



EAP HIGHLIGHTS

To mark National Eating Disorders Awareness week, the EAP department collaborated with Dr Michelle Clifford, Chair of the Eating Disorders Special Interest Group, on a number of related pieces of content for both internal and external channels. These are outlined below:

- A blog post titled **“Eating Disorders Awareness Week 2020 – What’s On”**, was published in advance of the week detailing a number of events and information stands taking place nationally. This was tweeted and saw great engagement with 3,469 impressions/views, 76 link clicks and 12 retweets.
- A further editorial style blog piece, **“Fact or Fiction: 8 Common Myths Around Eating Disorders”** written by Dr Clifford and edited by the EAP department was published and had received 199 views at the time of writing. The aim of the piece was to emphasize that EDs are serious mental disorders, that can affect people across the spectrum of society, and that fully-funded specialist teams and evidence-based treatment leads to greater recovery. The National Clinical Programme was also highlighted.
- A newsletter with information on a number of related resources was compiled and sent to all members. This included links to eModules available on Moodle and newly launched HSE ED information and self-care app, information on the College EDSIG and some related research from the IJPM.



Top Search Bar Terms:

1. Dr John Hillery
2. Moodle
3. EAF (Educational Approval Form)
4. ECT
5. Exam

**the keywords used in the inbuilt website search bar*

No. of Website Visitors:

13, 543 (1st Feb - 11th Mar 2020)

Top Tweet



131 Engagements & 6,355 Views

📢 MEDIA ROUND-UP

EAP Media Activities: The College and the press

February & March 2020

“Letter to the Editor”, Dr Maeve Doyle and Dr Gerry McCarney in The Medical Independent, March 2020

Dr Maeve Doyle, Director of Communication and Public Education and Dr Gerry McCarney, Chair of the CAP Faculty worked with the EAP



Department on a letter to the Editor of the Medical Independent reacting to an article by GP, Dr Lucia Gannon, titled “A wish for the next decade”. This letter was published in the 2nd March edition and clarified some misinformation contained in the original article relating to referrals to CAMHS from GPs, and a statement regarding an absence mental health services for young people.



“Doctors in Ireland are under enormous pressure: Why medics self-medicate”, The Irish Times, February 2020

The college provided a number of quotes and information for an IT article based on published research on rates of self-prescription amongst doctors. The College was quoted regarding the acknowledgement of self-care as part of the Foundation Year induction week and inclusion of the Practitioner Health Matter programme in same, and the provision of mandatory Balint group attendance by Trainees.

Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine in The Irish Examiner, February 2020

IJPM article on DBT-A covered by the Irish Examiner.

Other Press Activity:

- (i) Query from Kildare FM for a Psychiatrist to speak no anxiety induced by Covid-19, and the panic-buying of supplies this causes. Advised to contact Psychological Society of Ireland.
- (ii) Query from the Irish Examiner for interviewee for article on daughters who followed their mothers into a career in medicine, for International Women’s Day.
- (iii) Request for possible comment on RTE radio re. difficulties coming off SSRIs/antidepressants.

EAP COMMITTEE REPORTS

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ETHICS COMMITTEE Chair: Dr Pauline Twomey, Vice-Chair: Dr Ciaran Clarke

AIMS:
To provide support and advice to the College and its members on the ethical dimension of patient care.
To ensure there is an ethical input into College submissions, policy and position papers.
To ensure members have an awareness and expertise in Human Rights Legislation and its impact on mental health care.

Next Meeting: [7th May 2020](#)

LAW COMMITTEE Chair: Dr Mike Scully, Vice-Chair: Dr Valerie Murphy

AIM:
To provide expert psychiatric opinion based on mental health and law and to contribute to development of better mental health law.

OBJECTIVES:
To respond to requests for submissions on legal issues related to mental health.
To inform and educate members on matters related to law and mental health.
To assist the College in informing the general public on matters related to law and mental health.

- Valerie Murphy was elected as **Vice-Chair of the Committee** at a meeting on Tuesday, 17th November 2019.
- The main item of activity/concern, currently, remains the proposed DoLs addendum to the ADM (C) Act.

Next Meeting: [25th April 2020](#)

REFOCUS - RECOVERY EXPERIENCE FORUM OF CARERS AND USERS OF SERVICES Joint Chairs: Dr Mia McLoughlin and Ms Christine McCabe

AIMS:
To engage actively in genuine partnership with the College so that training, ongoing competence and day to day practice of Psychiatry is informed and guided by those who have had experience of mental illness, or who have cared for those with mental illness. The forum comprises 23 members which includes service users/patients (8), family members/carers (8) & psychiatrists (8)

- Most recent meeting took place on the 6th March 2020
- Approval in principle has been granted in relation a proposed suite of videos on the themes of "Psychiatric Diagnosis" and "Family Dynamics". Between 6 and 8 short videos will be produced in-house by the EAP Team and will feature REFOCUS members.
- Owing to the success of the day, it has been proposed and accepted in principle that the Monetary Impact of Mental Illness symposium is run again before the summer in Waterford.

Next Meetings: [22nd May 2020](#) & [18th September 2020](#)

EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

Family Carers Ireland (FCI)

Family Carers Ireland presented and partook in a panel discussion at a recent PCS Hot Topics session on Carers. They focused on the recent national survey of Carers carried out with the College and other practical information for attendees around supports for family carers. Feedback received was overwhelmingly positive