

## All-Ireland Health Intelligence Conference 2006 Exhibitor Information

Exhibit	Description
<p><b>Association of Public Health Observatories</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.apho.org.uk">www.apho.org.uk</a></p>	<p>The Association of Public Health Observatories (APHO) is a network of twelve Public Health Observatories from the regions of England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Ireland.</p> <p>This exhibit will explain the function of the Association of Public Health Observatories and how it provides health intelligence support for public health across the five nations.</p>
<p><b>Central Statistics Office (CSO)</b></p>	<p><b>Central Statistics Office Website</b> The website (<a href="http://www.cso.ie">www.cso.ie</a>) has become one of the main information dissemination vehicles for the CSO. Over the years, our website has been expanded substantially and now holds a comprehensive amount of statistical information on a diverse range of topics such as:</p> <p><b>People and Society</b> - Population, births, deaths and marriages, education, health and social conditions etc.</p> <p><b>Labour Market and Earnings</b> - Employment/unemployment, quarterly national household survey, earnings in the various sectors etc.</p> <p><b>Economy</b> - National accounts, external trade, prices etc.</p> <p><b>Business Sectors</b> - Agriculture and fishing, construction, industry etc.</p> <p><b>Environment and Climate</b></p> <p>In addition to these themed areas there are specialist areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Database Direct (Access to CSO on-line databases)</li> <li>• Surveys &amp; Methodology</li> <li>• Student's Corner</li> <li>• Latest Releases</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• News Corner</li> <li>• Special Topics</li> <li>• About Us/Contact Us</li> <li>• Links (to Irish and International Statistical Organisations and other related sites)</li> <li>• Freedom of Information</li> </ul> <p>The website was redesigned in 2005 primarily with users in mind. One of our aims was to make it more user-friendly and to make the information more easily accessible. The CSO is proud to announce that we have now achieved triple 'A' web accessibility status.</p> <p>Since 1998, CSO publishes all statistical releases on the CSO website on the day of release. From January 2003, all publications have been available on our website also. We have also added a new data dissemination service to our website, which gives users access to a vast quantity of statistical data. Another addition is the Census Interactive Tables.</p>
<p><b>Computerised Infectious Disease Reporting (CIDR)</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.hpsc.ie">www.hpsc.ie</a></p>	<p>CIDR is a new information system developed to manage the surveillance and control of human infectious diseases in Ireland. It also monitors organisms' ability to resist antibiotic drugs (antimicrobial resistance). CIDR is a shared national information system for the CIDR partners - the Health Service Executive, the Health Protection Surveillance Centre, the Food Safety Authority of Ireland, the Food Safety Promotion Board and the Department of Health and Children. CIDR has now been implemented in Public Health in 6/8 of the former Health Board regions, covering 80% of the population. CIDR has also been implemented in 14 laboratories across the country including both routine diagnostic microbiology labs and reference labs. It is expected that CIDR implementation in the remaining Health Board regions and hospital labs will continue through the remainder of 2006 to be completed in mid-2007. CIDR is already beginning to demonstrate significant improvements in the quality and timeliness of notifications of human infectious disease.</p>
