

2023

IFPA Annual Report



Irish Family Planning Association

Table of Contents

About the IFPA.....	01
Chairperson's Message.....	02
Chief Executive Officer's Introduction.....	04
Serving our Clients: Appointment Statistics.....	06
<i>Contraception</i>	07
<i>Menopause</i>	08
<i>Early Medical Abortion</i>	08
<i>Specialist Pregnancy Counselling</i>	10
<i>Female Genital Mutilation</i>	11
<i>Cervical Screening</i>	11
<i>Sexually Transmitted Infections</i>	12
<i>Building Capacity</i>	12
In Focus: Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives.....	13
In Focus: Specialist Pregnancy Counselling.....	15
In Focus: Female Genital Mutilation.....	17
Communications.....	19
Advocacy.....	21
In Focus: IPPF Global Care Consortium.....	24
All-Party Oireachtas Interest Group on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.....	26
Heroes of Reproductive Autonomy.....	28
Education and Training.....	30
Governance and Management.....	31
Financial Statement.....	34

About the IFPA

The IFPA was established by seven volunteers in 1969. Since then, we have been to the fore in setting the agenda for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), nationally and internationally.

Our purpose is to champion sexual and reproductive health and rights by providing specialist services, engaging in advocacy and promoting gender equality. Our vision is a world where everyone has equitable access to the highest standards of sexual and reproductive healthcare and where their sexual and reproductive rights are respected and fulfilled. Our mission is to provide the highest standards of sexual and reproductive healthcare through our specialist services, focusing on those who experience multiple, intersecting forms of discrimination and ensuring we leave no one behind.

We work from a human rights perspective to influence sexual and reproductive health and policy. We work with healthcare professionals, civil society, Irish and international non-governmental organisations and other actors to contribute knowledge and expertise and to strengthen sexual and reproductive health and rights in Ireland and globally.

We provide contraceptive and abortion care, cervical and sexually transmitted infections (STI) screening in our clinics; pregnancy counselling through our national network of counselling centres; medical training to doctors and nurses; sexual health training to care providers and community groups; and a pioneering female genital mutilation (FGM) treatment service.

However, these services do not tell the whole story. We also do unseen work that is nonetheless transformative. When SRHR reform is not on the political radar or is seen as politically toxic, the IFPA has never wavered in its advocacy. We have consistently taken the State to task for failing in its human rights obligations.

We engage at all levels, from making submissions to Government departments, to publishing reports and policy briefings, to working with parliamentarians. The IFPA gives voice to our clients' experiences by providing evidence to UN human rights monitoring bodies and supporting legal challenges.

We create spaces where healthcare providers and civil society can come together to discuss the harms of restrictive sexual and reproductive laws and how they might be changed. Each meeting, each briefing document, each connection, each report helps to build the momentum and political will to bring Ireland's laws into line with its changing society and norms. All our work is underpinned by our understanding of sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Chairperson's Message

In the past five years we have made so much progress in sexual and reproductive health and rights in Ireland.

The historic referendum to repeal the 8th amendment in 2018 led to legislating for abortion services for the first time. This has acted as a springboard for further positive change. The introduction of the free contraception scheme in 2022, which has since been expanded to include a wider age range, is just one example.

Another positive change is that we can collect even more meaningful data on and insights into how women in Ireland experience and access sexual and reproductive healthcare. This puts the IFPA in a better position than ever before to identify who is being left behind, and to advocate first for those furthest behind when it comes to accessing sexual and reproductive health and rights.

IFPA data from 2022 on the mandatory three-day waiting period between termination of pregnancy consultations showed that 97.5% of clients subjected to the waiting period went on to terminate their pregnancies. When 2023 data is added to this, the figure rises to 97.9%. The message from this data is unequivocal: this state-mandated delay is at best unnecessary and at worst harmful to women. The importance of research like this cannot be understated when there is still denial of a rights-based approach to sexual and reproductive health.

“The new Strategic Plan is guided by our vision of a world where everyone has equitable access to the highest standard of sexual and reproductive healthcare”

In 2023 this denial became even more obvious. The review of the operation of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018 by independent chair Marie O'Shea recommended sweeping changes to abortion law.

Furthermore, IFPA staff identified an urgent and growing need for enhanced female genital mutilation (FGM) treatment in Ireland. The IFPA elevated its advocacy and the Health Service Executive (HSE) provided additional resources to improve FGM care. However, the need is such that a coordinated inter-agency approach to the practice is required.

Chairperson's Message

To support and guide all these efforts, in 2023 the IFPA board of directors along with the senior management team built on the restoration plan that we put in place in 2019. Our current constitution (memorandum and articles of association) was developed in the 1980s, when Government policy sought to restrict access to sexual and reproductive healthcare and rights. A new version has now been developed which better reflects our rights-based approach.

Alongside this is a new Strategic Plan for 2024-2029 which outlines a clear direction for the coming five years. It is guided by our vision of a world where everyone has equitable access to the highest standard of sexual and reproductive healthcare and where their rights are respected and fulfilled.

Although much of this was behind-the-scenes work, it forms the foundation that will ensure the IFPA is best placed to continue driving sexual and reproductive health and rights for people in Ireland and beyond. The board of directors is excited to be part of the positive changes in sexual and reproductive health and rights yet to come.

Shannon Glaspy, Chairperson

Chief Executive Officer's Introduction

The year 2023 was one of significant milestones.

In April, the report by barrister Marie O'Shea of the review of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act was published. As a leading commentator on the Act and the review process, the IFPA welcomed the inclusion of substantive legislative as well as operational recommendations in the scope of the report. This was something we advocated strongly for.

The IFPA's role as a leading provider of abortion care and an advocate of reproductive health and rights positioned us as an authority in news media and as a key informant for Oireachtas members who highlighted the report's recommendations in parliamentary questions, in Dáil and Seanad debates, and at the Committee on Health. Our analysis of clinic data on the mandatory waiting period, which revealed that 97.5% of IFPA clients to whom the waiting period was applied went ahead with an abortion, was cited by many Oireachtas members and by Ms O'Shea in her engagement with the Committee on Health.

The time and resources invested by the research team, review chair, healthcare providers and service users who shared their experiences provided an irrefutable body of evidence that created a political imperative to address the flaws in the abortion law. Yet despite the Committee on Health's endorsement of the O'Shea report at the end of 2023, we have yet to see political momentum towards legislative proposals. Our advocacy work in this regard continues.

