



### *Don't Forget Prevention*

One 400 microgram tablet of folic acid taken every day by all women who are capable of becoming pregnant will prevent many cases of neural tube defects. Folic acid may also help prevent miscarriages.

## Fifteenth PanCare Meeting, Dublin, Ireland, 2015



The fifteenth meeting of PanCare ([www.pancare.eu](http://www.pancare.eu)) was held at the Alexander Hotel in the centre of Dublin from 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015. Survivors, parents and professionals attended the conference to press for more services to enable survivors to improve their quality of life. Fergus O'Dowd, TD for County Louth, opened the meeting with a welcome speech. Co-hosts were the Boyne Research Institute and CanCare4Living, ([www.cancare4living.ie](http://www.cancare4living.ie)) an organisation promoting long-term follow-up care for survivors of childhood and adolescent cancer in Ireland, represented by its founders Patricia McColgan and Garry Owens. The conference welcomed over 110 delegates from 13 countries. More than 40 speakers covered a breadth of topics associated with survivors from various countries. Some themes included the involvement of survivors and parents in care provision, flexibility in the approach to developing services, PanCare's contribution to raising government awareness and the continuing issue of survivors' passports. The social side included a dinner at the Dining Hall in Trinity College. One of the highlights included traditional Irish music and dancing which was a big hit with our visitors. For their generous support of the PanCare Dublin meeting we thank the following: Abbey Conference & Events, Irish Cancer Society, Perrigo Ireland, Servier (Ireland) Industries, The Children's Medical & Research Foundation, Total Produce, Paul & Gill Gardner, Eileen McGurrell, William Fry Solicitors, FMC BioPolymer, Fáilte Ireland, PanCare and anonymous donors.

## PanCareSurFup

The biannual meeting of PanCareSurFup



([www.pancaresurfup.eu](http://www.pancaresurfup.eu))

was held in Dublin, Ireland from 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015. There were continuing updates of data collection which were first addressed in the September 2014 meeting. Each Work Package leader gave a presentation on their progress to date. Dr. Julianne Byrne gave a presentation about the forthcoming PanCareSurFup International Conference to be held from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016 in the Thon Hotel EU in Brussels. There was a lively discussion on the topics for the conference programme and who would present them. Helena Linge gave a presentation outlining the steps that had taken place relating to the extension application to the EU.



*Garry Owens, Patricia McColgan, Julianne Byrne, Fergus O'Dowd and Lars Hjorth at the opening of the PanCare Dublin meeting*

## Annual Reports

Annual reports of the Boyne Research Institute are available at: <http://www.boyneresearch.ie/annual-reports.html>



Fifteenth PanCare Meeting, Dublin, Ireland



## 2015 Summer Student Programme

Each year the Boyne Research Institute offers a summer training programme to two Leaving Certificate students in Drogheda-area schools. Each student identifies a different topic, carries out a research project and prepares a formal PowerPoint presentation. They present their work at a reception for an invited audience, including representatives of Drogheda Borough Council and Board members. This year the reception will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August.

### Amina Moustafa

"I completed my Leaving Certificate at Our Lady's College, Greenhills this summer and I'm hoping that in September I will be studying General Science or Human Health and Disease in Dublin. I am excited to work with Boyne Research Institute as I have a passion for science and as a child I was always curious about how the world works. In the future, I plan to study cancer in depth and hopefully help to discover something that will benefit the world we live in. This programme is very interesting, I find myself learning something new every day and developing new skills that will help me in the coming years. The title of my project is 'Breast cancer and care for patients.'"



### Luisa Saborio

"I graduated from Drogheda Grammar School having completed my Leaving Certificate. As a child I always had an interest in how things worked and when I moved from Honduras to Ireland I had a chance to further explore this passion for science. I hope to study General Science in Maynooth or Psychology through Science. Working at BRI has been a one of a kind experience and I feel I have learned many new skills that will be helpful in my future scientific career. My project is entitled 'Late effects of childhood cancer treatment on oral-dental health.'"



## PanCareLIFE

Once again, Mainz (home of PanCareLIFE's coordinator, Peter Kaatsch) saw the PanCareLIFE ([www.pancarelife.eu](http://www.pancarelife.eu)) consortium hold its fourth GA (General Assembly) on the 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015. This was attended by Dr. Byrne and Ms Campbell. Data providers gave an update on progress and data collection is commencing. Members of the Ethics Advisory Board gave talks; additional ethics issues were identified and a committee was set up to report at the next GA in Mainz on the 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015. A PanCareLIFE GA meeting will take place in Drogheda on 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Two further meetings of the PanCareLIFE management team were held in Mainz and attended by Dr. Byrne and Ms Campbell in April and July 2015.



Riccardo Haupt



Peter Kaatsch



Marry van den Heuvel-Eibrink, Eva Clemens, and Anna Font Gonzalez from the Netherlands at the PanCareLIFE meeting

**Thank You** We thank AIB, Indaver, Irish Cement, Premier Periclase and all our donors for their generous donations towards the Summer Student Programme. This support enables our summer students entering their first year in college in September to gain unique experience in a research environment.

**Mission** The Boyne Research Institute is a community-based research facility that conducts research directed towards a better understanding of the origins and prevention of birth defects and the long term consequences of cancer during childhood. [www.boyneresearch.ie](http://www.boyneresearch.ie)

### 2015 Staff of the Boyne Research Institute

Dr. Julianne Byrne, CEO

Helen Campbell, research assistant

Rebecca Lawler, administrator/researcher

Niamh Corbett, research assistant

Rosaire Kelly, volunteer

### In Ireland: Boyne Research Institute

Tiernan House, Fair Green, Drogheda, A92 TF3P, IRELAND

Tel: +353 (0)41-9836041 Email: [admin@boyneresearch.ie](mailto:admin@boyneresearch.ie)

An Irish registered charity (no. 10275)

### In the USA: Boyne Research Foundation

1656 Newton Street, NW, Washington, DC 20010, USA

Tel: +1 202-234-8719; Email: [admin@boyneresearch.ie](mailto:admin@boyneresearch.ie)