

## **IBCNG Report for the IANO AGM 2023**

1. The NCCP released the Hereditary Cancer Model of Care in April 2023; this highlights the necessary development of hereditary cancer services in Ireland, it will hopefully positively impact the treatment and facilities available for patients with an increased risk of breast cancer and the high-risk screening programmes provided.
2. The NICE Guidelines updated their recommendations for surveillance for high risk / BRCA gene patients.
3. The NCCP is currently working with an expert advisory group to create a referral guideline for patients with a family risk of breast cancer. Members of the IBCNG are participating in this group.
4. The NCCP is currently working with an expert advisory group to review and stratify the guidelines and treatment of patients with a high risk of breast cancer due to family risk or genetic mutation. Members of the IBCNG are participating in this group to advocate for women with these complex needs to formulate risk management strategies within the high-risk programmes.
5. Members of the IBCNG has been part of an Expert Advisory Group for post mastectomy products. The main concern regarding the current national system is the inequity of financial allowances for women who require the fitting of breast form prosthesis. IBCNG participation in this expert group is to advocate that all women who undergo a mastectomy be entitled to breast form prosthesis, regardless of whether or not they hold a medical card. The HSE held two focus groups to ascertain the needs of this cohort of patients. The policy was delayed due to the COVID pandemic and is currently waiting ratification.
6. The NCCP host the national breast care nurse's forum. This forum is an opportunity to review practice, share ideas and address recommendations in national cancer strategy. The day involved presentations on topics related to breast cancer, family risk and genetics and upcoming priorities for the forum.

In 2024 the IBCNG will aim to host a nursing education session.

**Niamh Byrne**

**Chairperson IBCNG**

