

Annual Nursing Report

2019



Compiled by:

Aisling Fanning- Acting Clinical Nurse Manager 3

Marie Harold-Barry- Nursing Administration

Background:

Palliative care is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problems associated with life-threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification, impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychosocial and spiritual (WHO, 2004).

Specialist Palliative Care refers to services whose core activity is limited to the provision of palliative care. These services are involved in the care of patients with complex and demanding care needs. The South Tipperary Hospice Homecare team is a specialist team providing specialist palliative care to patients in South Tipperary and West Waterford.

Our Clinical Lead is Dr Brian Creedon/Dr Denis Hayes, Consultants in Palliative Medicine, who rotationally attend our weekly MDT meetings, see patients in both STGH and UHW as outpatients as well as seeing in-patients in both these locations.

Out of hours Consultant Specialist Palliative Medicine conferral advice is available to us on a 24 hour basis via the University Hospital switchboard.

We currently have 1 WTE ACNM3 and 5.6 WTE Clinical Nurse Specialists in Palliative Care available to provide a palliative care service in the community.

South Tipperary Hospice Homecare runs a 24 hour x 7 da week service. This service is unique in the Southeast region of Ireland, providing patients and their families with

There is a designated 0.7 WTE Occupational Therapist for palliative care for South Tipperary who works closely with us.

Central to how we operate is our ongoing liaison with the GP and all associated healthcare professional's involved in their patients care. All referrals to our service have to be agreed beforehand by the GP. Most referrals come via the *Specialist Palliative Care Services Referral Form* developed by the *National Clinical Care Programme for Palliative Care (NCPPC)*.

We liaise closely with all hospitals and individual health professionals associated with the patient's condition/treatment plan in order to provide a seamless service. As we are fully integrated with all the Specialist Palliative Care services in the Southeast we communicate very closely with the hospital services as patients are admitted there, seen in OPDs or day wards and at the time of their discharge to the community.

This service is also extended to patients with neurological conditions (eg Motor Neurone Disease/Parkinson's) and non-malignant conditions (eg COPD/Pulmonary Fibrosis/Renal failure), who are symptomatic at the end of their lives and require the specialist palliative care intervention.

Patients are also discharged from the service if they are no longer requiring specialist palliative care or do not want our ongoing involvement. In this instance, they are discharged back to the care of their GP with a discharge letter stating same. Further information on our service can be viewed at: www.sthm.org

Changes to Nursing Staff Compliment:

CNSp Anne Grace retired from the service in September 2019.

Mary Connolly continues in her role as INTERIM DIRECTOR of Palliative Care Nursing Services in Southeast.

Aisling Fanning continues in her role as Acting Clinical Nurse Manager for the local service.

CNSp Cathy Murphy commenced employment with the South Tipperary Hospice Movement as 0.5 WTE, in January 2019. She was successful in being panelled for a temporary 1 WTE post in April 2019 and remains in that post.

The compliment of staff 5.6 WTE x CNSp's and 1 WTE x ACNM3.

Administration Staff Compliment:

Marie Harold Barry continues to work as 0.6 WTE, providing essential administration support to the nursing staff.

Occupational Therapy Service:

We continue to have a 0.7 WTE Occupational Therapist for the service. At present the Occupational Therapist is seeing only patients with a malignancy diagnosis.

