**NCCP Two Day Introductory Education Programme on Psychosocial Support and Care to Cancer Patients**

**Aim**

The aim of this two-day programme is to educate registered nurses and midwives how to assess and recognise the psychological challenges that patients, their families and carers may experience following a diagnosis of cancer. The programme will enable nurses to carry out their role in caring for patients throughout their cancer journey by increasing their:

* Awareness of the levels of distress caused by cancer for patients and their families.
* Ability to identify normal distress as opposed to levels of distress that require further intervention.
* Understanding of how symptoms can affect the lives of their patients (and family/carers) as well as their ability to function.
* Existing communication skills.
* Awareness of the referral pathway to the Psycho-Oncology MDT and to local specialist support services.

**Who should undertake this programme and why?**

This Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programme is to facilitate registered nurses who work in any area in the acute hospital setting to enhance their knowledge, skills and competence in psychosocial aspects related to cancer care.

All nurses, irrespective of their main role or setting, encounter many patients with cancer. Therefore they will always benefit from cancer specific education. This programme will provide nurses with education, training, skills and confidence to recognise and manage cancer related distress. It will enable them to provide appropriate support and refer cancer patients and their families to specialist supports when appropriate.

**Duration**

The programme will be delivered as a two day (14 hrs) theoretical programme. It is only be available face to face as there is a communication workshop which must be attended in person. It will be supplemented by work based learning, reflection on practice and additional self-directed learning

**Continuous Education Unit’s**

NMBI, Category 1 approval – 15 CEU’s

**Where can I attend this programme?**

This programme is delivered in Centre’s of Nursing and Midwifery Education, Centre’s of Learning and Development, Centre’s for Nurse Education, Centre’s for Learning and Development nationally where appropriate resources and personnel are available, mainly the 8 adult Cancer Centre’s. The programme is facilitated by the Psycho-Oncology team e.g. Clinical Psychologists, Clinical Psychiatrists, Social Workers, Psycho-Oncology CNS’s and ANP’s.

To book a place on this programme or to check if it is available in your local area, go to:

[CPD Opportunities for Nurses and Midwives](https://healthservice.hse.ie/about-us/onmsd/education-and-continuous-professional-development/cpd-for-nurses-and-midwives/book-place-cnme-programme.html)

**Designated Cancer Centre’s**