“97.5% of IFPA clients to whom the waiting period was applied went ahead with an abortion. This is an obvious sign that the waiting period is unnecessary”

During 2023, we had consistent demand for the highly specialised, expert care provided by our specialist pregnancy counselling (SPC) service. Many clients were experiencing exceptionally difficult circumstances and presented with increasingly complex cases. The majority sought multiple counselling sessions.

In parallel with our advocacy, we focused on re-designing our clinics to support abortion self-care and autonomy. Drawing on our learning from the IPPF's Global Care

consortium, we used human-centred design to enhance abortion care with a 'new look' waiting room in our Tallaght clinic. Together with a vibrant digital screen for the window of our Cathal Brugha Street clinic, these spaces are now much more welcoming and comfortable for clients.

Chief Executive Officer's Introduction

The IFPA's female genital mutilation (FGM) treatment service saw an unprecedented rise in demand (338% from 2021 to 2023). The fact-finding mission to Ireland of GREVIO – the Council of Europe experts who monitor implementation of the Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women – was opportune. The IFPA hosted GREVIO at our clinic and used the opportunity to outline the stark reality in Ireland facing those subjected to FGM and to highlight the urgent need for increased funding.

While we warmly welcomed the expansion of the HSE's free contraception scheme we repeated our calls to include those aged under 17. Throughout the year, we consistently called for a resolution to the legal barriers cited as preventing this group's access to the scheme.

In November, we celebrated the launch of a new Department of Foreign Affairs' initiative for sexual and reproductive health and rights. Details of this milestone were announced at the launch of the UN Population Fund's State of World Population report by International Development Minister Seán Fleming.

Throughout 2023 we focused on enhancing clinic operations. We developed a suite of reports encompassing every aspect of clinic activity and income, allowing us to more effectively plan our operations and maximise the efficiency of the care we provide. Furthermore, we identified ways to invest in our people by upskilling clinic staff and developing career pathways. The benefits of this are significant – the more specialist skills our staff gain, the more clients we can care for.

With the recent trend of increasing far-right traction in the political space, international solidarity and the rights-based work of the IFPA and other civil society organisations in Ireland and globally is needed now more than ever. Board member Caitlin Faye Maniti and I participated in the IPPF Power of Many forum, strengthening ties with civil society organisations across Europe.

Our new Strategic Plan for 2024-2029 and a new memorandum and articles of association build on the IFPA's deep foundations of activism and service provision, and will strengthen the IFPA as we meet the challenges of a new era. It is certain to be an exciting period for all of us – one that builds on the progress we made in 2023 and that sets us up for many more achievements to come.

Niall Behan, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Serving our Clients: Appointment Statistics

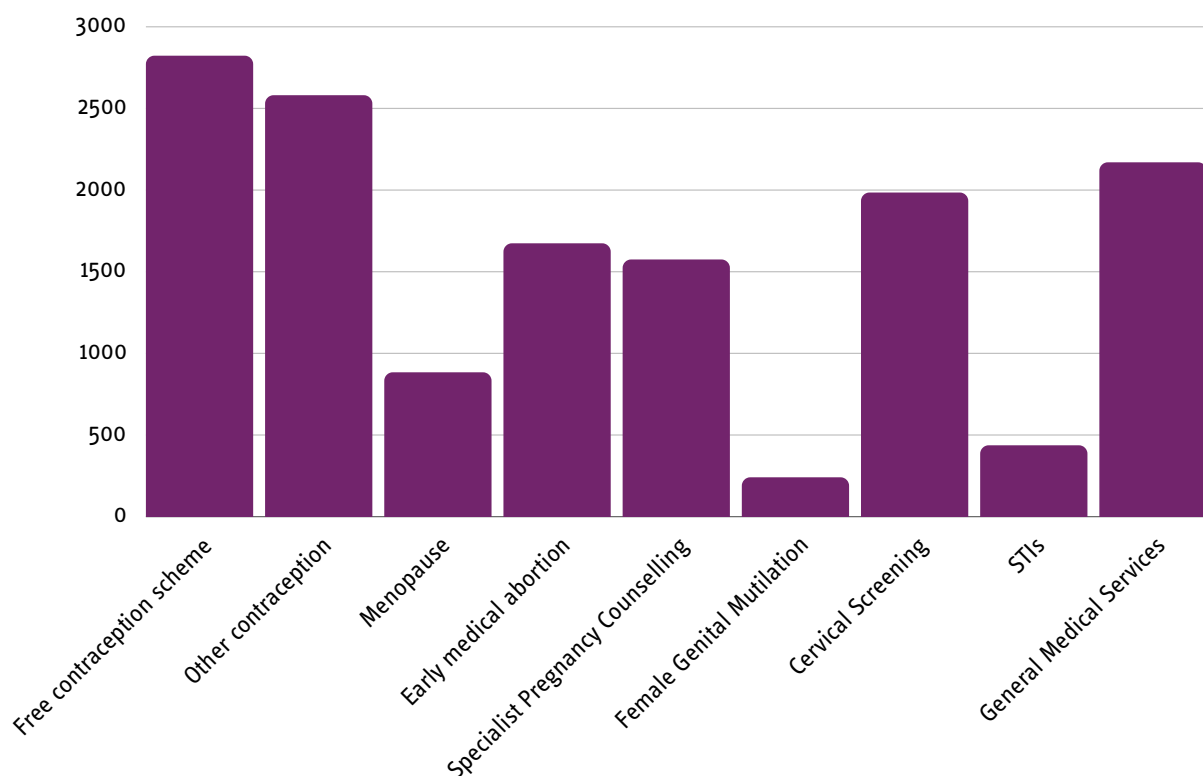
In 2023 demand in our clinics increased for all service areas. This was especially noticeable for contraception under the Government's free scheme and for abortion care.

Active appointments in 2023

Figure 1 shows a summary of active appointments in 2023 for our primary services. Active in this instance refers to all appointments that took place; it does not include those cancelled or unattended. 'Appointments' means individual appointments rather than individual clients seen. Many of our services require clients to attend multiple appointments for the same health service. Depending on the client's healthcare needs, repeat or follow-up appointments may occur.

A total of 14,370 appointments took place in 2023.