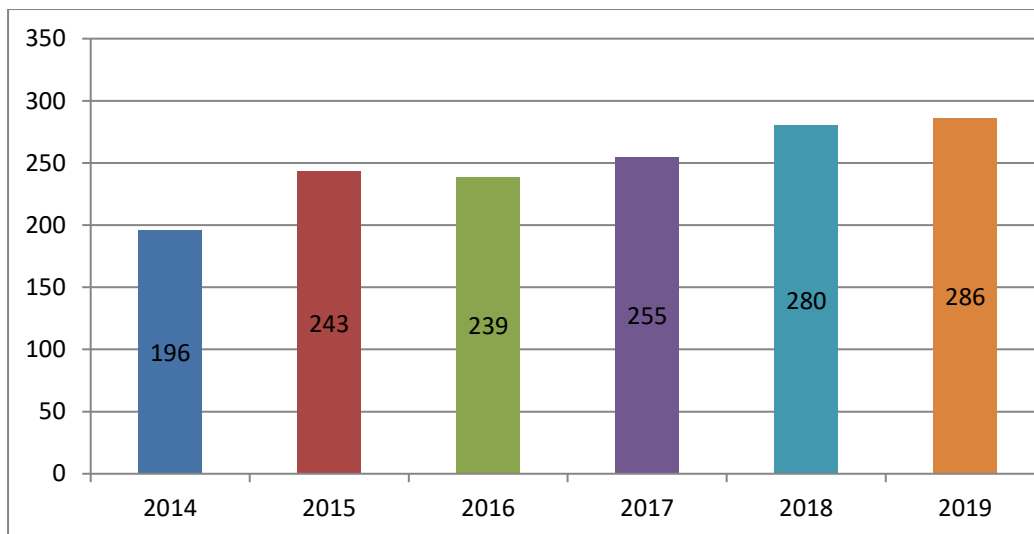
Those patients with a non-malignant diagnosis are being managed by Primary Care Occupational Therapy, unless they are deemed to be at End Of Life, in which case our own Occupational therapist provides the service

Patient Statistics

New Referrals

New patients referred to the service in 2019- Patient Number 286

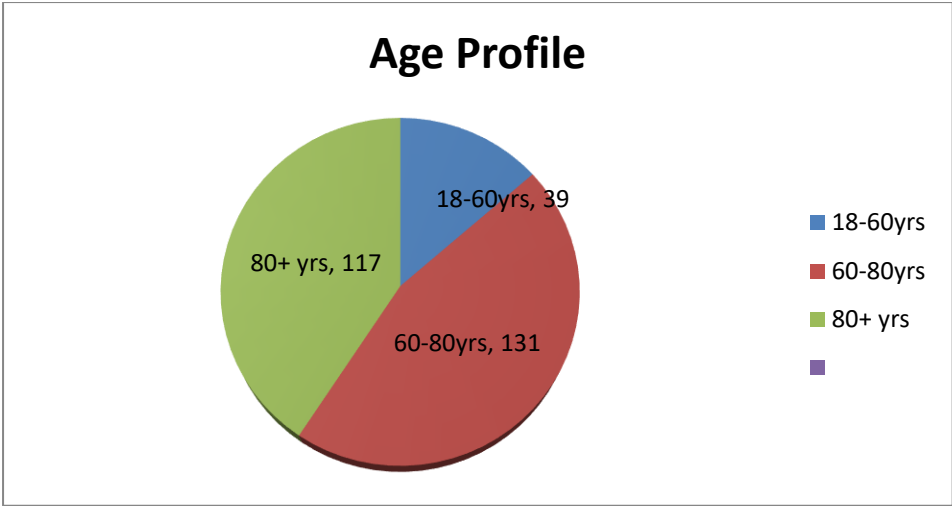
This equates to an increase of 11% from 2017 figures.



Age Profile of referred patients:

New Patient Age Analysis:

