



Caru – Supporting Care & Compassion at End of Life in Nursing Homes is a continuous learning programme developed for nursing home staff.

The overall aim of Caru is to support and enhance the delivery of compassionate, person-centred, palliative, EOL and bereavement care to residents of nursing homes, which is appropriate to each resident's needs and wishes.

University College Dublin (UCD) will be conducting a study to evaluate the impact of the Caru Programme.

The evaluation study is being led by **Professor Jonathan Drennan** and a research team in the School of Nursing, Midwifery, and Health Systems in UCD.

The study will measure several impacts including:

- residents' and relatives' perceptions of the quality of care
- communication provided at the end of life
- nursing home staff perceptions of palliative care provision
- organisational outcome measures (advance care plans put in place etc.)

UCD will be contacting nursing homes inviting them to participate and your participation would be greatly appreciated.

Caru is a joint initiative between Irish Hospice Foundation (IHF), the All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care (AIHPC) and funded by the Health Service Executive.

WE ARE INVITING NURSING HOMES TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS IMPORTANT EVALUATION STUDY



UCD School of
Nursing, Midwifery
and Health Systems

WHY WE NEED YOUR HELP

The evaluation team is currently recruiting nursing homes to participate in the study. Your contribution is invaluable in achieving the aims of the evaluation and understanding how best to support staff in delivering compassionate end of life care.

Your nursing home does not need to be engaged with the Caru Programme to participate as we want to include and consider nursing homes that have and have not completed the Caru programme.

WHAT IS REQUIRED IF A NURSING HOME CHOOSES TO PARTICIPATE

We would request that you help us with a number of measures at three timepoints between 2023 and 2027. These measures will help us understand the impact of the Caru programme on facilitating staff to provide quality palliative, end of life and bereavement care to residents of nursing homes as well as providing support to bereaved residents and friends.

We would also request your help in identifying and contacting relatives and friends of a deceased resident to understand the levels of support they received at the end of a loved one's life. The research team will closely work with you to identify the best approach to distribute surveys to staff and relatives and friends. All surveys completed by staff and relatives will be completely anonymous and they will not be identifiable. In addition, your nursing home will also remain completely anonymous.

If you would like to help us with this important evaluation please contact members of the research team below:



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