Fig.1 : Active appointments for primary service areas in IFPA clinics, 2023



Serving our Clients: Appointment Statistics

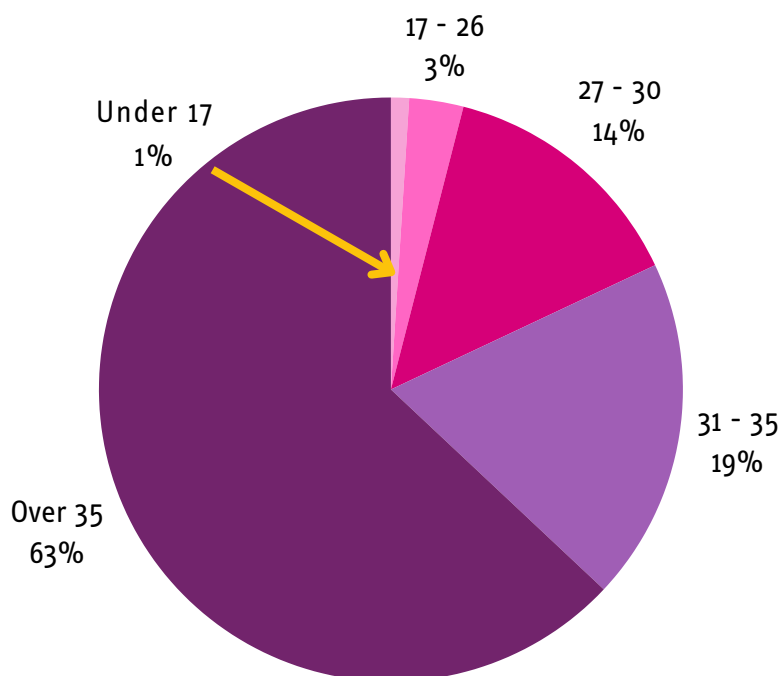
Contraception

The HSE's free contraception scheme was expanded twice in 2023. In January it was extended to include women aged 26 and in September to those aged 27-30 (previously, it had included women aged 17-25 only). As a result, our clinics saw rising demand for this service: 2,823 appointments in 2023.

In total, 20% of appointments under the scheme were attended by clients aged 26-30. Given that most in this age cohort were eligible for the scheme for only four months of 2023, the percentage is significant and demonstrates the critical importance of its ongoing expansion. A further 78% of appointments under the scheme were attended by women aged 17-25. The remaining 2% of appointments were made by women outside the age eligibility (either under 17 or over 30).

An additional 2,581 appointments related to clients receiving contraceptive healthcare outside of the free contraception scheme (Fig. 2). Most were attended by clients who did not meet the age criteria. Particularly prominent here were those aged over 35: 1,630 appointments in 2023. Fourteen percent of appointments for contraception outside of the scheme were attended by women aged 27-30 and most of these took place before the September expansion.

Fig.2: IFPA contraception appointments outside of the HSE's free scheme, 2023



Serving our Clients: Appointment Statistics

There is no denying that for women under 17 and over 30, exclusion from the scheme represents a lack of support for their reproductive autonomy compared with other age groups. For the under 17s this is compounded by being under the legal age of consent. In addition to the health service, the law does not serve their bodily autonomy, sexual wellbeing or sexual health.

A total of 1,241 long-acting reversible contraceptive (LARC) fittings took place in 2023. Of these, 751 appointments – 60% of the total – were for clients aged 17-30. Given that LARCs have a higher financial cost than other forms of contraception, and that the free contraception scheme removes this cost barrier, this strongly indicates that the scheme is encouraging women to choose more effective methods that may have been beyond their means previously.

See LARCs and the free contraception scheme on pages 13-14: In Focus: Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives.

Menopause

Our clinics have seen a continuous increase in demand for menopause healthcare in recent years and 2023 was no different. From the IFPA's perspective, this is a positive and encouraging trend. Women who may have been experiencing symptoms for many years are not only being proactive about their health, but also receiving the care and support they need. We are optimistic that this trend will continue.

In 2023 we had 247 initial consultations for menopause, 193 second appointments and 444 subsequent appointments. This indicates a need for ongoing support during this period for many of our clients.

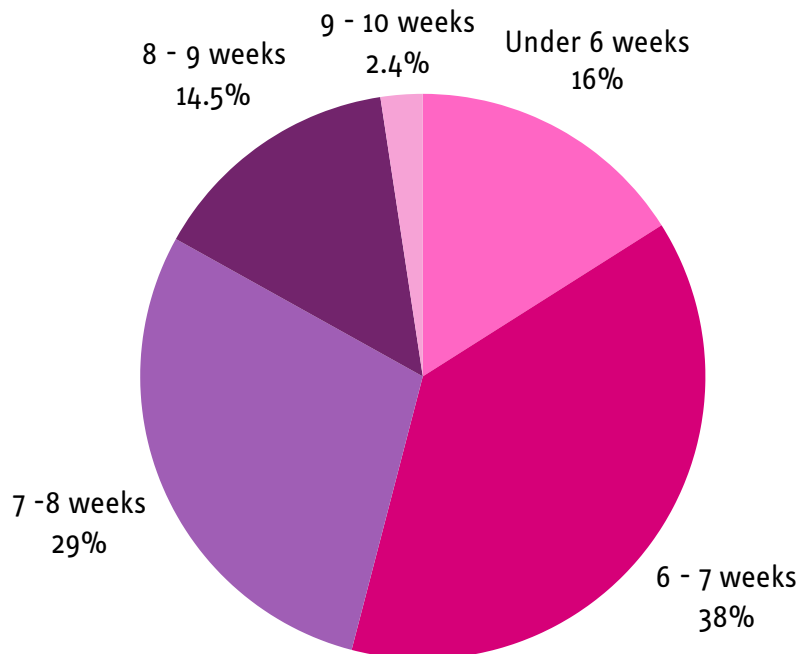
Early Medical Abortion

In total 526 clients attended a first appointment for abortion services at the IFPA in 2023. Under Irish law, a person eligible for an early abortion must attend two medical consultations with a mandatory waiting period of three days in between. Our data show that in 2023, the vast majority of our clients who we verified as subjected to the waiting period went on to access abortion care.