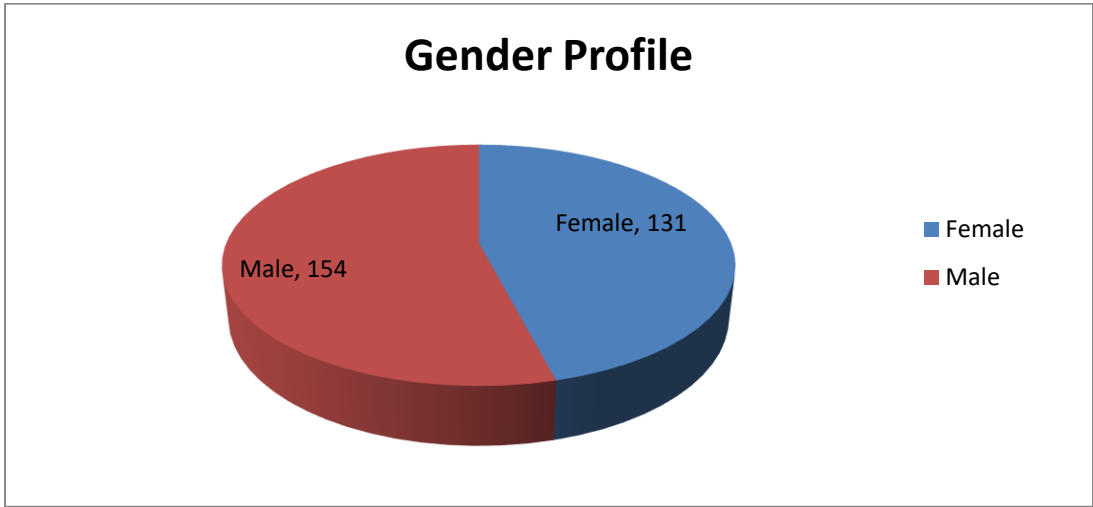
0-17 yrs	0 patients
18-60 yrs	39 patients
60-80 yrs	131 patients
80+ yrs	116 patients



Gender Profile of New Referrals:

Female (131 patients): 47%

Male (154 patients): 53%

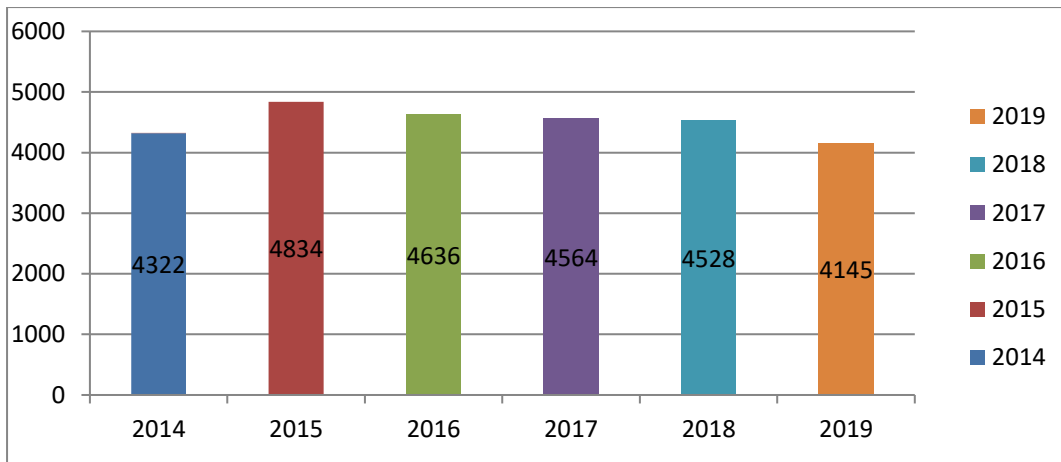


There has been a slight increase in the rate of male referrals for 2109.

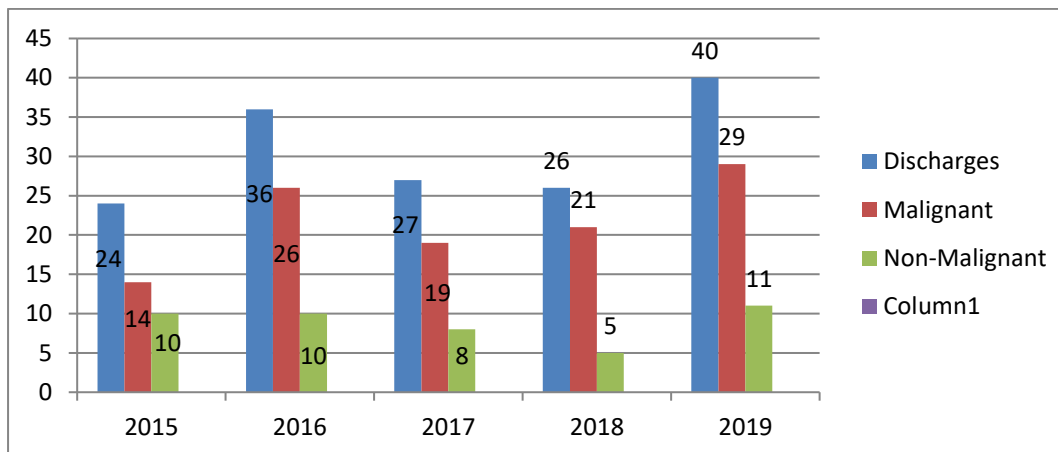
Number of Homecare Visits to patients:

