

Concept Development Workshop for clinical and early career researchers in palliative care

7th December 2016

Ashling Hotel, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8

Do you have an idea for a clinical research project in palliative care but unsure how to develop it into a successful study? Are you unsure as to what methodological approach or technique to use? Would you like to access expert guidance and advice from senior researchers covering key aspects and challenges related to research methodology, patient/public involvement, or dissemination and knowledge transfer?

INTRODUCTION

The Palliative Care Research Network's (PCRN) Early Career Researcher Forum together with the Irish Cancer Society (ICS) is hosting a Concept Development Workshop for clinical and early career researchers on Wednesday 7th December 2016. This workshop is a significant part of the PCRN's efforts to foster the development of research of clinical relevance and importance in palliative care on the island of Ireland. It aims to support capacity building and evidence based practice by helping clinical and early career researchers to turn their new ideas/concepts for palliative care research into persuasive proposals that may be developed into study protocols, postgraduate research, or form the basis of funding applications.

RESEARCH IDEA/ CONCEPT

A research idea/ concept may fall within one or more of the following broad areas relevant to palliative care:

- Symptoms/ symptom management
- Psychosocial support for patients and/or carers
- Research focused on specific groups and populations
- Health service research
- Research informing policy and practice

In particular we would encourage individuals to consider projects that reflect (or are aligned to) the research priorities identified as part of the *Palliative and End of Life Research Priority Setting Project for Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland* (<http://aiihpc.org/research/launch-of-top-10-palliative-care-research-priorities/top-10-palliative-care-research-priorities-list/>).

WORKSHOP DETAILS

This 1-day workshop will be a mixture of insightful presentations from research experts in palliative care, research methodology, and cancer care as well as interactive sessions. Participants will be able to explore and discuss their research ideas in a supportive and multidisciplinary environment with peers and experts. Senior researchers from the PCRN/ICS will offer guidance on study aims, objectives, design, methods, outcomes, patient/ public involvement as well as advice on dissemination and knowledge transfer activities. Participants will also be directed towards support materials and resources.

ANTICIPATED BENEFITS

Your participation in this workshop will enable you to:

- Develop your research idea/concept with expert support;
- Gain experience in the key stages required to develop a research idea into a proposal;
- Develop knowledge in research design, methodology and analysis;
- Gain knowledge in effective patient and public involvement practices in research;
- Draft a budget outline for your project;
- Learn about possible funding opportunities for your research proposal;
- Network with other clinical and early career researchers who share similar research interests.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This workshop is designed for clinical and early career researchers who have an idea for a research project relating to palliative care. It is open to all health and social care professionals based on the Island of Ireland (including doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, pharmacists, dieticians, social workers, chaplains, psychologists, economists, and so on) and from across all disciplines and specialisms (oncology, neurodegenerative diseases, respiratory diseases, heart failure, ID, paediatrics, etc).

This is a free workshop with places strictly limited. Members of the PCRN's Early Career Researcher Forum and those based in organisations who are partnered with All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care¹ will be given priority.

PROGRAMME

The workshop programme will include presentations, written exercises, and small group discussions. Participants should be prepared to discuss their idea for their proposed clinical research study.

¹ Visit for a list of AIHPC partners: <http://aiihpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/AIIHPC-Partners.pdf>

Programme outline

From 9.30am	Registration
10am	Welcome, introductions & overview of the workshop
10.15am	Roundtable Introductory Activity
11am	Context - clinical research, evidence based practice and patient/public involvement <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Professor Sheila Payne, Emeritus Professor, International End of Life Observatory, Lancaster University, UK
11.30am	Q&A
11.40am	Research methodology (design, process & analysis) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Dr Suzanne Guerin, Associate Professor in Research Design & Analysis Deputy Head of School - UCD School of Psychology/ Senior Investigator, AIIHPC
12.20pm	Q&A
12.30pm	Practical tips for developing a strong research proposal (including budgetary considerations) <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Dr Robert O Connor, Head of Research, Irish Cancer Society
1pm	Q&A
1.10pm	Lunch
1.40pm	Roundtable Activity (from concept development to robust proposal)
3.40pm	Tea/coffee break
4pm	Top tips to communicate your research effectively <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Professor Sonja McIlfratrick, Postgraduate Tutor, Lead Palliative Care Research Strand, Institute of Nursing and Health Research/ Senior Investigator, AIIHPC, Chair of the Palliative Care Research Network
4.30pm	Open floor discussion Comments/ feedback & next steps
5pm	Close