Of the 526 clients who attended a first IFPA appointment for abortion care in 2023, the mandatory waiting period applied to 497. Of the remaining 29 clients, 12 were no longer pregnant after initial contact with the IFPA due to miscarriage or because of negative pregnancy test results. The waiting period therefore did not apply. The outcome is unknown for the other 17 clients as no further contact could be established after their first appointment. Because there was no way of knowing if the waiting period still applied to them, they were excluded from further analysis. The IFPA recognises this as a limitation of the research conducted.

Serving our Clients: Abortion Care Appointment Statistics

Fig.3: Early medical abortions at IFPA clinics by gestation period, 2023



Of the 497 clients we verified as being subjected to the waiting period, 426 accessed an early medical abortion with the IFPA. The vast majority of these clients had pregnancies of under eight weeks' gestation. Sixteen percent were under six weeks; 38% were six to seven weeks; 29% were seven to eight weeks; 14.5% were eight to nine weeks; and 2.4% were nine to 10 weeks (Fig. 3).

We know 64 of the the remaining 71 clients accessed abortion care outside of the IFPA after the waiting period. They either chose to proceed with an abortion under GP care or were referred to hospital for abortion care for a variety of clinical reasons. Seven clients decided to continue with their pregnancy.

This means that of those clients verified as being subjected to the mandatory waiting period in 2023, 98.5% proceeded with abortion care afterwards.

This suggests they had decided to have an abortion before they saw a healthcare professional. They then accessed abortion care as early as possible. The mandatory waiting period merely caused an unnecessary delay in these clients accessing the healthcare they required.

These findings support similar analyses conducted by the IFPA into 2021 and 2022 abortion service data. Across those two years, 97.5% of clients verified as being subjected to the waiting period went on to access abortion care.

Serving our Clients: Appointment Statistics

When 2023 is included in this analysis, the figure rises to 97.9% between 2021-2023. This is the first, and to date, the only analysis of the mandatory waiting period in Ireland. Despite research limitations, three years of consistent findings from real world data make the big picture clear: most of those subjected to the mandatory waiting period go on to have an abortion. An enforced waiting period before abortion care is therefore unjustifiable and should be removed.

See pages 24-25 for In Focus: IPPF Global Care Consortium.

Specialist Pregnancy Counselling

At the IFPA, specialist pregnancy counsellors offer clients a non-directive and non-judgmental environment to discuss an unintended pregnancy or a pregnancy that has become a crisis. Our specialist counsellors provide emotional support and ensure a safe, confidential space. In 2023 we continued to offer SPC in multiple formats: online, phone, and in person. This flexibility aims to ensure client safety and confidentiality and enables us to provide accessible support to those who need it.

We facilitated 1,575 appointments throughout 2023. Of these, 555 related to post-abortion counselling while the remaining 1,020 related to a varied range of specialist pregnancy counselling needs.

In addition to counselling appointments, counsellors spent considerable time providing additional support to clients. This included contacting third-party agencies to advocate for additional supports, carrying out research or gathering specialist information about onward referrals, clinical supervision for complex issues and case management meetings among other activities.

Counsellors were required to assist with travel arrangements, obtain ministerial permission for visa-less clients to get care outside the State, and to liaise with multiple external organisations to help clients navigate complex care pathways.

In 2023 the IFPA saw increased attendance for specialised pregnancy counselling from the first quarter to the last. This indicates a continued demand for specialised counselling for those who were experiencing unintended pregnancies.

“Specialist pregnancy counselling cases are increasing in both number and intensity and involve people in exceptionally difficult or exceptionally challenging circumstances.”

Serving our Clients: Appointment Statistics

There was a noticeable trend of clients seeking longer-term counselling. The IFPA supports complex cases and is best placed to do so, having a high level knowledge and experience in the area. It is important to note these cases are increasing both in number and intensity and involve people in exceptionally challenging circumstances. Factors in these cases can include isolation, socio-economic hardship and precarity; legal, familial or cultural factors; intimate partner violence or coercive control; or factors relating to the pregnancy such as underlying health issues or foetal anomaly. The IFPA provided intensive support tailored to individual client's specific needs and the barriers experienced by them.

See pages 15-16 for In Focus: Specialist Pregnancy Counselling.

Female Genital Mutilation

The IFPA offers the only female genital mutilation (FGM) treatment service in Ireland. As such, in 2023 we continued to experience extremely high demand for the service with a long waiting list.

We held 241 appointments in 2023 which included doctor consultations, doctor reviews and counselling appointments. This represents a significant increase (338%) in the need for specialist care compared to only two years previously, in 2021, when we provided a total of 55 appointments.

The increased demand posed challenges as funding did not increase accordingly which limited our capacity. Furthermore cases became more complex. Many clients had to travel across Ireland to avail of our service. Some had no supporting documentation or required translators to communicate requiring us to work with multiple agencies. Clients were often highly vulnerable. Many had recently arrived in Ireland and had to move accommodation regularly at short notice. This caused further treatment delays leading to a rise in urgent cases.

Nonetheless, our FGM treatment service is among the most rewarding for our clinic staff. We will continue to advocate for its nationwide expansion and an integrated approach to providing this urgently needed service.

See pages 17-18 for our In Focus: Female Genital Mutilation section.

Cervical Screening

In 2023 the IFPA marked three years since the changeover to HPV screening in Ireland (that is, screening for the virus that causes cells in the cervix to change versus screening for the changed cells themselves). This new method is now well-established in the healthcare system, so in many ways 2023 meant business as usual for our cervical screening service area. We conducted 1,985 screening appointments in 2023.

Serving our Clients: Appointment Statistics

STIs

In 2021, the HSE commissioned SH:24, a free online sexual health service, to provide at-home STI test kits, information and support on the issues. With this service now embedded and well-used, sexually transmitted infection queries comprised only a small number of appointments within our STI service area in 2023 (20 appointments total).

STI screenings at our clinics often take place opportunistically when clients present themselves for other services. However, we still experienced demand for full STI screenings and follow-up STI care – 307 and 99 appointments respectively. Other follow-up appointments included cryotherapy, STI swabs and tests of cure.

Building Capacity

We worked hard to build capacity in 2023 and made positive progress. We recruited two additional medical team personnel and filled vacancies for two others. Two of our midwives completed a prescribing course with the Royal College of Surgeons in June 2023 and began prescription consultations. Previously only doctors could undertake these consultations, so this has been enormously beneficial in adding capacity to our clinics. Two clinic receptionists also upskilled to become senior receptionists, increasing their range of duties and responsibilities.

