



Winter 2017

# Newsletter

National Screening Service bi-annual newsletter

## Diabetic RetinaScreen launches inaugural programme report

Diabetic RetinaScreen launched its first programme report at an event last November which coincided with World Diabetes Week. The report, which was officially launched by Minister Simon Harris, outlines statistics for the first two screening rounds of the programme's operation (2013– 2015).

Colette Murphy, Programme Manager gave an overview of the programme's successful development since it commenced, indicating future projects that are in train to improve the service. Clinical Director for the Programme, David Keegan presented the clinical benefits of screening for diabetic retinopathy in the general population.

Attending the event were a number of service providers who carry out screening on behalf of the programme, supported many key internal and external stakeholders.

The report highlights that the programme's screening uptake rate in round one was 47% and in excess of 53% in round two. Ms Murphy announced at the event that latest figures indicate an uptake rate of 67%, a key market for success for the programme in the short few years it has been in operation.



Minister for Health, Simon Harris officially launching the Diabetic RetinaScreen Programme Report



### Do you have diabetes or know someone who has?

Any person with type 1 or type 2 diabetes aged 12 years and over is eligible for Diabetic RetinaScreen. Annual screening is one of the best ways of detecting changes in the eye caused by retinopathy which can cause blindness. You can register for screening [here](#).

Some members of the Diabetic RetinaScreen programme who attended and spoke at the launch.

L-R: Sinead Cahill, Donal Donnelly, Patricia Brewitt, David Keegan, Sile O'Sullivan, Donna Brady, Colette Murphy, Joseph Devine and Ciara Scott



## BowelScreen completes second screening round

December 14<sup>th</sup> saw the final day of invitations issued for participation in the second round of screening within the bowel screening programme. The programme has successfully achieved an increase in uptake and continues to detect and prevent bowel cancer.

Head of Screening, Charles O'Hanlon expressed his thanks to all staff who have contributed to the success of the programme to date, particularly in developing strong partners with the colonoscopy units across the country



*BowelScreen team at Central Office  
L-R: Hilary Coffey, Sharon Deegan, Jennifer Nugent,  
Mary Sheedy and Lisa Heffernan*

## Values in Action implementation underway

Values in Action (VIA) is a social movement within the HSE to embrace the HSE core values of care, compassion, trust and learning.

Donna Brady, Roisin O'Hara and Eleanor O'Farrell are VIA champions and are sharing the 9 key behaviours that will make these values evident in our service.

They have started (by way of introduction) with the 'Use my name and your name' behaviours and everyone in central office has a #hellomynameis nameplate for their desk space.

There has been lots of positive feedback from visitors to central office with new staff members finding their way about just a bit easier!

Check out twitter for more information and updates #HSEValues and #weareourvalues



*Two of our VIA champions taking action  
L-R: Roisin O'Hara and Donna Brady*

## A milestone year for BreastCheck

The BreastCheck Programme report, published in October this year, highlighted that 2016 was a milestone year, with the highest recorded number of women screened and cancers detected.

Indeed, BreastCheck invited 198,986 women for screening with a total of 145,822 women attending for a mammogram and 986 cancers detected. This is both the highest number of women ever screened and the highest number of cancers diagnosed in a single year since the BreastCheck programme started in 2000. This is truly a great achievement for all staff involved in this successful programme. Well done all!

## CervicalCheck reports highest coverage

There was further good news from CervicalCheck, who recorded the highest coverage achieved since the programme began in 2008. According to the latest Programme report which was published in September, CervicalCheck has screened 79.7 per cent of the target population of almost 1.2 million eligible women, aged 25 to 60.

CervicalCheck has also treated 50,000 women with precancerous abnormalities, thereby considerably reducing their risk of developing cervical cancer.



**Wishing you and yours a very merry  
Christmas and a happy new year**