<p><b>Department of Health and Children</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.dohc.ie">www.dohc.ie</a></p>	<p>The Information Unit stand will display a number of Information developments and applications. These will include –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Public Health Information System V.9 which makes available a wide range of public health data on CD Rom.</li> <li>• The Health Statistics Report 2005, which has just been released - copies will be available.</li> <li>• European Union Public Health Portal which is a web-based means of disseminating health information across the EU.</li> <li>• Information on the Ethnicity Pilot Project which has developed and piloted ethnicity monitoring within the health domain.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Health Atlas Ireland</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ich.ie">www.ich.ie</a></p>	<p>Health Atlas Ireland brings together geographical information system (GIS) technologies, health related datasets (census, hospital activity, mortality, cancer incidence, road collisions etc) and powerful statistical capability that runs on the "raw" data. It provides for role-based web access to "health mapping" across the sector in support of service planning and delivery, epidemiology, emergency responding and research. A public interface for infectious diseases will be provided by the Health Protection Surveillance Centre (HPSC). Siemens Ireland and OpenApp were selected to develop the system in an open source environment following a restricted EU tendering process. The project is led by the Health Information Unit, Health Intelligence, National Population Health Directorate, HSE in partnership with the School of Public Health and Population Science, UCD and the Department of Geography, NUI, Maynooth. Seed funding was provided by the Health Research Board and the HPSC, HSE.</p>
<p><b>Health Research Board</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.hrb.ie">www.hrb.ie</a></p>	<p>The Health Research Board (HRB) is the lead agency supporting and funding health research and development in Ireland. In recognition of the important role that information systems play in supporting research and development in this area, the HRB introduced an award scheme dedicated to the development of health information systems that would underpin research and development in health and social care. This meant that the information systems we funded would be developed with research at the core. It also helped to promote communication between researchers, service providers and systems developers and encouraged the development of synergies and partnerships across agencies and between the health and academic sectors.</p> <p>The display and information we have put together for the Inaugural All-Ireland Health Intelligence Conference, highlights the projects that we have funded under the health information systems awards and also illustrates how some of these projects have already been developed to a stage where they are now being used to support research and development.</p>
<p><b>Institute of Public Health in Ireland</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.publichealth.ie">www.publichealth.ie</a></p>	<p>The Institute of Public Health in Ireland was established in 1999 to promote cooperation for public health across the island. It aims to improve health in Ireland by working to combat health inequalities and influence public policy in favour of health. The Institute's work includes an all-Ireland leadership programme, research and evaluation, advising on policy, building capacity for health impact assessment (HIA) and the development of Ireland and Northern Ireland's Population Health Observatory (INIsPHO). This exhibit will highlight a number of key projects in these areas of work.</p>

