



Social Care Ireland: Upcoming Conferences

Social Care Ireland have two upcoming conferences:

Intellectual Disability, Mental Health and Dementia

Key speakers at the Intellectual Disability, Mental Health and Dementia conference will be Dr Damien Brennan who is an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing and Midwifery, Nasrin O'Kelly is a social worker at St Michael's House a service provider for people with Intellectual disabilities and Evelyn Reilly is a Registered Nurse in Intellectual Disability Nursing (RNID).

Intellectual disability (ID) involves a lifelong and greater than average difficulty in intellectual, social and vocational ability with significant deficits in adaptive skills. ID covers a range of conditions and syndromes including Down's syndrome. Increasingly people with ID are living longer with implications for the provision of HSE services in particular, residential care and mental health services. Studies show that the prevalence of dementia appears about the same as in the general population. However, the prevalence of dementia among people with Down's syndrome is higher and has increased from 15.8% to 29.9% between 2010 and 2014 (Intellectual Disability Supplement to The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (TILDA)). The average age of the onset of dementia for people with Down's syndrome is 55 years old, with some cases presenting in their 40s. People with ID who are diagnosed with dementia may require specific supports and services but most continue to live within the community.

September 22 @ 9:30 am - 4:00 pm - Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross, Dublin 6

Please click here for more information.

<https://www.socialcareireland.ie/event/intellectual-disability-mental-health-dementia/>

Disability, Sexuality and Relationships-Supporting service users to make choices.

Knowing how best to vindicate the rights of people with disabilities in relation to sexuality and reproductive health can be a complex matter for many Health and Social Care Professions (HSCP). Domestic and international policy and legislation conflicts while professionals themselves share a wide variety of ethical perspectives in relation to sexuality and reproductive rights. For example, a survey by the National Disability Authority in 2011 found that just 51% of the Irish public believe that people with intellectual disabilities are entitled to have sexual relationships while 38% thought people with intellectual disabilities had a right to have children. The right of all people to sexuality and to sexual and reproductive health is recognised in a range of international conventions and treaties. However, domestic legislation in this area takes a different and conflicting approach, emphasising the protection of people with disabilities and placing severe limits on the kinds of intimate relationships people with intellectual disabilities can have. In addition, many professionals are in the process of familiarising themselves with the HSE Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons at Risk of Abuse Policy and Procedures. The very recent enactment of the Assisted Decision-Making (Capacity) Act 2015 will further impact on this area bringing with it new responsibilities for many HSCPs.

October 24 @ 9:00 am - 4:30 pm - Athlone, Co Westmeath

Please [click here](#) for more information.

<https://www.socialcareireland.ie/event/disability-sexuality-relationships-supporting-service-users-make-choices-3/>

Both are interdisciplinary CPD conferences coordinated by Social Care Ireland & Irish association of Social Workers.

<https://www.activelink.ie/content/community-exchange/events/32764>