



A Managed Clinical Network within the
Northern Ireland Health & Personal Social Services

Working Towards the Continuous Improvement in the Quality of
Cancer Care and Cancer Survival for the People of Northern Ireland

What is the Northern Ireland Cancer Network (NICaN)

The Northern Ireland Cancer Network (NICaN) is working towards the continuous improvement in the quality of cancer care and cancer survival for the people of N Ireland. It aims to promote equitable provision of high quality, patient focused and clinically effective cancer services.

The way in which this will be achieved is by supporting groups of health professionals, patients and voluntary sector representatives to work together in a co-ordinated way across geographical, organisational and professional boundaries.

What we will achieve by April 2005

The primary objective for NICaN will be to build the foundations for the development and sustainability of the Network. Meetings with a range of stakeholders have influenced the key themes and deliverables listed below.

By April 05, NICaN will:

- have a fully operational and robust administration and information management system and have its identity recognised within regional cancer services provision;
- have an evaluation framework and be working towards the establishment of a baseline and indicators to measure the Network's progress;
- have identified the systems and procedures for effective and efficient Network communications which will include a dynamic website, regular electronic updates, NICaN newsletter and Annual Report;
- be working towards the establishment of at least 4 NICaN Regional Groups with an agreed constitution and work plan. The outcomes of this pilot work will include clear principles and the identification of training and development needs to inform the establishment, constitution and work plans of all other Regional Groups;
- have produced and disseminated User Involvement Recruitment, Training and Development Guidelines. User representation will have been secured on the NICaN Board; and
- have identified a number of global, regional and/or local opportunities for the further development of cancer services provision.

Agreed by the NICaN Board, May 2004

Network Linkages

A number of linkages within the Network have been, or are currently being, established. These include the NICaN Board, Lead Team, Regional Groups and Development Forum.

Board	The role of the Board is to ensure the development of a shared vision for cancer services and endorse, and be accountable for, a work programme that meets regional priorities.
Lead Team	The role of the Lead Team is to implement the work programme and further develop the Network. Administrative support staff are currently being appointed.
Regional Groups	The Regional Groups will form the nucleus of the Network. User representation is seen as key to their successful development
Development Forum	It is proposed that members of the Development Forum will include the Leads of all Regional Groups and the Lead Team. Their remit is to agree regional priorities that will be presented to the Board.

Interested in being kept updated?

If you would like more information on the work of NICaN, or how you can become involved and kept updated, please contact us. Your comments are important for the development of the Network.



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