**Ireland and Northern Ireland's Population Health Observatory (INIsPHO)**

Ireland and Northern Ireland's Population Health Observatory was established in 2005 within the Institute of Public Health in Ireland.

The observatory aims to support those working to improve health and reduce health inequalities by producing and disseminating health intelligence, and strengthening the research and information infrastructure on the island of Ireland.

The Observatory's projects and activities are grouped under a number of working areas;

- Research
- Evidence into Practice
- Resource Development
- Training
- Network Support
- Organisational Development

This exhibit will outline a number of key projects within the Observatory including;

- A systematic approach to estimating population prevalence on the island of Ireland in 2005
- The development of an All Ireland electronic Health Library and
- INIsPHO (Online) data

**Northern Ireland Cancer Registry**

**The National Cancer Registry Ireland**

[www.ncri.ie](http://www.ncri.ie)

The Northern Ireland Cancer Registry and the National Cancer Registry Ireland will be exhibiting some of their All-Ireland work and reports.

<p><b>Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS)</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk">www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>The Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (<a href="http://www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk">www.ninis.nisra.gov.uk</a>) is a free web-based service which provides statistical information on Northern Ireland's population and socio-economic characteristics at the small area or local neighbourhood level.</p>
<p><b>Patient Treatment Register (Ireland)</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ptr.ie">www.ptr.ie</a></p>	<p>In May 2004 the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF) in Ireland was given responsibility for the collation and the management of the national waiting list data for in-patient and day-case treatment. On reviewing the historical system of collecting data the NTPF found that there was variation in the recording, definitions and report of patient data.</p> <p>In a significant new development, the NTPF moved away from the old system to create a new national waiting list system, a Patient Treatment Register with information based on named patients. To date 19 hospitals are reporting on the register accounting for 74% of the patient population. All hospitals will be reporting by the end of 2006.</p> <p>The new Patient Treatment Register provides -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An accessible website link for patients (both paediatrics and adults), with detailed information on the top surgical procedures and waiting times for each;</li> <li>• A GP website link on waiting times for over 10,000 procedures in individual hospital in order to assist the referral process;</li> <li>• A separate link for each hospital with detailed information on procedures, patient status and guidelines for using the register;</li> <li>• Direct interaction between the register and the patient. Patients receive a letter and a PTR card from the NTPF so that they can access the information to opt for treatment under the Fund;</li> <li>• A comprehensive picture of hospital waiting lists in Ireland including waiting times, numbers and the status of patients, together with consistent national operating guidelines and definitions</li> </ul> <p>This information is electronically updated on a monthly basis.</p> <p><b>How the Patient Treatment Register Works;</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waiting time comparisons between different hospital's for the top 20 procedures can be viewed online (<a href="http://www.ptr.ie">www.ptr.ie</a>) for the shortest waiting times.</li> <li>• The GP and patient can use this information to decide which hospital the patient should be referred to.</li> <li>• The patient attends their out-patient appointment and a decision is made on the procedure required.</li> <li>• Once the patient decides they want to accept this procedure, the hospital places them on its internal waiting list system which is electronically transferred to the PTR.</li> <li>• If the patient is still on a waiting list after three months, the NTPF writes to eligible patients and offers them treatment under the Fund in a private hospital.</li> <li>• Upon receipt of such a letter the patient can opt for treatment under the NTPF or continue to wait in their original hospital.</li> </ul> <p>The PTR gives patients options on the course of their treatment and can reduce the length of time that they have to wait for their procedure.</p>
<p><b>Public Health Alliance for Ireland</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.publichealthallianceireland.org">www.publichealthallianceireland.org</a></p>	<p><b>Networking on public health – Creating connections</b></p> <p>The presentation will detail the development of the newly formed Public Health Alliance for the island of Ireland which grew from and continues to have as its core a commitment to networking on health and health inequalities.</p> <p>The seminal conference - 'Creating Connections – Perspectives on inequalities in health – an agenda for change' demonstrated the need for a forum for networking on the public health agenda which includes all sectors and offered a platform for joined up thinking and action on health inequalities.</p> <p>The Public Health Alliance for the island of Ireland (PHA) was formed by the joining together of the Public Health Alliance Ireland (PHAI) and the Northern Ireland Public Health Association (NIPHA) in 2006. The PHA forms an independent, voluntary alliance of individuals and organisations from all sectors across the island of Ireland who share a commitment to working together for a healthier and fairer society by improving health and challenging health inequalities.</p> <p>The new alliance enables cross fertilisation of ideas and sharing of knowledge, skills and experience across the breadth of public health policy and practice.</p> <p>Building on the strengths of its members the PHA aims to support people in working more effectively at local level and creates a cohesive alliance with leverage and influence on health and health inequalities at all levels of policy making and service provision.</p> <p><b>The aim of the PHA is to work together for a healthier and fairer society by improving health and challenging health inequalities.</b></p>

