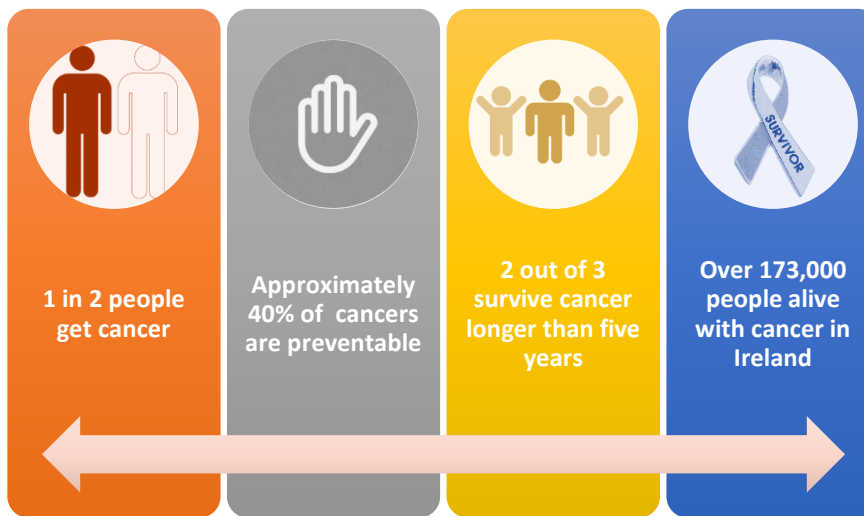


Enhancing Cancer Awareness and Survivorship Programmes (ECASP)¹



Context: One in two people will develop cancer at some point in their lives⁽²⁾. Just under half of these cancers are preventable⁽³⁾. Detecting cancer early can effectively reduce the mortality associated with cancer. Data from the United States confirms that about two out of three persons diagnosed

with cancer survive for 5 years or longer after diagnosis⁽⁴⁾; comparable Irish data reveals that net survival to five years after diagnosis for all invasive cancers (excl. NMSC) “increased from 45% for Irish patients diagnosed during 1994-1999 to 59% during 2006-2011”⁽⁵⁾. Whilst length of survival is an important outcome measure, the quality of the survivorship experience is an important gauge for addressing the quality of the health and social care services that the individual and their family interact with. Hence the research team in UCC is interested in exploring the patients cancer trajectory from initial symptom appraisal through treatment and beyond.






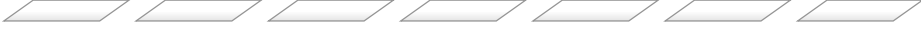

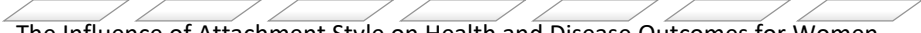
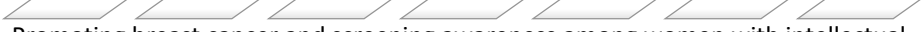
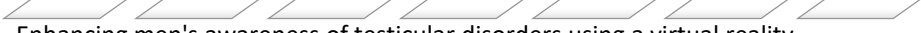


The **goal** of educators and researchers at the Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork is to advance our understanding of cancer awareness and cancer survivorship and ultimately improve individuals' experience of cancer survivorship.

The two major research¹ foci within the E.CASP are:

1. **Cancer awareness** within the broader spectrum of health promotion
2. **Support** of patients and significant others **on the cancer survivorship journey**, with a particular focus on understanding the needs of individuals on the cancer journey and the development and testing of targeted interventions for individuals with cancer and their family/loved ones.