4145 overall visits to patients place of residence throughout 2019.

This equates to a decrease of 8.4 % since 2018.



Discharges:



Number of discharges from the service: 40

Discharges with a Malignancy: 29

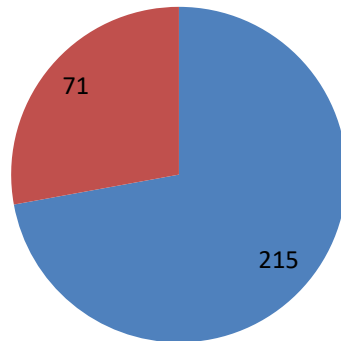
Discharges with a Non Malignancy: 11

Primary Diagnosis of New Patients:

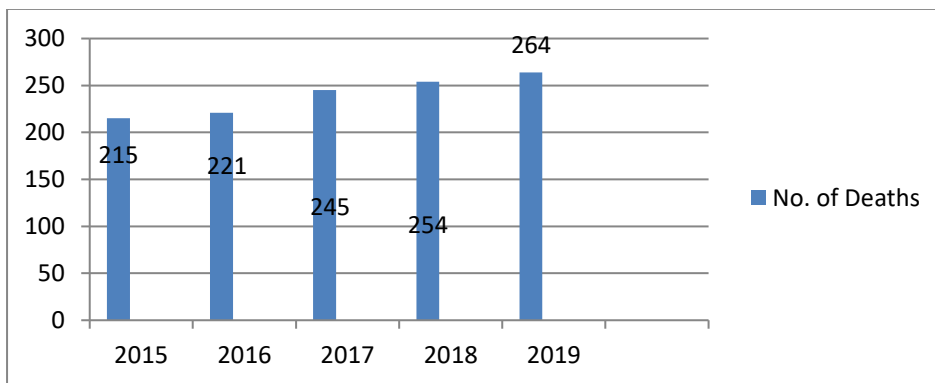
Malignant: 215 (75%)

Non-malignant: 71 (25%)

Malignant: 215 (75%)
Non Malignant: 71 (25%)



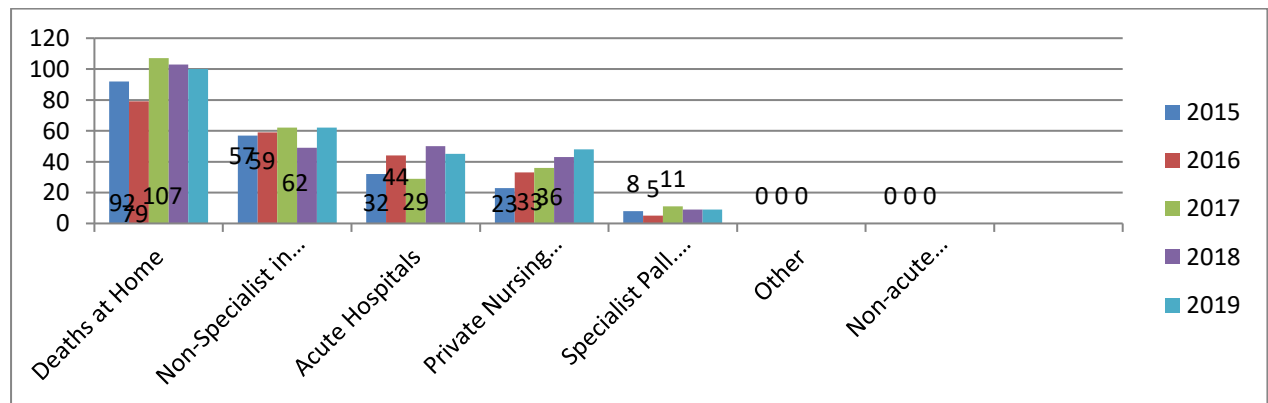
Deaths:



The total number of deaths that occurred of patients referred to our service in 2019 was 264.

This equates to an increase of 3.9 % from the 2018 figures.

Breakdown of Place of Death:



Number of patients who died at home: 100

Number of patients who died in a designated non specialist intermediate care bed in the community: 62

Number of patients who died in an acute hospital: 50

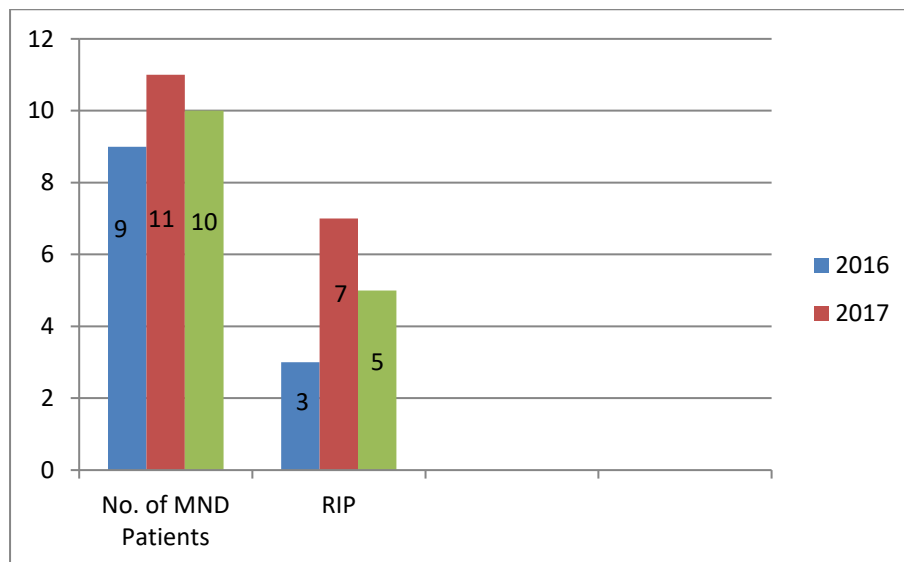
Number of patients who died in a private nursing home: 43