These changes form part of an organisational initiative which began in 2023 to develop career pathways for our staff. This not only empowers individuals to progress their careers within the IFPA, but also enables us to better serve our clients. Efforts to build on this progress, develop additional career pathways and continue to build capacity are ongoing.



In Focus: Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives

Long-acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs) are the most effective method of contraception. They come in many forms including injections, implants, hormonal and non-hormonal intra-uterine devices (coils). They can last from three months to 10 years.

LARCs have a higher up-front cost than other contraceptive methods because they are specialised medical products fitted by a medical practitioner. However, they have a high continuation and satisfaction rate. Those who choose LARCs tend to be pleased with them and can keep using them for many years.

Historically LARC uptake in Ireland has been low. In our clinical experience, however, this trend is shifting. A likely contributing factor is the HSE's free contraception scheme which covers fitting, re-fitting, and removing LARCs as often as needed provided the client meets the age criteria. It began in 2022 for women aged 17-25. In 2023 it was expanded twice to include women aged 26-30. In 2024 it was extended further to age 35.



IFPA midwife Hayley Baugh demonstrating a LARC insertion.

Removing the cost barrier has empowered clients eligible for the scheme to choose LARCs where they may previously have had no choice but to use less effective methods. It has given them more flexibility – if they find a LARC unsuitable, they can switch to a different method with no expense. As medical practitioners, it has enabled us to provide better care. It has also increased awareness of contraceptive options in general, and of LARCs in particular, among our eligible clients.

Our 2023 data show that of all LARC fittings and re-fittings in our clinics, 60% were for women aged 17-30. While it is encouraging that the majority of LARC fittings and re-fittings came with no cost to our clients, the fact that any of our clients have to pay for LARCs simply because of their age is unacceptable.

In Focus: Long-Acting Reversible Contraceptives

Furthermore, many clients in our clinics arrive with low awareness of both the free contraception scheme and of LARCs. Twenty-three percent of all contraception appointments in 2023 concerned LARCs, while the remaining 77% concerned other contraceptive methods. Expanding the scheme to a wider age range would encourage more people to consider alternative options such as LARCs, but an even more effective strategy would be health promotion focusing on contraceptive options at a nationwide level. If those outside of the age eligibility are disadvantaged in terms of awareness and access, it represents double discrimination.

Each expansion of the free contraception scheme is positive progress. However, it makes us all the more aware of those who are still excluded – particularly when the age criteria is raised to include older cohorts, but never lowered to include younger ones.

All women and girls of reproductive age have a need for contraception and LARCs can often be the most appropriate option. Some women over 40 are medically unsuitable for methods such as the pill, for example. Many teenagers under 17 find daily pill-taking a challenge. The cost of having a LARC fitted should not be a barrier for these people.

Some women who fall outside the scheme's age criteria may also be ineligible for a medical card. Others may live in vulnerable circumstances where they are at risk of unplanned pregnancy. There are women who have had as many children as they wish to or who don't wish to have any. And there are those who simply can't afford to pay for contraception. All people of reproductive age have an equal right to access LARCs, or any contraceptive method of their choosing without cost.

In 2023 the IFPA held almost as many contraception-related appointments under the free contraception scheme as not – 2,823 versus 2,581 respectively. This undoubtedly shows that people's need for contraception does not begin at 17 and end at 30. To provide equitable access to the highest standard of sexual and reproductive healthcare, where rights in this area are respected and fulfilled, the free contraception scheme should be expanded to all those who need it.

In Focus: Specialist Pregnancy Counselling

The IFPA is committed to providing continuous emotional support for those experiencing unintended pregnancy or a pregnancy that has become a crisis.

Our clients benefit from unlimited, free and non-judgmental counselling sessions which are accessible in-person, online or by phone.

In 2023 we continued building working relationships with key referral sources and supporting organisations. We expanded our network of midwives and social workers in maternity units across the country. The steady stream of referrals from hospitals, GPs and other organisations including the Abortion Support Network, My Options and UK hospitals demonstrated a clear recognition of the need for the specialist pregnancy counselling (SPC) service. We also met the clinical lead and other senior members of the National Perinatal Mental Health Team regularly – an invaluable connection that enabled us to provide comprehensive and wraparound care for clients needing additional support in the community.

Most of our clients attended to discuss options available to them in Ireland. Counsellors provided essential information and facilitated a space to explore abortion care, parenting and, in rare cases, adoption. They also offered support to those close to clients to discuss their own wellbeing and understanding of the options available.

A smaller proportion of our clients required our expertise in supporting them to seek abortion care outside of Ireland. This included those who had received a diagnosis of foetal anomaly. Approximately 3% of pregnancies are diagnosed with an anomaly. The 2018 Act, however, covers termination of pregnancy only if the condition affecting the foetus is likely to cause its death in utero or within 28 days of birth. The law therefore excludes many severe and complex foetal anomalies from its definition. Thus some clients had no choice but to seek abortion care outside Ireland. This was an added challenge for those already vulnerable and distressed.

“The Specialist Pregnancy Counselling team's decades-long expertise in the complexities of international abortion care ensures that individuals receive informed and compassionate support.”

In Focus: Specialist Pregnancy Counselling

The SPC team's decades-long expertise in the complexities of international abortion care ensures that individuals receive informed and compassionate support. In 2023, IFPA counsellors supplied guidance on accessing abortion care in other countries, including advice on financial support services and help with travel arrangements. We helped clients navigate the complexities of flight schedules for different clinic locations and talked them through the practicalities of abortion procedures. Where necessary, we made contact with their clinic to provide a handover of information for wraparound care – which is at the heart of everything we do.

The impact of being denied abortion care is disproportionately felt by those who need visas to enter other countries, and most especially by young people, those of limited financial means, international protection applicants and those with disabilities. Delays caused by waiting for visas are not only stressful, but can add to the complexity and therefore the expense of the care needed once they are able to attend an overseas clinic. In 2023, our counsellors helped these clients with highly complex visa applications, providing multiple sessions and using translation services to ensure clarity on all processes. We worked with a range of organisations to support clients practically and financially, making the IFPA's support an essential resource during highly stressful times.

The SPC team also offers a space for individuals to explore their experience after receiving abortion care. Clients might discuss systemic stressors or emotions around the circumstances of the pregnancy. Our specialised and accredited counsellors support them in a compassionate, non-judgmental manner.

