

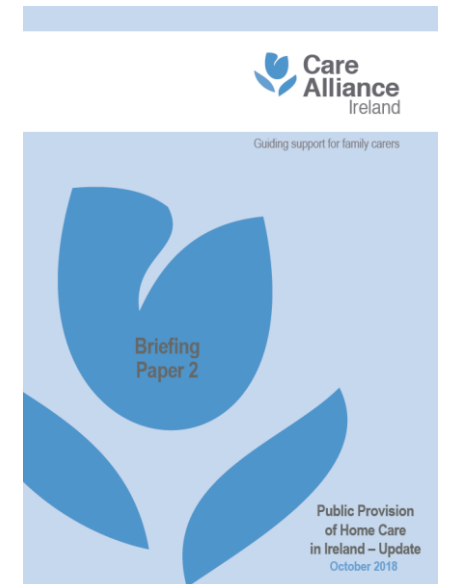
RESEARCH UPDATE: EUROCARERS RESEARCH WORKING GROUP 26-27TH SEPTEMBER 2019 (ANCONA)

- We have a strong interest in bridging the gap between Research, Policy and Practice
- Care Alliance Ireland – our own research/publications (Briefing papers/ discussion documents) – June 2019 Award
- Focus on Public Patient Involvement – and Collaborative Research/Applied Projects (with Universities, NGO's, State Bodies)
- Groups; Family Carer Research group (Ireland based); Student group via Slack (International for Post Graduate students)
- Third Level – Scores of student enquiries annually – selective - redirect
- Care Alliance Ireland Research & Policy online resource <https://wakelet.com/@careallianceireland>
- Extensive use of Twitter to share others research and build relationships



CARE ALLIANCE IRELAND RESEARCH

- Discussion Paper Series (10 published to date)
 - Less discussed topics
 - Awkward/ sensitive topics
 - Desk-based (literature review & some secondary data analysis – Census etc.)
 - Conclude with “Suggested responses” at practice, policy and individual levels
 - 2018: Difficult Relationships & Family Care; Family Care & Minority Populations; Rural Family Caring
- Briefing Papers/Overview Reports/Response Documents (c15 published to date)
 - Mix of literature review & secondary data analysis
 - Topical – eg Home Care provision in Ireland, Carer Statistics, Response to Health Service Plans
 - Use of Freedom of Information requests etc. to access data for example needs assessment practice amongst health and social care practitioners.



AWARD – CONTRIBUTION TO SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE



CURRENT COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH/PROPOSED RESEARCH

- Is it pure research? – applied research? – or more like an intervention?
(Friendsourcing project as example
http://www.carealliance.ie/Friendsourcing_Ireland)
- University of Limerick - Public & Patient Involvement (PPI) in research; main CAI activity (2019) will be developing guidelines for not-for-profit groups re their role in enhancing/negotiating participatory health research
- Statistics on Family Carers – Assessing robustness of data (NUI Maynooth University)
- UCD Carewell Project – Working carers – minor involvement
- For more info see our website: www.carealliance.ie info@carealliance.ie
[@CareAllianceIrl](#)

BI-ANNUAL CONFERENCES

- Since 2015 – In collaboration with local University. Focus on Connecting Applied Research to Policy and Practice.
- November 14th 2019 Conference – 20 abstracts reviewed – 8 presentations accepted –
"Towards A Refreshed National Carers Strategy – From Research to Policy".
The aim of the conference is to highlight research projects and findings which can inform the continued development of family carer policy in Ireland. Register at <https://t.co/iN7AKmu0RN?amp=1>

INNOVATIVE WAYS OF DOING RESEARCH

- **'Soft' Research** - Carers Week Survey – June 2019 – “Family carers use of Online Supports.” See http://www.carealliance.ie/publications_researchreportsphp
- **Freedom of Information Requests** – re service delivery, assessment approaches,
- **Social Media** - Facebook page – 20,000 Followers - <https://www.facebook.com/nationalcarersweek>
 - Using the Facebook page to promote others research
 - Participant recruitment to undertake surveys of family carers
- **Pushing Traditional Boundaries** – Principal Investigator Power/Money – Hypothesis V Story Telling eg Journal article <https://bit.ly/2k0dWxZ>
- **Trust Funds** – Executive Director connections - €400k x 3 Universities/Psychology body

CHALLENGES

- **GDPR** – Data Protection – Rights of family carers?
- **Replicating Interventions** – bringing them to ‘practice’
- **Funding** – health and social care providers focussed on ‘services to clients’ not ‘research about family carers’
- **Responding** to Third level Undergraduate/Post Graduate enquiries