The Institute is most grateful for all your submissions.