Many clients express feeling relieved after an abortion and may attend just one additional counselling session to have a feeling of conclusion. We can see this reflected in our appointments – 1,020 for specialist pregnancy counselling and 555 for post-abortion counselling in 2023.

Through our ongoing commitment to support choice and access to sexual and reproductive care, our team of incredible specialist pregnancy counsellors effectively support our clients. Funding from the HSE's Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme ensures that this service remains free and accessible to all who need it. This backing is essential to the IFPA's capacity to provide a vital service to pregnant people at a time of extreme stress and vulnerability. Our counselling provision helps us support our clients' reproductive autonomy and empower them in their reproductive choices.

In Focus: Female Genital Mutilation

Female genital mutilation (FGM), also known as female genital cutting, is a harmful practice carried out on women and girls in some communities around the world.

It involves the partial or total removal of external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs, for non-medical reasons. It is most commonly carried out on girls between infancy and age 15 and has significant short- and long-term health consequences. It is estimated that at least 10,000 women and girls living in Ireland have experienced FGM.

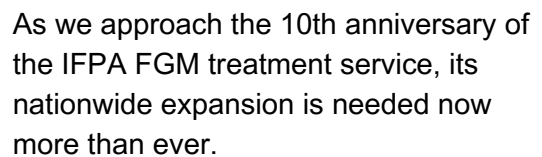
Since 2014 the IFPA has operated Ireland's only dedicated expert primary healthcare service for the treatment of women subjected to FGM. Funded by the HSE, the service provides survivors with free specialist medical care and psychological support.

In recent years we have witnessed a significant increase in demand with a 338% increase in appointments during 2021-2023. This was accompanied by rising case complexity: most women presenting in 2023 were newly arrived asylum seekers with limited or no English, and no family or community support networks. Many had also experienced multiple layers of trauma, making them a highly vulnerable population.

Complex cases regularly required coordination and cooperation between multiple agencies. Nine meetings were held with external agencies to coordinate work on FGM. Several involved An Garda Síochána and Tusla and focused on the development of referral pathways for girls at risk of removal from the country for the purpose of FGM.

An outcome of this collaboration was a request by An Garda Síochána to include IFPA FGM Treatment Service details on its informational materials for FGM awareness-raising initiatives in multiple airports across Ireland (Operation Limelight). Meetings were also held with the HSE National Social Inclusion Office, AkiDwA and the NGO Steering Committee on FGM.





Looking back on our FGM activities in 2023, what stands out is that a single treatment service is no longer sufficient to meet this specialist demand. If Ireland is to fulfil its obligations under the Istanbul Convention, a nationwide Government strategy and additional resources are needed.

Communications

The Advocacy and Communications team ensured the IFPA maintained an active presence on social and traditional media throughout 2023.

We worked to strike an effective balance between promoting our health services and amplifying key advocacy messages on national and global issues. Our spokespeople continued to represent us in national media, speaking on radio and being quoted in news articles.

Traditional Media

- 6 press releases were issued
- 28 unprompted journalist enquiries received
- 112 media mentions across radio, television and print outlets

We continued to make regular appearances across traditional media (news, radio and television) throughout 2023. Outlets included The Irish Times, The Irish Independent, The Irish Examiner, The Herald, RTÉ News, RTÉ Radio One, Newstalk, The Journal, The Echo, Irish Medical Times and others.

Six press releases were issued on topics including the mandatory waiting period, the publication of the O'Shea report and calling for abortion reform, the numbers of people travelling from Ireland to access abortion care in the UK, extensions of the free contraception scheme, and the launching of the IFPA new-look clinic in Tallaght, Dublin.

On average, we received unprompted queries from journalists writing about sexual and reproductive health and rights once every fortnight. This is in addition to any media coverage garnered from press releases issued by us.

Early abortion access 2021

459 IFPA clients who attended for early abortion care were eligible for abortion. The outcomes for 12 clients are unknown as they made no further contact after their initial consultation. Of the remaining 447 clients, 97.5% (436) accessed abortion care after the mandatory three-day wait.

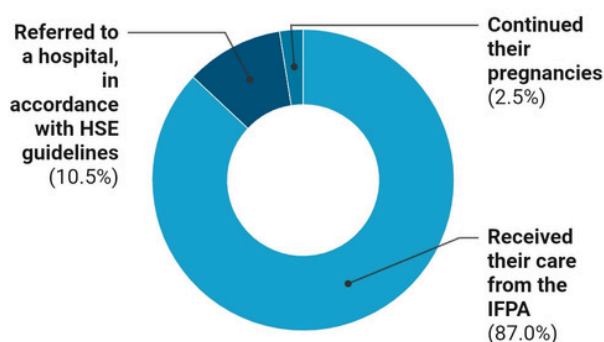


Chart: IRISH TIMES GRAPHICS • Source: Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA) • Created with [Datavrapper](#)

Communications

In 2023 a major topic of interest for traditional media included the free contraception scheme. We issued a statement welcoming the extension but highlighting the ongoing exclusions and failure to implement the commitment to include under 17s.

Our publication of IFPA data on the mandatory waiting period for termination of pregnancy received extensive coverage including a major feature in The Irish Times. Our launch of the UNFPA's State of the World Population report also received media attention with reports published on RTÉ News and The Irish Independent.

IFPA medical director Dr Caitriona Henchion appeared in Health News and The Irish Independent with articles on LARCs and STIs. She also highlighted concerns regarding over-reliance on fertility apps in articles in The Irish Examiner. IFPA chief executive Niall Behan was quoted by RTÉ News, The Irish Examiner, RTÉ Radio One and Newstalk on abortion statistics in Ireland and those travelling from Ireland to the UK for abortion care.

In late 2023 we assisted the RTÉ Investigates team with their research for a documentary about abortion services in Ireland. This was broadcast in April 2024.

Social Media

- 37 original Instagram posts
- 87 original Twitter (X) posts
- 29 original Facebook posts
- 4,911 total engagements across active platforms
- 153,248 total impressions across active platforms

Of particular interest to our social media audiences was content on Ireland's mandatory three-day waiting period. Since the introduction of abortion services in 2019 we have highlighted that the waiting period imposed on those who need abortion care is medically unnecessary, stressful and stigmatising.

In 2023 posts publicising our data on this topic and its negative impact on women received the highest engagement of all. Our highest ranking post, which received over 300 engagements (likes, reposts, etc), highlighted our finding that 97.5% of clients to whom the waiting period applied went on to access abortion care.

