



NATIONAL COUNCIL *of the* **FORUM on END of LIFE**

*Bás in Éirinn*

IN IRELAND

# FORUM 2013

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Key Theme:  
Length of Days – Quality of Life

Dublin Castle  
Thursday **October 24, 2013**

An initiative of





# FORUM 2013

The National Council was formed in July 2010 following an extensive year-long public consultation by the Forum on End of Life in Ireland. The Forum identified what end-of-life issues mattered most to people. A work plan, developed to address the issues raised, is being carried out by the National Council.

This is the third Forum event and it always presents a valuable opportunity to get feedback on progress that is being made and some guidance for future work.

## Key theme: **Length of Days - Quality of Life**

Ireland currently has one of the youngest populations and the lowest proportion of people aged over 65 years in the European Union.

But this is changing. Irish people are living longer than previous generations. The average life expectancy for Irish men is 76.8 years and for women is 81.6 years. In 2011, there were about 535,000 people in Ireland aged over 65. By 2041, there will be an estimated 1.3m million to 1.4 million people aged over 65 years.

In recent years, the government has published a number of policy documents relating to ageing. These include the National Positive Ageing Strategy and the Carers Strategy and a Dementia Strategy is currently in preparation. The Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Bill is due to be published in June. This legislation will provide a legal framework for Advance Care Directives enabling people to make decisions about their end-of-life care.

Of the 29,000 people die in Ireland each year, about three quarters are 65 years or over. Irish Hospice Foundation research in 2004 revealed that most people wish to die in their own homes surrounded by their loved ones, pain-free, conscious and able to communicate. However, more than seven out of 10 people die outside their own homes and 43% die in busy acute hospitals. For each person who dies about 10 people are likely to be bereaved.

The Forum will explore the different perspectives on longevity: ethical issues at end of life; community responses to dying, death and bereavement and quality of life and ageing.

## Guest speakers:

Professor **Göran Hermerén**, Professor Emeritus, Medical Ethics, Faculty of Medicine, Lund University, Sweden, will address the theme **Length of Days - Quality of Life**. Prof Hermeren has been professor of philosophy at several universities, and since 1991 professor of medical ethics at Lund University, Sweden.

## The **Mary Holland** Commemorative Lecture

(in association with The Irish Times)

An award winning BBC Special Correspondent and author **Fergal Keane** will deliver the address in memory of the former Irish Times journalist and campaigner for social justice.



# FORUM PROGRAMME

**08.15-9.00 Registration and Refreshments** (take part in collective art event)

**9.00 Tallaght Hospital Choir** Workplace Choir of the Year 2013

**9.10 Welcome:** The Irish Hospice Foundation (IHF)

**9.20 Opening address**

Mrs Justice **Catherine McGuinness**

Chair, National Council of the Forum on End of Life

**9.35 Guest speaker**

Prof **Göran Hermerén**

Professor Emeritus, Medical Ethics, Faculty of Medicine,  
Lund University, Sweden

**10:10 Response**

Dr **Joan McCarthy**

Lecturer in Healthcare Ethics in the School of Nursing  
and Midwifery, University College Cork

**10.30-11:00 Refreshments** (take part in collective art event)

**11.00 Mary Holland Commemorative Lecture**

**Fergal Keane**

Award winning BBC Special Correspondent and author

**11:30 Musical Interlude** (Philip King)

**11.45 Contemporary perspectives: Living and dying with dignity in today's Ireland**

Chair: **Bryan Dobson**, RTE

Research perspective: Prof. **Charles Normand**

Edward Kennedy Professor of Health Policy and Management at  
Trinity College Dublin.

Economic perspective: **Dan O'Brien**

Economics Editor, The Irish Times

Community perspective: Fr **Pierce Cormac**

Hospital Chaplain

Legal perspective: **Dr Deirdre Madden**

Senior Lecturer in Law, University College Cork

**13.05 Discussion**

**13.30-14.30 Lunch** (take part in collective art event)

## 14.30 Workshops: Informing the Workplan of the Forum

**A**

### **Pain management and treatment at end of life**

Leader: **Dr Paul Gregan**

Consultant in Palliative Care Medicine and GP

**C**

### **Think Ahead – Speak for Yourself.**

Leaders: **Patricia Rickard Clarke**

Solicitor and former Law Reform Commissioner

**Dr Brendan O'Shea**

GP and lecturer in Department of Primary Care and Public Health at Trinity College Dublin

**E**

### **End of Life Care in the Emergency Department**

Leader: **Dr Una Geary**

Consultant in Emergency Medicine and Clinical Lead, Emergency Medicine Programme, HSE

**B**

### **Exploring spirituality at end of life**

Leader: **Bryan Nolan**

Communications & Development Coordinator (Final Journeys)

**D**

### **Pressing the pause button: Reviewing end-of-life care**

Leader: **Dr Kathy McLoughlin**

National End of Life Audit and Review Coordinator, IHF

**F**

### **Planning for the future when you have dementia.**

Leaders: **Marie Lynch**

Programme Development Manager, IHF

**Samantha Taylor**

Information and Helpline Manager, The Alzheimer Society of Ireland

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## **Training session**

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**G**

### **Five Things You Need to Know. A training programme for Health and Social Care Professionals caring for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Patients**

Leader: **Dr Paul D'Alton**

Head of the Department of Psycho-oncology at St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin.

## 15.30 **Feedback from workshops**

**Olivia O'Leary**

Journalist and broadcaster.

Collective Art Piece Unveiled

## 16.00 **Personal reflection:**

**Theo Dorgan**

Poet, prose writer, editor and translator.

## 16.10 **Closing remarks:**

**Sharon Foley**

CEO of the Irish Hospice Foundation.

**16:20-16:30 Move4Parkinsons 'Voices of Hope Choir'**



# TAKE PART

**Booking Form:** Closing date for bookings: Friday, 11th October 2013

Online registration and details on programme are available at: [www.hospicefoundation.ie](http://www.hospicefoundation.ie)

Name: .....

Address: .....

Organisation: .....

Phone/Mobile No: .....

Email: .....

Occupation: .....

Special dietary requirements: .....

Additional requirements: .....

**I would like to attend the following workshop: (please rank in order of preference)**

- A. Pain management and treatment at end of life
- B. Exploring spirituality at end of life
- C. Think Ahead – Speak for Yourself
- D. Pressing the pause button: Reviewing end-of-life care
- E. End of Life Care in the Emergency Department
- F. Planning for the future when you have dementia.

**Please note that while we will do our best to accommodate you in the workshop of your choice we cannot guarantee to do so.**

- G. Five Things You Need to Know. A training programme for Health and Social Care Professionals caring for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Patients

**A training session aimed at health care and social care professionals – limited places**

*Professional accreditation under application from all relevant professional bodies*

Cost €40 per delegate. (Includes lunch and refreshments)

Concessions: €20 (Limited availability)

- I enclose a cheque made payable to **The Irish Hospice Foundation (Forum)** for €40/€20 .....
- I wish to be invoiced. ....

Please address invoice to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that your place is not confirmed until payment has been received.

Please send your form to:

**National Council of the Forum on End of Life:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Morrison Chambers, 32 Nassau Street, Dublin 2

Queries to tel: + 353 1 679 3188 or [forum.2013@hospicefoundation.ie](mailto:forum.2013@hospicefoundation.ie)

**CANCELLATION POLICY:**  
Please note that there is no refund for cancellations advised less than 1 week prior to the conference