¹ The twitter page for the E.CASP is: https://twitter.com/e_casp

Figure 1. Members of the Enhancing Cancer Awareness and Survivorship Programmes (E.CASP) research group

Supportive care needs in survivorship and evidence based practice Prof Josephine Hegarty, email: J. Hegarty@ucc.ie	
Breast cancer awareness and help seeking behaviour in relation to breast cancer Dr Mairin O' Mahony, email: mairin.omahony@ucc.ie	
Symptom management by patients with colorectal cancer Dr Margaret Landers, email: M.Landers@ucc.ie	
Family member experiences of the cancer journey Dr Bridie McCarthy, email: Bridie.mccarthy@ucc.ie	
Supportive care strategies in relation to breast cancer Dr Elaine Lehane, email: e.lehane@ucc.ie	
The self-management of chemotherapy induced fatigue Dr Patricia O' Regan, email: p.oregan@ucc.ie	
The head and neck cancer trajectory Dr Brendan Noonan, email: B.Noonan@ucc.ie	
The human papillomavirus: attitudes and personal practices for cancer prevention in males Dr Serena Fitzgerald, email: serena.fitzgerald@ucc.ie	
The Influence of Attachment Style on Health and Disease Outcomes for Women with Breast Cancer and Their Identified Significant Other Dr Ashling Murphy, email: ashlingmurphy1989@gmail.com	
Promoting breast cancer and screening awareness among women with intellectual disabilities Susan Walsh email: nasus_23@hotmail.com and Mary Reidy email: mreidy@wit.ie	
Enhancing men's awareness of testicular disorders using a virtual reality intervention: The E-MAT study Dr Mohamad M. Saab, email: msaab@ucc.ie	
Collaborators: Professor Mark Corrigan (Cork Breast Research Centre, CUH), Margaret Allen (CUH), Marie Casey (BSH), National Cancer Control Programme, Irish Cancer Society, NCRI, researchers from UK and US.	

Sample of Current Postgraduate Students

- Developing and feasibility testing of a web- based intervention to support patients' management of their bowel symptoms post- sphincter sparing surgery (MSc res), Mairead O Sullivan (student), Dr Margaret Landers, Prof J. Hegarty (supervisors)
- Breast cancer awareness in the general population (MSc res), Nicola White (student), Dr M O Mahony, Prof J Hegarty (supervisors)

Sample of Past Postgraduate Students

- To Explore the Need for an Educational Intervention Relating to Breast Cancer Awareness Specifically Targeted at Women with a Mild Intellectual Disability (MSc res), Susan Walsh, Dr E Lehane, Dr M O Mahony, Prof J Hegarty (supervisors)
- Enhancing men's testicular cancer awareness using a virtual reality intervention (EMAT study) (PhD), Mohamad Saab (student), Prof J Hegarty, Dr M landers (supervisors)
- The Influence of Attachment Style on Health and Disease Outcomes for Women with Breast Cancer and Their Identified Significant Other (PhD), Ashling Murphy (student), Prof J Hegarty, Dr Mairin O Mahony, Dr S. Denieffe (WIT), Dr M Corrigan (CUH) (supervisors)
- The Human Papillomavirus and Cancer: A multiphase Study investigating preventative behaviours in young males (PhD thesis, Dr Serena Fitzgerald)
- An exploration through Interview and Drawings of the Experiences of Patients diagnosed with Oral Cancer across their cancer trajectory (PhD thesis), Dr Brendan Noonan.
- Cancer Related Fatigue and Self-care while undergoing chemotherapy: patients' perspectives (PhD thesis), Dr Patricia O' Regan
- Women's Help Seeking Behaviour and The Associated Influencing Factors on Self Discovery of a Breast Symptom (PhD thesis), Dr Mairin O' Mahony
- Emotional Resistance Building: A Grounded Theory of How Family Members of Loved Ones Undergoing Chemotherapy Deal with Fear of Emotional Collapse (PhD thesis) Dr Bridie McCarthy
- Development and Pilot Testing of an Educational Intervention focused on Sexuality in Women with Gynaecological Cancer (PhD thesis), Dr Vicki Cleary (Gynaecology Oncology Liaison Nurse, CUH)
- Views, practices and experiences of General Practitioners (GPs) relating to the ovarian cancer referral pathways and processes, (MSc res. Thesis) Joanne Carroll (Bon Secours Hospital)
- Breast Awareness within an Intellectual Disability Setting, (MSc taught) Siobhan Kirby
- The Information Needs of Irish Women Diagnosed with Breast Cancer, (MSc taught thesis) Claire O' Donnell
- Mammography screening practice among Malaysian women aged 40 and above in Putrajaya, Malaysia (MSc taught thesis), Siti Zuhaida Hussein

PROFILES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE E.CASP RESEARCH GROUP

Name: Josephine Hegarty PhD, MSc, BSc

Position: Professor of Nursing

Email: J.Hegarty@ucc.ie



Profile: Professor Josephine Hegarty is the Head of School (from October 2018) at the Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork, Ireland. Josephine is passionate about oncology related matters in particular supporting individuals and their families on the cancer survivorship trajectory. She supervises PhD and MSc students for their research dissertations. Josephine has published extensively in the international literature.