Other popular topics included those which received coverage in traditional media.

Advocacy

The IFPA advocacy team promotes policy changes and questions the role of law in relation to enhancing access to services and advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights in Ireland and globally.

National Advocacy

The mandatory waiting period in Ireland's abortion law has long been a focus of concern to the IFPA. Despite the World Health Organization's view that this form of legally imposed barrier is medically unnecessary, the three-day wait was introduced in 2018 legislation as a political compromise. Abortion is the only healthcare treatment that is subject to a mandatory waiting period. In all other circumstances, medical treatment is begun as soon as possible after the decision to proceed is made.

To contribute to public discourse and challenge misinformation on the waiting period's influence on pregnancy decisions, in 2023 the IFPA published analysis of one year's abortion appointment data. This was the first analysis of this kind on mandatory waiting periods in Ireland and received significant media coverage. It was also cited before the Oireachtas Committee on Health. Publication of this real world data, which showed that 97.5% of clients to whom the waiting period was applied went on to access abortion care, made it clearer than ever that it is an unnecessary imposition and does not influence the decisions of those seeking an abortion. This is the strength of evidence that anti-choice groups must now respond to.

Throughout the year, we also continued to highlight the need for expansion of the free contraception scheme to those aged under 17 and over 30. While Budget 2023 allocated funding for free contraception to under 17s and over 30s, Budget 2024 later placed significant constraints on Government health spending, including expansion of the free contraception scheme. This undermines support for bodily autonomy.

Following the publication of barrister Marie O'Shea's report on the review of the Health (Regulation of Termination of Pregnancy) Act 2018, we renewed our calls for urgent reform of abortion law in Ireland. Taking the view that health policy cannot be frozen in time by the law or by political inertia, we worked with TDs and Senators to pose parliamentary questions about the report and supported their active engagement in discussions about its recommendations.

Advocacy

SRHR in the Global Context

In 2023 the IFPA continued our work of educating parliamentarians on sexual and reproductive health and rights issues in the Global South. A highlight of the year was the approval of the long-promised Irish Aid sexual and reproductive health and rights initiative which was influenced by the UNFPA's 2022 SWOP report on unintended pregnancy. There was also a welcome increase in Irish Aid funding to UNFPA to €4.5 million in 2023 (an increase of €500,000 as compared to 2022). 2023 also saw Irish Aid forge a three-year funding agreement with the UNFPA Supplies Partnership of €2 million per year.



As part of the IFPA's involvement with Countdown 2030 Europe, we participated in three working groups: the Communications Working Group, Agenda 2030, and the Decoloniality Working Group. Molly O'Meara co-chaired Countdown's Decoloniality Task Force.

In February, the IFPA attended a meeting in Oslo of government representat-

ives and civil society from 12 European countries to prepare for the UN Commission on Population and Development. Towards the end of 2023, we participated in the International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development in Berlin, a two-day event including non-government organisations, Government representatives and international organisations such as the IPPF, She Decides and the UNFPA. The IFPA also joined a World Bank consultation hosted by Dóchas in relation to the World Bank Gender Action Plan and highlighted issues in relation to sexual and reproductive health and rights and global financing.

Throughout the year, we supported alerts, sign-on letters, solidarity actions and IPPF campaigns on a wide range of sexual and reproductive health and rights issues.

Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) / Irish Aid

Much of the IFPA's engagement with Irish Aid in 2023 focused on the UN Commission on Population and Development and the UN Commission on the Status of Women. We supported Irish Aid with detailed analyses and critiques of drafts of the political statements on these and other inter-governmental events throughout the year.

Advocacy

Taking advantage of the IFPA's presence in Kenya for an IPPF event, we reached out to the Irish Embassy in Nairobi and had a meeting on sexual and reproductive health issues including ICPD+30 (the 30-year review of the implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development's Programme of Action).

We engaged extensively with Irish Aid on the UNFPA State of World Population Report and facilitated a high-level meeting between Irish Aid and UNFPA representatives to coincide with the report launch. This focused on the sexual and reproductive health and rights initiative details of which were outlined at the launch event. The initiative includes increased funding and policy attention to SRHR in the development context.

External Events

In 2023 the IFPA provided expert input for panel discussions and speaking programmes at a number of external events with a focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights. These included, *Reproducing Law Otherwise?* at Queen Mary University, London; *After the Review: What Next for Irish Abortion Services?* held by Trinity College Dublin and the ReproCit project; *Anti-choice Crisis Pregnancy Centres, Big Tech and Access to Safe Abortion*, a Share-Net International event in Amsterdam; *Abortion as a healthcare service* organised by Renew Europe MEPs; and a meeting on Universal Health Care convened by the Minister of Health.

IFPA representatives also participated in the National Women's Council's abortion working group, the Committed Providers of Abortion Care project by University College Cork, and the AkiDwA Migrant Women's Health Fair.

The 50th anniversary of the legalisation of contraception in Ireland was marked by a conference in Trinity College Dublin focusing on the landmark McGee v Attorney General case. May McGee, the litigant in the case, and her family were present. The event was hosted by the Trinity Centre for Constitutional Governance (TriCON) and chaired by Irish Times editor, Ruadhán Mac Cormaic. The IFPA's Maeve Taylor joined the final panel. Mrs McGee was awarded the Praeses Elit prize by the Trinity College Law Society in recognition of her immense contribution to Irish law and society. Bestowing the prize, the auditor of the Law Society said, "We cannot imagine anyone more deserving of the award than Mrs. McGee for her remarkable impact on Irish constitutional law and society as a whole."

In Focus: IPPF Global Care Consortium

Funded by IPPF, the Global Care Consortium was made up of 11 sexual and reproductive health and rights organisations from around the world with representation from Uganda, Rwanda, Mali, Pakistan, Thailand, Trinidad & Tobago, Barbados, Mexico, Colombia, Switzerland and Ireland.

Colombian member association, Profamilia, acted as secretariat. The consortium was supported by expert international SRHR organisations, including Ipas, a leading global abortion rights organisation, whose insights and expertise have informed our work on advocacy and communications. The project, which ran from 2021 to end 2023, focused on abortion and reproductive self-care with three cross-cutting impact areas.

