



Inaugural Cross border Nursing Award



cooperation and working together
for health gain and social well being in border areas

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Western Health
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Ward Manager Marie Therese McDermott from the South West Acute Hospital in the Western Trust has won the inaugural Chief Nursing Officers' Award for Excellence in Cross Border Nursing. The winner was announced at the all-Island Chief Nursing Officers' Conference in December. Sponsored by CAWT, the Award recognises innovation and excellence in patient care, either within the border region or on an all-Island basis. Commenting, CAWT's Deputy Chief Officer, Edel O'Doherty said: **"Marie Therese is a truly worthy recipient of this inaugural CAWT cross border nursing award. She has been**



Pictured with Marie Therese is (l to r) Kathleen Lynch T.D., Minister of State for Primary and Social Care; Jim Wells MLA, Minister for Health, Northern Ireland; Charlotte McArdle, Chief Nursing Officer, Northern Ireland; Dr Siobhan O'Halloran, Chief Nursing Officer, Department of Health, Ireland and Edel O'Doherty, Deputy Chief Officer, CAWT.

instrumental in enabling cross border acute hospital services, particularly in the area of cross border vascular services in the Western Trust, by ensuring that patients from both sides of the border receive the best care possible from her team of nursing staff."

Congratulating Marie Therese, Executive Director of Nursing at the Western Trust, Alan Corry Finn commented: **"I am delighted that the first ever cross border nursing award was won by our own Ward Nurse, Sister Marie Therese McDermott for her sterling work in progressing cross border co-operation and the development of surgical services at the South West Acute Hospital. We are very proud of this achievement and I sincerely congratulate Marie Therese and wish her and her team continued success."**

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MBE for CAWT's Chief Officer

CAWT's Chief Officer, Bernie McCrory, was presented with her MBE at an investiture ceremony in Buckingham Palace on 21 Nov 2014. Bernie was honoured for **'services to Healthcare in Northern Ireland and Ireland.'** Paying tribute, CAWT Director General, Tom Daly from the HSE said: **"On behalf of the CAWT Management Board and our Partner organisations I sincerely congratulate Bernie on this significant honour. As well as her valuable work on behalf of CAWT, she has had a long and distinguished career in the health services, fulfilling many important roles over the years. Bernie has made a huge contribution to health and social care in general and has worked with great energy and passion to progress health and social care in the border region and to ensure better access to health services for border communities."**

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An Roinn Sláinte
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

European Union INTERREG IVA Project Update

CAWT Diabetes Project

The CAWT Diabetes Project continues to deliver the CHOICE Structured Patient Education Programme across Northern Ireland and the border region, with the Pre-Pregnancy care clinics continuing after the EU funding concluded in April 2014. So far 3,668 people have benefited from the Project. The Project Board is delighted to have secured mainstream funding for the delivery of the CHOICE programme in all five Health and Social Care Trusts in NI. This will ensure that children and young people with diabetes will continue to receive high quality diabetes education services provided by specialist nurses and dietitians and leaves an excellent legacy by the CAWT Diabetes Project which will be coming to an end this financial year.

Southern Health and Social Care Trust patient, Megan Harty from Newry who has Type 1 diabetes, explains why she attended a diabetes education programme in her local area. She said: **"I am going to university shortly and I wanted to take control of my own diabetes. Even though I have been living with diabetes for 10 years, I felt that it would be good to review how I manage my diabetes and also reassure my family before I head off to university. I am really glad I did the programme because I learned so much. It was a great refresher for me and has enabled me to tighten up how I do things. I got great support from the nurses and doctors."**



Southern Trust patient Megan Harty from Newry who spoke at the CAWT Diabetes Project conference in Armagh about the value of structured patient education.

A diabetes website has been commissioned as part of the work of the CAWT Diabetes Project and work is underway to develop the website, which will be used by children and young people with diabetes, their parents, carers, health care professionals and schools, as an information resource for Type 1 diabetes.

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CAWT Eating Disorders Project



The CAWT Eating Disorders Project is approaching the final stages and Project Board members are delighted with the excellent services delivered over the lifetime of the project. By the end of October, 2,781 people have been trained in the detection of and referral process for an eating disorder and 901 people have received therapeutic interventions in a community setting. Feedback from clients indicates that the service has had a very positive effect.

One client provided the following comment: **"The speed with which I was seen and the length of treatment gives me the best chance of recovery. My therapist is knowledgeable and clearly has expertise in her field. She is compassionate but not too soft! She sets clear goals, clearly explains the process and the eating disorder and how it is expressed in me."**

In November, the project co-ordinated a very successful two day Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) training programme, which was delivered by Professor Glenn Waller from Sheffield University to over 100 delegates from across the CAWT border region. Overall, the CAWT Eating Disorder project is making a positive contribution to improving the health and well-being of people with eating disorders in the border corridor. The project model established is informing the longer-term commissioning and development of eating disorder services in both jurisdictions.