The research which Josephine is involved in relates to optimising the persons' experience of cancer survivorship through:

- 1) Increasing cancer awareness
- 2) Understanding more about the longer term impact of cancer
- 3) Development and testing of targeted interventions addressing either cancer awareness or addressing treatment related issues on the cancer survivorship trajectory.
- 4) Translation of evidence into clinical practice
- 5) Evaluation of services.

Sample of current projects:

- Cancer survivorship services in Ireland: funded by the NCCP
- Implementation of a Holistic Needs Assessment Tool: The Patient Concerns Inventory for Patients with Head and Neck Cancer, Nursing and Midwifery Innovation Funding Grants, with B Noonan (PI).
- Enhancing Testicular Cancer Awareness (E-MAT study), School of Nursing and Midwifery, UCC with Dr M Saab.

Sample of completed projects:

- Men's Cancer prevention and Health literacy study. The MeCHanic Study, Irish Cancer Society Funded project, Co-PI with Dr F Drummond
- Irish Cancer Society's Night Nursing Service: Quality Evaluation & Clinical Review, Irish Cancer Society funded project (PI)
- The Influence of Attachment Style on Outcomes for Women with Breast Cancer and Their Identified Significant Other, UCC strategic Fund Project, Supervisor A. Murphy PhD student
- Prostate cancer active surveillance, J. Hegarty HRB funded Cochrane fellowship
- Breast cancer awareness and help seeking behaviour, co-author with M. O' Mahony HRB funded Cochrane fellowship
- Sexuality in women with gynaecological cancer. A nursing education intervention, EONS funded project, supervisor for Vicki Cleary (PhD student).
- Family member experiences of the cancer journey, co-supervisor B. McCarthy (PhD student)

Publications available at:

Link to UCC Iris Profile: <http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/C014/jhegarty> ; Research Gate:

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Josephine_Hegarty ; Google Scholar:

http://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=Pb1zXfgAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&sortby=pubdate

; ORCID ID: <http://orcid.org/0000-0002-1663-4820> ; Scopus Author ID:

<https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=23496763800>

Name: Máirín O'Mahony
Position: College Lecturer
Email: mairin.omahony@ucc.ie



Profile: The research which Máirín is involved in relates to optimising the persons' experience of cancer survivorship through:

- 1) Promotion of early detection of and early help seeking for cancer symptoms specifically, breast cancer symptoms.
- 2) Increasing breast cancer awareness
- 3) Reviewing interventions for breast cancer awareness in women
- 4) Exploring women's narratives and experiences around symptom discovery and help seeking behaviour.

Sample of current projects:

- To Explore the Need for an Educational Intervention Relating to Breast Cancer Awareness Specifically Targeted at Women with a Mild Intellectual Disability (MSc res), Susan Walsh, Dr E Lehane, Dr M O'Mahony, Prof J Hegarty (Supervisors)
- Breast cancer awareness in the general population (MSc res), Nicola White (student), Dr M O'Mahony, Prof J Hegarty (Supervisors).

Sample of completed projects:

- Men's Cancer prevention and Health literacy study. The MeCHanic Study, Irish Cancer Society Funded project, Co-PI with Dr F Drummond
- Irish Cancer Society's Night Nursing Service: Quality Evaluation & Clinical Review, Irish Cancer Society funded project
- The Influence of Attachment Style on Health and Disease Outcomes for Women with Breast Cancer and Their Identified Significant Other, UCC strategic Fund Project, Supervisor for Ashling Murphy PhD student
- Breast cancer awareness and help seeking behaviour in relation to breast cancer, Mairin O' Mahony. HRB funded Cochrane fellowship

Publications available at:

Link to UCC Iris Profile:

<http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/C014/mairinomahony>

Full link to Research profile on Research Gate:

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mairin_OMahony

Name: Margaret Landers PhD, MSc, BNS

Position: College Lecturer

Email: m.landiers@ucc.ie

Profile: Dr Margaret Landers is currently the Programme Coordinator for the Post Graduate Diploma in Oncology Nursing and Lecturer at the School of Nursing. Margaret has a strong interest in cancer related issues in particular supporting individuals and their families on the cancer survivorship trajectory. She supervises PhD and MSc students for their research dissertations. Margaret has published extensively in the national and international literature.