	<p><b>Our goals are to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Be an independent voice for health improvement and addressing health inequalities in Ireland</li> <li>◆ Build alliances and partnerships amongst members, across sectors and disciplines, based on agreed ethical principles, mutual understanding and respect</li> <li>◆ Enable people from different backgrounds, sectors, communities and organisations to work collectively to address inequalities</li> <li>◆ Build capacity through activities that increase knowledge and expertise contribute to policy and decision making to improve health and address inequalities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Quality &amp; Outcomes Framework (QOF)</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk">www.dhsspsni.gov.uk</a></p>	<p><b>QUALITY &amp; OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES CONTRACT IN NORTHERN IRELAND</b></p> <p>QOF is a system that was introduced in the UK on 1st April 2004 as a fundamental part of the new General Medical Services (GMS) contract. It is designed to remunerate general practices for providing good quality care to their patients, and to help fund work to further improve the quality of health care delivered. Although QOF is a voluntary part of the new contract, all practices in Northern Ireland participated in these first 2 years. The QOF measures achievement against a range of evidence-based indicators, with points and payments awarded according to the level of achievement. The QOF secures improvements in: chronic disease management; clinical processes &amp; outcomes; organisational efficiency and patient experience.</p> <p>Measuring achievement against the indicators has been made possible with the development of a new web-based IT system. The Payment Calculation &amp; Analysis System (PCAS) calculates points for achievement and converts these into monetary values. All GP practices are networked and achievement reports are submitted automatically via an electronic transfer. Practice results can then be viewed over an Internet web browser. Points are adjusted according to disease levels within each practice and therefore comprehensive UK comparative information on the prevalence of 10 chronic diseases is now available as a by-product of the payment system.</p> <p>In order to be pro-active in terms of Freedom of Information, the Department of Health, Social Services &amp; Public Safety (DHSSPS) publishes all achievement and prevalence data at practice level and other administrative boundaries on the DHSSPS website. The exhibit will include a demonstration of this website. A number of bulletins and reports will also be available.</p>
<p><b>The Emergency Admissions Co-ordination Centre</b></p>	<p>In January 2000 the Eastern &amp; Northern Health &amp; Social Services Boards in Northern Ireland jointly commissioned the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) to establish an Emergency Admissions</p>

<p><b>(EACC)</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.publichealthmatters.org">www.publichealthmatters.org</a></p>	<p>Co-ordination Centre (EACC) within their ambulance control in Belfast. The main role of the EACC in these early days was as a system wide operational pressures surveillance tool that facilitated the daily management of increasing emergency admission pressures across ten hospitals in the two board areas. The success of the EACC pressures system has allowed it to expand and develop further in the last few years and the surveillance tools have now become web based. The web based surveillance systems that are in place or in a developmental stage at the EACC vary in their specification from high level pressures reporting systems to detailed bed occupancy systems. The web-based systems include: an Out of Hours Emergency Psychiatric Admission System; a Neonatal Intensive Care Cot availability system; a Fractures reporting system; a Major Incident Emergency Planning System and a Pandemic Influenza Information Management system. The story of the EACC clearly demonstrates how the innovative use of system wide surveillance information at an operational level to manage daily pressures is leading to its expansion into many other exciting areas of web-based surveillance.</p>
<p><b>The Health Promotion Agency (Northern Ireland) (HPA)</b></p>	<p>This exhibit will outline the following two areas of work:</p> <p><b>1. Smoking in public places: what the public thinks</b></p> <p>As part of the Northern Ireland Tobacco Action Plan, the HPA carried out a survey to monitor public attitudes to smoking in public places in March 2004 and February 2005. The survey report for 2004 is available at <a href="http://www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk">www.healthpromotionagency.org.uk</a></p> <p>The research in 2005 showed that the attitudes of the general public remain positive towards smoke free environments; however attitudes differ depending on the specific setting, and the individual's view of what constitutes a workplace. Overall support for smoke free environments appears to be increasing with 68% of the population supporting a law to make all workplaces smoke free in 2005 compared to only 61% in 2004.</p> <p><b>2. Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health (CEMACH): Pregnancy in women with type 1 and type 2 diabetes 2002-03</b></p> <p>CEMACH studied the largest cohort of pregnant women with pre-existing diabetes who booked or delivered between 1 March 2002 and 28 February 2003. We plan to present the pre-pregnancy care for women with pre-existing diabetes, examining the differences in preparation dependent on the type of diabetes and comparing the Northern Ireland population with the total study population.</p> <p>In general, pregnancy preparation was poor. Women with type 2 diabetes not on insulin before pregnancy were particularly poorly prepared. The Northern Ireland population studied was more likely to take folic acid and receive pre-pregnancy counselling but had poorer pre-pregnancy glycaemic control.</p>