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European Union INTERREG IVA Project Update

CAWT Acute project

Following the success of the two previous programmes, a third group of health and social care staff are undertaking the cross border Patient Safety Programme. The 28 participants in the current programme include medical consultants, senior nurses and allied health professionals from the HSE areas of Cavan, Monaghan and Sligo and also from the Northern, Western and Southern Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland. Commenting, Cornelia Stuart, National Lead for Quality Improvement at the HSE said: **“The Patient Safety Programme provides frontline staff with the knowledge and skills to complete practical and achievable projects, focused on improving the quality and safety of patient care. Participant interaction with teams from other services, North and South of the border, also facilitates the sharing of learning and the development of professional networks.”**

The programme is scheduled to conclude in March 2015 with a final session at which participants will feedback on the practical service improvement projects they have undertaken to enhance patient safety.



Cavan/Monaghan HSE staff undertaking the cross border Patient Safety Programme: Back row (l to r): Louise Potts, Project Manager, CAWT; Caralyn Horne, Quality and Safety Manager; Roisin Sexton-Smith, Clinical Nurse Manager 2 & Teresa O'Callaghan, HSE National Quality Improvement Advisor. Centre (l to r): Lilly Chali, Staff Nurse; Ann Gaffney, Assistant Director of Nursing; Anne Marie Campbell, Clinical Nurse Manager 2 & Loida Aragon, Staff Nurse. Front row (l to r): Aine McCabe, Staff Nurse & Myrtle Clarke, Staff Nurse.

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CAWT Older People's Project

“The Project improved the sense of security and peace of mind of clients and carers, particularly in rural areas, which impacted positively upon their overall health and sense of well-being” Public Health Nurse

The overall Older People's Project will be completed by December 2014. However, one element of the project will continue until March 2015 which is assistive technology in the HSE border area. The independent evaluation highlights how the project has successfully established new ways of working to support older people in their local communities. The project has also contributed to improving the health & social inclusion of older people in the border corridor.

Social Support: To date, a total of 7,269 people across the border region have received support, directly provided by a wide range of community and voluntary sector partners, who delivered innovative community-based services. Such services include care and repair schemes, befriending initiatives, Men's Sheds,

IT training, 'good morning' contact services and information and sign-posting hubs. These services have helped to promote inclusion and reduce social isolation in many local border communities.

Assistive Technology: A range of assistive technology items have been installed to enable individuals to function more independently or be maintained in their own home or care home. These include items such as activity monitors, movement detectors, personal alarms and fall detectors. To date, 936 older people have received assistive technology packages customised to their needs. There are plans to install a further 130 packages in early 2015. Relatives and care givers of the older people appreciate the additional safety and security which assistive technology provides. There is no doubt the project will be influential in informing how more effective services can be provided to an ever growing ageing population. The Project Board members will incorporate the project learnings and recommendations within their own organisations' services.

“Being able to connect with someone at the touch of a button if I am afraid or have an accident in the home gives both my family and me a great sense of comfort and security”

Assistive Technology client

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News and Events

Cross Border Nursing Award 2014 Winner Announced



Ward Manager, Marie Therese McDermott from the South West Acute Hospital in the Western Trust was announced as the winner of inaugural Chief Nursing Officers' Award for Excellence in Cross Border Nursing at their all-Island conference in Dublin Castle on 1 Dec 2014. **Photos:** 1. Marie Therese is presented with her CAWT trophy by Bridget Clarke from the HSE. 2. Pictured with Marie Therese is Jim Wells MLA, Minister for Health, Northern Ireland and Alan Corry Finn, Director of Nursing, Primary Care and Older People's Services, Western Trust.

Northern Trust participates in the Cross Border Patient Safety Programme



Four healthcare professionals working in anaesthetics and theatres within the Northern Health and Social Care Trust are participating in the cross border Patient Safety Programme which is focused on best practice in patient safety and how it can be applied in local health facilities.

Commenting Pauline McGaw, General Manager for Theatres in the Northern Trust, said: **"This programme has provided a tremendous opportunity for staff to meet and exchange best practice. As well as aiding the professional development of staff, this programme will also benefit patients as part of the Trust's continual drive to improve and develop services."**

Northern Trust staff pictured at launch. Front row (l to r): Kate Agnew, Lead Nurse - Theatres; Dr Will Donaldson, Consultant Anaesthetist and Pauline McGaw, General Manager - Anaesthetics, Theatres & Intensive Care Services. Back row (l to r): Janet Haines-Wood, Public Health Agency; Dr Geoff Wright, Consultant Anaesthetist & Louise Potts, Project Manager, CAWT.



Seasons greetings to all our funders, partners and stakeholders!
From all at the CAWT Development Centre



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