

Irish Association for Nurses in Oncology

South-East Network AGM Report 2023



**IRISH ASSOCIATION
FOR NURSES IN
ONCOLOGY**
*Nurses Caring for People
with Cancer*

Chairperson: Ada Kinneally (Medical Oncology)

Secretary: Michelle Hannan (Geriatric Oncology)

Treasurer: Vicki Hovenden (Prostate Cancer Services)

Committee Members: Orla Quinn (Breast Care), Aoife Hartwell (Gynae Oncology), Karen Fagan (Radiation Oncology), Catherine O'Neill (GI Oncology), Fiona Young (Irish Cancer Society), Regina Wilkinson (Nurse Practice Development), Claire Dunne (AOS Kilkenny), Patricia Hunt (Lecturer), Sarah Brennan (Lecturer), Sharon Doran (UPMC Med Oncology), Karena Maher (Haematology), Carmel O'Rourke (Prostate Service)

The IANO South- East Network remain an active committee within the south east region with representation from hub & spoke centres, radiation oncology & private hospitals. The committee are a committed & diverse representation of cancer nursing. Thank you to all involved in IANO South - East Network for continued commitment to oncology nursing education.

In 2022/23, the committee recognised the challenge that nurses encounter to attend & maintain continued professional development. For that reason, the IANO South- East Network developed "The Cherry Sessions", 15–20-minute rolling education sessions. These topics were based on feedback from oncology & non-specialist nurses. Each session highlighted evidence-based information & resources on a specific nursing consideration in cancer care which relevant to all nurses working with patients with cancer. Each session ran for 15 minutes which allowed 1 nurse to be released from clinical area at a time, minimising impact on ward activity & staffing levels but ensured that a number of staff could attend. The Cherry sessions rang for 10 weeks in Autumn/Winter 2022 & Spring/Summer 2023 & were delivered by IANO South -East committee members. It was a huge success with average attendance per week (n=15).

To celebrate European Cancer Nurses Day in May 2023, we held a Cancer Associated Thrombosis IANO Meeting for oncology nurses. Professor Annie Young, Professor of Nursing in University Hospital Warwick presented "unravelling the mesh: Nurses Influencing C.A.T Care". This meeting was well attended by oncology nurses & pharmacy personnel which opened an engaging conversation about use of implementation of assessment tools & guidelines. This was greatly enhanced by MDT representation at the meeting. We thank Leo Pharma for their partnership in this meeting.

In November 2023, The IANO South-East Network, in partnership with BMS, will host "Spotlight on Immunotherapies in Cancer Care" on Monday 20th November, Elva Theatre, University Hospital Waterford. This will be an in person & virtual meetings with invitations/agenda to follow via IANO

mailing list & through BMS. If you would like to attend or register for online meeting, please speak to a member of IANO South- East Network.

The IANO South- East Network would like to thank Catriona Duggan's commitment, vision & leadership as IANO president. She has been an exemplary leader for the organisation & ensured the voice of IANO members has been heard at national & international level over her term.

The South- East will once again be represented in IANO presidency role & it is with huge pride that we wish Patricia Hunt, incoming IANO president the very best in her new role at NEC level.

Patricia brings a wealth of clinical & academic leadership to IANO presidency and has been a committed member to IANO at national & network level.

Ada Kinneally will support Patricia as IANO Vice President & together with NEC, they look forward to continuing on from 40 years of IANO leadership.