The research which Margaret is involved in relates to optimising the person's well-being following treatment for cancer:

- 1) Understanding patients' experiences of symptoms following treatment for cancer
- 2) Understanding and promoting self-care strategies to manage symptoms
- 3) Development and testing of targeted interventions addressing treatment related issues on the cancer survivorship trajectory.
- 4) Translation of evidence into clinical practice

Sample of current projects:

- Enhancing Testicular Cancer Awareness (E-MAT study), School of Nursing and Midwifery, UCC studentship, co-supervisor with Professor Josephine Hegarty for M Saab (PhD student).
- Developing and feasibility testing of a web- based intervention to support patients' management of their bowel symptoms post- sphincter sparing surgery. School of Nursing and Midwifery, UCC scholarship, primary supervisor with Professor Josephine Hegarty for M O'Sullivan (MSc by Research student).

Sample of completed projects:

- Irish Cancer Society's Night Nursing Service: Quality Evaluation & Clinical Review, Irish Cancer Society funded project led by Professor Josephine Hegarty

Patients' bowel symptom experiences and management following sphincter- saving surgery for rectal cancer supported by a HRB Fellowship.

Publications available at:

Link to UCC Iris Profile: <http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/C014/mlanders>

Full link to Research profile on Research Gate:

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/margaretlanders>

Name: Bridie McCarthy, PhD, MSc, BA Counsel, BNS, RNT
Position: College Lecturer, Director of Undergraduate Practice Education
Email: bridie.mccarthy@ucc.ie



Profile:

Dr McCarthy completed her PhD in 2012, holds a Masters in Nursing (2004) and a degree in counselling (2000), She also has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing as well as completing her General and Midwifery nurse/midwifery training in London and Hertfordshire, UK.

Teaching:

Dr McCarthy has extensive clinical and academic experience and currently teaches on both undergraduate/postgraduate programmes. Her main teaching areas include communication skill and research methods with a variety of health care students, including cancer and palliative care. She also supervises a number of students undertaking research at masters and PhD levels

Research:

Dr McCarthy has completed a number of research projects but has a special interest in patients and families during the cancer trajectory. Some research projects focused on, preceptorship, person-centered care, patients undergoing chemotherapy. Her PhD was a grounded theory study titled "Family members' experiences as loved ones undergo chemotherapy treatment for colorectal cancer". Her most recent research study was on helping undergraduate nursing students cope with stress.

Publications available at:

<http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/C014/bridiemccarthy>

Name: Elaine Lehane PhD,
MSc, PGCertTLHE, BSc, Dip. Nurs. Studies, RGN.
Position: College Lecturer
Email: e.lehane@ucc.ie

Profile: Dr Elaine Lehane is Director of Postgraduate Studies and Lecturer at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork. Elaine has a special interest in breast cancer, in particular, supporting individuals and their families through the cancer journey. Elaine supervises PhD and MSc students for their research dissertations and has published extensively in national and international peer-reviewed journals. Elaine also has a keen interest in the dynamics of interdisciplinary education and the teaching of evidence-based practice.