Number of patients who died in a specialist palliative care inpatient unit: 9

Number of patients who died in other: 0

Number of patients who died in a non acute hospital bed: 0

Motor Neurone Disease Patients



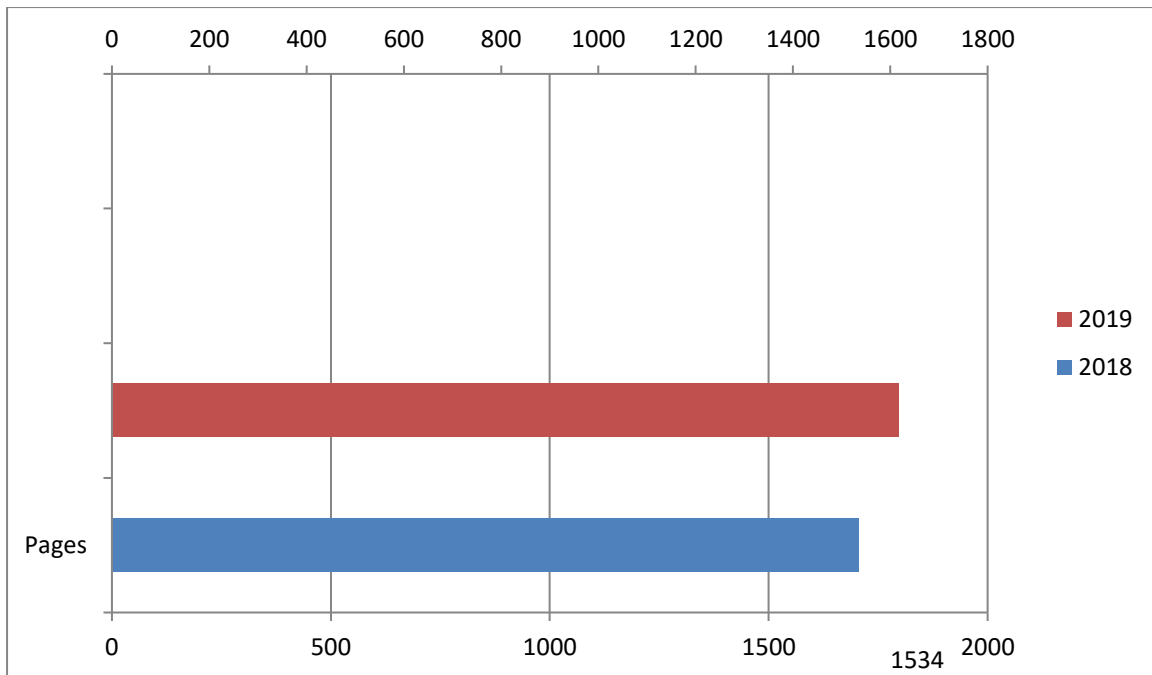
Motor Neurone Disease (MND) patients make approximately 10% of our patient cohort in 2019.

Management of MND continues to be through a Multidisciplinary approach. We liaise very closely with the GP, PHN, Physio, SLT, Dietician, MNDA Nurses, Equipment Reps and Neurology teams to provide appropriate care to this cohort of patients. Much forward planning is indicated for this cohort of patients and often necessitates in joint professional visits.

The Paging Service

The paging remains an integral part of our service.

There were 1796 calls made to the Paging Service in 2019.



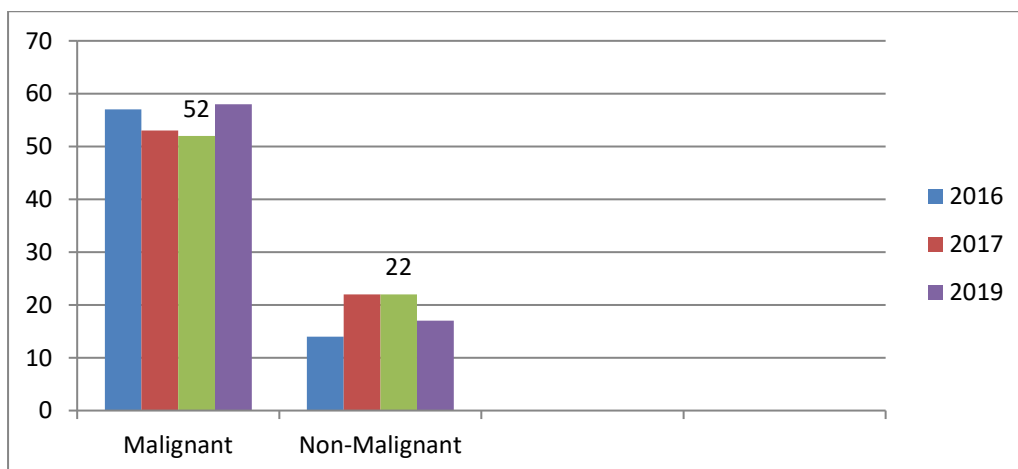
Night Nursing Service

This continues to be an integral part of the care of the dying patient at home. We continue to get great support both from the Irish Cancer Society (ICS) who fund the night nurses for those with a malignant diagnosis and the Irish Hospice Foundation (IHF) who fund those patients who require night nurses who have a non-malignant diagnosis.

The Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association (IMNDA) fund nights for those with a diagnosis of MND.

The ICS manages the night nursing service irrespective of the funding.

No. of Patients who used Night Nursing:



2019	Malignant	Non-Malignant
Patients with nights	58	17
Number of nights	250	58

Icare Computer System

The Icare Patient Management System continues to provide advantages and challenges.

The McKinley T34 Syringe Drivers

We continue to work with the McKinley T34 Syringe Drivers both as a 24° and a 48 ° device. Via the Biomedical Engineering Department in UHW STHM receive technical support from Rochford Medical for machines that need repairs during the year. They are also responsible for the annual servicing of all devices.

Overall we are happy with these devices with regard to their accuracy and dependability.

The annual service of our equipment was completed in April 2019.

Clinical Supervision

We continued with our 6 Clinical Supervision sessions throughout the calendar year with our facilitator, Margaret Collins Smyth.

3 of these sessions continue to be funded by the HSE with the remaining 3 funded by the Committee of South Tipperary Hospice Movement.

Clinical supervision remains a very valued and essential support to the nursing service who work in holistically demanding environments and need this outlet to air professional issues in a safe and therapeutic environment.

Post Grad Placements

The service continues to education and training GP Trainees and SpR's working in Specialist Palliative Care in UHW by attending our weekly MDT meeting and going out on visits to patient's homes, nursing homes and district hospitals.

The service also provides Clinical Experience to RGN's who are undertaking their Post Graduate Diploma in Specialist Palliative Care.

Bereavement Service

Mary Grant continues in her role as bereavement counsellor for the service.

Complimentary Therapies

This service is available through the team/office but was not requested in 2019.

The CARE Support Group

Patients and families are routinely referred to the Cancer Aftercare Relaxation Education (CARE) support centre in Clonmel with which we have a very good ongoing relationship with.

Education and Training

All Mandatory and HSELAND training for all nursing staff was ongoing throughout 2019.

Training register has been maintained.

DATE	VENUE	ATTENDEE
7/2/19	IAPC-KILKENNY	AF
1/3/19	MASTERCLASS- MARYMOUNT	AF,TP,SC
28/2/19 & 1/3/19	MILFORD- Advanced COMMUNICATION WORKSHOP	MMC & MF
6/3/19	MOVING POINTS-BEAUMOUNT	MOM, NL, AG
13/3/19	DELIVERING BAD NEWS-UHW	MMC
9/4/19	OPEN DISCLOSURE-STGH	AF, MF
2/5/19	EMPLOYEE ASSIST PROGRAMME-Waterford	AF
28/5/19	TRAIN THE TRAINER-UHW	TP
29/5/19	SPC IP UNIT UHW	Entire Team
28/5/19	VIOLENCE & AGGRESSION-KILKENNY	TP
12/9/19	VIOLENCE & AGGRESSION-KILKENNY	MF & MOM
13/9/19	VIOLENCE & AGGRESSION-KILKENNY	MMC, SC & AF
9/9/19	BERNIE CORR/MND- STHM OFFICE	Entire Team
9/11/19	PALLIATIVE CARE CNS FORUM-UHW	TP, MMC, NL, MOM, SC, MF,
12/11/19	DECISION MAKING CAPACITY-UHW	AF, TP, MMC, MOM, SC, CM

Meetings held in 2019

There were 8 Nurses Team Meetings held in 2019

There were 9 Clinical Nurse Manager 3 Regional meetings held in UHW.

The weekly consultant led multidisciplinary team meeting is central to our service.

As a team we meet twice weekly for patient handover purposes.

Chris Scott –SMI (ICARE) site visit 05/2019

Changes to the Service in 2019

Dr Denise Hayes continues to provide locum consultant clinical cover since Dr Walls's retirement.

Achievements during the Year

- The nursing team designed 2 new patient information and bereavement leaflets.
- Personal alarms were supplied to all CNSp's.
- In January each CNS was furnished with a HSE Laptop/MFI/Docking station.