

COLORECTAL CANCER NURSES SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (CRCNG)

AGM REPORT 2023



Co-ordinator: Emma McNamara

- Following a hugely successful conference last year it is great to be back among esteemed colleagues (and friends) for another year of celebration and recognition of oncology nurses.
- Colorectal cancer remains the second most common cancer in Ireland among both men and women and the incidence of colorectal cancer in Ireland remains above the European average. Its prevalence means that as oncology nurses we will care for patients either living with or living beyond a bowel cancer diagnosis frequently, if not exclusively, during our careers.
- The aim of the Colorectal Cancer Nurses Special Interest since its inception in 2007 has been to offer its members the opportunity to liaise with fellow cancer nurses with a colorectal focus. We aim to provide a source of support, information & education for those nurses.
- This year I put out a call to colorectal specialist nurses across the country and was delighted with over 20 responses across many sites. I have encouraged those who are not already IANO members to join and become involved to see how we can support each other and strengthen our knowledge base.

In terms of colorectal news across the country...

- St. James's have a newly appointed colorectal surgeon with special interest in locally advanced rectal cancer, Mr Michael Kelly. They have also secured funding for a colorectal cancer research nurse at CNM2 level.
- In University Hospital Limerick we have a newly appointed Enhanced Recovery After Surgery (ERAS) nurse as well as a colorectal surgical oncology coordinator at CNM2 level as backfill to the ANP post.
- In Waterford there is a newly appointed cANP in cancer surveillance and survivorship and they are expecting a colorectal coordinator to join their team.
- There have been colorectal jobs advertised recently in both Beaumont and the Mater and it's great to see the expansion and evolution of the colorectal oncology nurses' role

I'm hoping in the year ahead we might organise a colorectal meeting whether in person or virtually to discuss topical issues within our speciality. All input gratefully received.

Thank you,

Emma

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