The research which Elaine is involved in relates to optimising the persons' experience of cancer survivorship through:

- (1) Understanding patient/family experiences while undergoing cancer treatment
- (2) Developing/testing targeted interventions to enable self-care strategies during and after treatment
- (3) Translation of evidence into clinical practice

Sample of current projects:

- The information needs of patients with breast cancer in a tertiary Munster hospital: year one, three & five post diagnosis
- Intervention mapping of a health promotion initiative for Breast Awareness specifically for women with a mild intellectual disability

Sample of completed projects:

- FYI: Breast cancer - the use of mobile technology to deliver accurate and relevant cancer education
- PATI: Patient accessed tailored information: A pilot study to evaluate the effect on preoperative breast cancer patients of information delivered via a mobile application
- Health literacy and the perception of risk in a breast cancer family history clinic
- The development and testing of an educational initiative to improve risk perception amongst women at the high-risk breast clinic

Publications available at:

Link to UCC Iris Profile: <http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/C014/elehane>

Name: Brendan Noonan DN, MSc, BSc

Position: Lecturer Practitioner

Email: b.noonan@ucc.ie



Profile: Dr Brendan Noonan is Director of Undergraduate Clinical Practice and Lecturer Practitioner at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork. Brendan has established a reputation nationally and internationally as a researcher in the area of head and neck cancer. In his practice role Brendan directly contributes to evidence informing practitioners and academics in their pursuit of improving patient care. Brendan's primary research interests pertain to the experience of cancer, with a specific focus on the entire cancer trajectory and the supports required throughout. Brendan supervises MSc students (EU & non-EU) for their research dissertation and is published widely in scientific peer-reviewed journals. Brendan also has a keen research interest in Proficiency Based Progression training.

The research which Brendan is involved in relates to enhancing the patients' experience of cancer survivorship through:

- 1) Understanding the entire trajectory of cancer, from diagnosis to the longer impact.
- 2) Development and testing of targeted interventions addressing treatment related issues and concerns on the cancer survivorship trajectory.
- 3) Ensuring safe and evidenced based practice in the provision of care.

Sample of current projects:

- The physical, psychological and existential concerns of patients newly diagnosed with head and neck cancer.
- Implementation of a Holistic Needs Assessment Tool: The Patient Concerns Inventory for Patients with Head and Neck Cancer, Nursing and Midwifery Innovation Funding Grant.
- Performance Metrics for Tracheostomy Care, ASSERT and SoNM Strategic Research Funding Grant.

Sample of completed projects:

- The Impact of Total Laryngectomy from the Patient's Perspective
- Understanding the reasons why patients delay seeking treatment for oral cancer symptoms from a primary health care professional
- An exploration through interview and drawings of the experiences of patients diagnosed with oral cancer across their cancer trajectory.
- Understanding the Initial Symptom Experience of Patients Diagnosed with Head and Neck Cancer.
- The Psychological Challenges of Patients Newly Diagnosed with Oral Cancer across their Cancer Trajectory.

Publications available at:

Link to UCC Iris Profile: <http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/C014/bnoonan>

Name: Serena FitzGerald PhD, BSc, RGN, PDTLHE
Position: University Lecturer
Email: serena.fitzgerald@ucc.ie



Profile:

Dr Serena FitzGerald is a University Lecturer at the School of Nursing & Midwifery, University College Cork. She has a special interest in cancer prevention and HPV related cancers. Serena is module leader for an evidence based cervical screening programme in collaboration with CervicalCheck Ireland. In 2017 she was awarded the Marie Keating Foundation Health Promotion bursary to promote cancer awareness in secondary schools as part of the SPHE (Social Personal and Health Education) curriculum. The focus of the programme is on cancer prevention through healthy lifestyle choices.

The research which Serena is involved in relates to optimising the persons' experience of cancer survivorship through:

- 1) Understanding health behaviours for cancer prevention
- 2) Promoting cancer awareness with a particular focus on HPV related cancers
- 3) Exploring sexual health and personal practices related to HPV cancers

Sample of completed projects:

- Irish Cancer Society's Night Nursing Service: Quality Evaluation & Clinical Review, Irish Cancer Society funded project (Funded Project)
- The Human Papillomavirus and Cancer: A multiphase Study investigating preventative behaviours in young males (PhD)

Publications available at:

Link to UCC Iris Profile: <http://research.ucc.ie/profiles/C014/serenafitzgerald>

Full link to Research profile on Research Gate:

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Serena_Fitzgerald

Twitter: @SerenaFitz2016

Name: Ashling Rosanna Murphy

Position: Researcher

Email: aisling.murphy@ucc.ie



Profile

Dr Ashling Murphy is a researcher at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork. Ashling has recently completed her PhD and is particularly interested in breast cancer research pertaining to both the woman and her significant other as a dyad (i.e. both together). Her work also incorporates the use of a psychology theory and framework, with a particular emphasis on improving quality of life outcomes.

