



NHI Statement on Publication of HIQA National End of Life Survey

Nursing Homes Ireland welcomes publication of the National End of Life Survey report. We are heartened by the findings and responses reported in relation to the experience of people at end of life within nursing homes. These results reinforce the results of the national nursing home experience survey published in 2022 that indicated that 90% of nursing home residents had a good or very good experience. Over 23% of deaths in Ireland take place in nursing homes. It is well known that nursing homes provide care inclusive of addressing end of life care for residents and those important to them. Indeed, many NHI members pride themselves on providing a high standard of end-of-life care.

As the national representative organisation, we strive to support our members who are at the forefront of providing person centred care to older people across the country. Members of NHI are supported with training and education opportunities that address relevant areas of practice. In the last 4 years we have provided a number of webinars for members addressing palliative and end of life care and we have co-funded education with LHP Skillnet addressing care planning, and residents' rights that is inclusive of addressing the end of life care needs of residents.

We have a long history of collaboration with stakeholders including Irish Hospice Foundation (IHF) and the All-Island Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care (AIIHPC), and we will continue to work with all stakeholders to continue to support nursing home staff to provide quality person centred end of life care in nursing homes. NHI are also proud supporters of palliative care week and are actively involved in the Caru Programme currently being rolled out by IHF, AIIHPC, and the HSE. This continuous learning

programme is being made available to all nursing homes across the country and is supporting staff in nursing homes to address palliative and end of life care.

We have actively engaged with stakeholders on the findings set out in the report and are keen to work with members, HIQA, the HSE and Department of Health to fully examine some of the less positive findings relevant to the nursing home sector and seek ways to support staff in nursing homes to fully address some of the shortcomings that exist in relation to the end of life care experience as reported by bereaved families in the report.

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