The research which Ashling is involved in relates to optimising the persons' experience of cancer through:

- 1) Developing awareness of the impact of breast cancer on individuals and significant others.
- 2) Incorporating a holistic approach to cancer care.
- 3) Understanding the impact of supportive relationships on the outcomes for both individuals with breast cancer and their significant others, including family members and friends.
- 4) Assessment of Quality of Life in individuals with breast cancer and their significant others.

Publications available at:

Full link to Research profile on Research Gate:

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ashling_Murphy

Google Scholar profile link:

https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=Ezu8FEwAAAAJ&view_op=list_works&citsig=AMstHGRPVGEm2ualUrXLm6o30540ClgvFg

Name: Mohamad M. Saab, PhD, MSc, BSc, RGN

Position: Lecturer

Email: m.saab@ucc.ie



Profile: Dr Mohamad M. Saab is a lecturer at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork. Dr Saab has a 4-year clinical experience in oncology nursing and 10-year experience in conducting cancer research. He has a special interest in testicular cancer awareness and survivorship. Dr Saab lectures on a number of modules, including the oncology nursing module for undergraduate students. He has published extensively in the international literature. The research which Dr Saab is currently involved in is aimed at enhancing men's awareness testicular disorders using virtual reality. This project is conducted in collaboration with the Department of Computer Science and School of Public Health, University College Cork.

Sample of current projects:

- Enhancing Men's Awareness of Testicular Disorders Using Virtual Reality: The E-MAT Study (*Primary Investigator*)

Sample of completed projects:

- Men's Cancer prevention and Health literacy study. The MeCHanic Study, Irish Cancer Society Funded project (*Collaborator*)

Publications available on:

Google Scholar: https://scholar.google.com/citations?hl=en&user=bIOjJ-YAAAAJ&view_op=list_works

Researchgate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Mohamad_Saab3

Twitter: @MohammadSaab7

Sample of Projects Demonstrating E.CASP Collaborations

Project with Marie Keating Foundation: ‘Your Health Your Choice’: Dr. Serena Fitzgerald, Ms. Stephanie Lawrence, and Dr. Mohamad Saab received the **Marie Keating Foundation Health Promotion Bursary** to promote cancer awareness in secondary schools as part of the SPHE (Social Personal and Health Education) curriculum. The focus of the programme is on cancer prevention through healthy lifestyle while using the campaign ‘Your Health Your Choice’ developed by the foundation. A 3-hour train the trainer workshop took place on January 12th 2017 in the School of Nursing and Midwifery and was facilitated by staff from the Marie Keating Foundation namely, Ms. Liz Yeates, Chief Executive Officer; Ms. Helen Forristal, Director of Nursing Services; and Ms. Maeve Fitzgerald, Community Information Nurse. Professor Eileen Savage, Head of the UCC School of Nursing and Midwifery welcomed the trainers and highlighted the importance of the bursary in meeting the school’s strategic plan in terms of community outreach and end-user engagement.

Quality Evaluation & Clinical Review of The Irish Cancer Society’s Night Nursing Service: The Irish Cancer Society Night Nursing Service (ICSNNS) facilitates end of life home-care. The aim of this study was to conduct an evaluation of the ICSNNS which focused on systems structure, clinical governance, nursing processes, training & support, and the impact of the service. A mixed methods approach was used. Data was collected concurrently using three different approaches: focus group interviews (n=67 participants); an online survey (n=198 night nurses) and a postal survey of 159 family members. Researchers found that the ICSNNS is a valuable feature of palliative care services nationally which needs to be protected into the future. Night nurses are lone workers; therefore, recommendations to strengthen the clinical governance and sustainability of the ICSNNS were made subsequent to the evaluation. Further integration of the ICSNNS into the wider palliative care services would address some of the risks identified by the research.

Men’s Cancer Prevention and Health Literacy: The MeCHanic Study funded by the Irish Cancer Society: Cancer incidence and mortality is higher among men than women in Ireland. Gender-specific cancer prevention programmes by the Irish Cancer Society (ICS) have sought to address this. While successful, these programmes more often reach the worried well than those in lower socioeconomic groups and/or with lower Health Literacy (HL). The objective was to identify the facilitators and barriers which impact on men with low HL, in seeking, understanding and acting upon ICS cancer prevention information. Researchers undertook a sequential, mixed methods explanatory study. Men, aged ≥40 years, from a range of socioeconomic backgrounds, participated in focus groups or individual interviews, through two organisations; Men’s Health Forum in Ireland, Men’s Groups of Ireland and community groups. Researchers assessed comprehension of spoken, visual and written ICS cancer prevention campaigns using adapted versions of the Cancer Message Literacy Test-Listening’ and ‘Test-Reading’ using survey methodology. Researchers found that men with low health literacy were more likely to be passive information seekers than those with high health literacy. Men identified many complex barriers and facilitators to cancer prevention and risk reduction information seeking.

Scoping and Mapping of the Cancer Survivorship Services in the Irish Context. A study conducted on behalf of the National Control Programme (NCCP): Mixed methods study with the aim of 1) describing the current cancer survivorship services in Ireland and 2) ascertaining the views of healthcare professionals in relation to how the survivorship services could be developed into the future.

Postgraduate Education in Oncology

The School of Nursing and Midwifery offers an MSc/Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing (Oncology). The programme uses a blended learning approach (part online and part attendance at workshops/tutorials). Such an approach is designed to meet the needs of nurses working in busy oncology settings who wish to undergo a specialist oncology programme. Details of the programme are accessible at: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/ckw18/> The course coordinator is Dr Margaret Landers (M.Landers@ucc.ie).

This is an exciting new pathway of the MSc/ Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing programme, Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing (Oncology) is being offered a blended learning programme (part online and part attendance at workshops/tutorials). It is designed to meet the needs of nurses working in oncology settings who wish to undergo a specialist oncology programme.

The philosophy underpinning oncology programmes in the School recognises the uniqueness of the individual at each stage of the cancer care trajectory. The physical and psychosocial effect of cancer creates specific needs for patients and families from diagnosis to treatment and through to survivorship.

The course provides a structured programme of study that enables the student to develop knowledge, skills and competencies in oncology nursing practice. Blended learning approach will allow more accessibility and flexibility to students of the programme.

School of Nursing and Midwifery,

College of Medicine and Health

Course Delivery Method: Online and Blended Learning

Teaching Mode: Part-Time

Qualifications: Nursing –Oncology PG Cert, PG diploma, and potentially enter the MSc taught pathway.

NFQ Level: Level 9



IMPACT STATEMENT

Enhancing Cancer Awareness and Survivorship Programmes (E.CASP) Research Group

One in two people will develop cancer at some point in their lives. Just under half of these cancers are preventable. Detecting cancer early can effectively reduce the mortality associated with cancer. Two out of three persons diagnosed with cancer survive for five years or longer after diagnosis.

The goal of educators and researchers at the Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery, University College Cork is to advance our understanding of and the experiences of cancer awareness and cancer survivorship and thereby, improve health care providers' practice and ultimately individuals' experience of cancer survivorship. The two major research foci of the group are 1) promotion of cancer awareness and 2) support of individuals on the cancer survivorship journey.

The ECASP group through the conduction of over fifteen studies have highlighted the life altering symptoms experienced by individuals undergoing cancer treatment and have developed two targeted interventions: 1) Educational Intervention focused on Sexuality in Women with Gynaecological Cancer and 2) Virtual Reality intervention for Testicular Cancer awareness. ECASP members have worked with the Irish Cancer Society to better understanding the impact of health literacy on men's access to cancer prevention information. ECASP members are currently working with the Irish National Cancer Control Programme to scope and map National Cancer Survivorship Services.

Nine doctorate students associated with ECASP have graduated thus building research capacity. An MSc/Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing (Oncology) was launched in 2015 which facilitates the education of nurses in the specialist area of oncology.

Lead: Professor Josephine Hegarty, School of Nursing and Midwifery

ECASP web-link with full publication listings:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/nursingmidwifery/research/cancer/>

Selected

Saab, M. M., Landers, M., Cooke, E., Murphy, D., Davoren, M., & Hegarty, J. (2018). Enhancing men's awareness of testicular disorders using a virtual reality intervention: A pre-post pilot study. *Nursing Research* [published ahead-of-print]. doi: 10.1097/NNR.0000000000000303

Saab, M. M., Landers, M., & Hegarty, J. (2018). The preconscious awareness to action framework: an application to promote testicular awareness. *Nursing Research*, 67(2), 169-176. doi: 10.1097/NNR.0000000000000268

O'Mahony, M., Comber, H., Fitzgerald, T., Corrigan, M. A., Fitzgerald, E., Grunfeld, E. A., Flynn, M. G. and Hegarty, J. (2017) 'Interventions for raising breast cancer awareness in women', *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, (2). doi:10.1002/14651858.CD011396.pub2

Saab, M. M., Landers, M., & Hegarty, J. (2017). Exploring men's preferred strategies for learning about testicular disorders inclusive of testicular cancer: A qualitative descriptive study. *European Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 26, 27-35. doi: 10.1016/j.ejon.2016.11.001

Fitzgerald, S., Cornally, N., & Hegarty, J. (2017). Men's Perspectives on Cancer Prevention Behaviours Associated with HPV. *Psycho-Oncology*. 1-8. doi: 10.1002/pon.4515

McCarthy, B., Andrews, T., & Hegarty, J. (2015). Emotional resistance building: how family members of loved ones undergoing chemotherapy treatment process their fear of emotional collapse. *Journal of advanced nursing*, 71(4), 837-848. doi: 10.1111/jan.12549

NEWS ITEMS 2018

January 2018



Time for celebration in the E.CASP Research Group: Three members of the E-CASP research group complete their PhD in the past year.

Dr Ashling Rosanna Murphy's PhD thesis centred on identifying factors that influence the quality of life of women with breast cancer and their significant others. Interestingly Ashling found that being a significant other of a woman with breast cancer was associated with a lower quality of life. This research has highlighted the impact that a breast cancer diagnosis has on both the woman with breast cancer, her significant other and their relationship.

Dr Mary Reidy tested the feasibility and acceptability of the Early Monitoring of Breast and Cervical Cancer Signs & Screening in Intellectual Disabilities (EMBRACES- ID) educational programme. The aim of the intervention was to raise cancer and screening awareness among women with an ID and their carers. Mary has highlighted the importance of targeted interventions for vulnerable populations.

Dr Mohamad Saab sought to enhance men's awareness of testicular disorders using a virtual reality intervention (E-MAT) in the Irish context. E-MAT was developed as an educational experience using virtual reality gaming technology. Men found the intervention was feasible, enjoyable, and user-friendly. Mohamad has shown that virtual reality can be used to promote awareness of different health topics which is especially important for traditionally hard to reach groups such as younger men.

Walsh's MSc (research) project.

Background References

1. The colours of the petals of the logo represent breast cancer, testicular cancer, prostate cancer, colorectal cancer, and head and neck cancers. The yellow dot in the middle is the universal cancer ribbon colour. The use of petals was to represent a group actively seeking to build collaborations and to produce new research which will enhance the life of those experiencing the cancer survivorship trajectory.
2. Ahmad A.S., Ormiston-Smith N. & Sasieni P.D. (2015) Trends in the lifetime risk of developing cancer in Great Britain: comparison of risk for those born from 1930 to 1960. *British Journal of Cancer* **112**, 943–947. doi:10.1038/bjc.2014.606
3. Parkin D.M., Boyd L. & Walker L.C. (2011) The fraction of cancer attributable to lifestyle and environmental factors in the UK in 2010. Summary and conclusions. *British Journal of Cancer* **105**, S77-S81.
4. Henley S., Singh S.D., King J., et al (2015) Invasive cancer incidence and survival — United States, 2011. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)* **64**(9), 237-263.
5. National Cancer Registry (2018) Cancer in Ireland 1994-2016 with estimates for 2016-2018: Annual Report of the National Cancer Registry. NCR, Cork, Ireland.