The first focused on the development of an innovative human-centred intervention to support individuals seeking abortion along the care pathway. The second focused on catalysing socio-cultural change through positive narratives and framing, and the third focused on transforming national-level policy and legislation to create an enabling environment for abortion self-care. Organisations were supported to define an approach tailored to their specific legal and cultural context, drawing on global expertise.



Through the project, we contributed to developments in the national model of abortion care and advocated for further reforms of Ireland's abortion law. Key achievements over the project period were the retention of telemedicine abortion as part of the national model of care and ongoing political and media scrutiny of the mandatory waiting period.

We also used human-centred design to support the wellbeing of IFPA abortion clients and contribute to the normalisation of abortion.

In Focus: IPPF Global Care Consortium

Identifying the IFPA waiting room as a critical touchpoint during the waiting period, we used human-centred design, qualitative research techniques and an intersectional approach to redesign our clinic waiting environment through the lens of reproductive autonomy. Our goal was to create a space that actively tackles abortion stigma, reaffirms abortion as healthcare and empowers and supports the diversity of our clients in the self-management of their abortion.

We developed an abortion companion guide which serves both to relieve anxiety around awkward conversations and well-meaning questions and provide practical guidance for people accompanying someone having an abortion. In this way the intervention supports people beyond the clinic, throughout the self-management of their abortion.



Dr Ernest Nyamato speaking at the Global Care consortium capacity building session in Nairobi, Kenya

Paying attention to these sensory and informational touchpoints, human-centred design values transformed a relatively traditional healthcare environment into a space that promotes self-care.

The launch of the clinic and companion guide drew the attention of the Mayor of South Dublin, who attended, and local politicians. It was also featured in the Tallaght Echo newspaper.

In September 2023, all consortium members gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, for a four-day capacity building and knowledge sharing session. This provided a great opportunity to connect with other organisations

working on abortion rights, access and provision in their respective countries. While there, we engaged in strategic bilateral meetings with international colleagues and presented various aspects of our work. IFPA chief executive Niall Behan also sat on a panel on abortion advocacy with colleagues from Ghana and Uganda.

Human-centred design thinking, now embedded in our service delivery, and strategic professional partnerships forged through the Global Care Consortium will live on long beyond the project.

All-Party Oireachtas Interest Group

The IFPA is the Secretariat of the All Party Oireachtas Interest Group on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APG).

In 2023, APG members ensured sexual and reproductive health and rights remained on the agenda in the Dáil and Seanad. They joined parliamentarians from across the world at international events and forums, and participated in two study tours to Tanzania and Malawi.

Study Tours and International Events

APG co-chair Senator Annie Hoey participated in a study tour to Tanzania and Zanzibar. It brought together European, Tanzanian and Zanzibarian parliamentarians to meet local NGOs and international organisations that provide sexual and reproductive healthcare.

Deputy Bríd Smith TD represented the APG on a study tour in Malawi alongside parliamentarians from Portugal, Finland, Belgium and Romania. The tour focused on key reproductive rights challenges affecting Malawians, including child marriage, unsafe abortion and young people's reproductive rights. Both study tours were organised by the European Parliamentary Forum on Sexual and Reproductive Rights (EPF).



Senator Pauline O'Reilly spoke on the campaign for free contraception at the Brussels launch of the EPF's Contraception Policy Atlas Europe 2023.

Senator Lorraine Clifford Lee represented the APG at a parliamentary workshop on population, demography and fertility held in parallel with December's G7 meeting in Rome. The workshop focused on debunking conspiracy theories, exploring demographic realities and identifying proactive policies to address demographic change.

Senator Catherine Ardagh attended the Women Deliver Conference in Kigali, Rwanda, in July 2023 as part of a delegation of the Global Parliamentary Alliance for Health, Rights and Development.

All-Party Oireachtas Interest Group

She joined thousands of decision-makers, including civil society, government, parliamentarians, private sector, international agencies and advocates from 46 countries across the world in discussions on how best to identify solutions, bolster accountability and drive change in gender equality globally.

Oireachtas Activity

Following its publication in April 2023, APG members consistently raised questions about the O'Shea report and plans for implementation of its recommendations in both the Dáil and Seanad. APG members on the Oireachtas Health Committee actively engaged with Ms O'Shea and Dr Catherine Conlon in a comprehensive discussion on the report's legal recommendations in May.

Throughout the year APG members raised parliamentary questions on a range of topics, including national policy on FGM, overseas development assistance, telemedicine abortion, the extension of the free contraception scheme to under 17s, as well as abortion data collection and access to hospital-based abortion services.

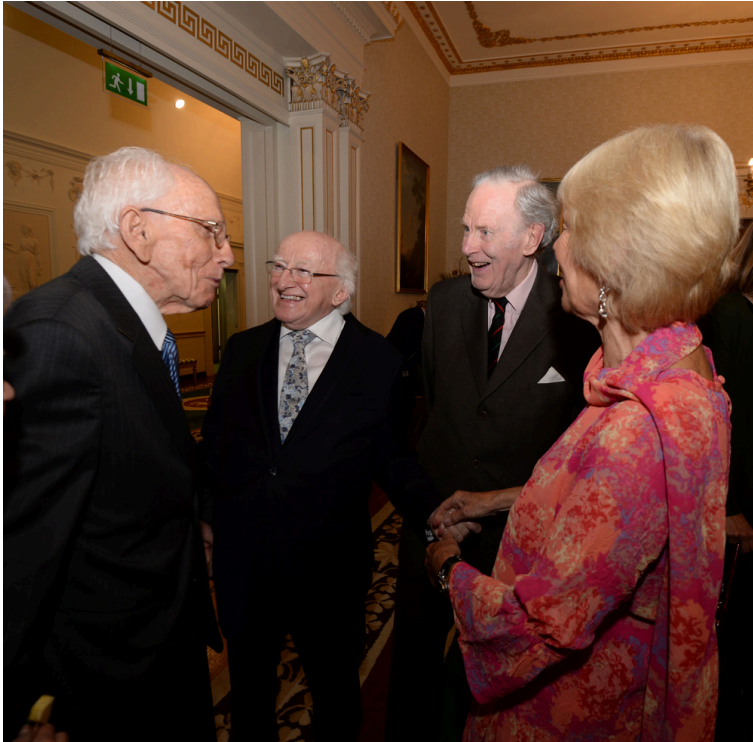
UNFPA State of the World Population Report

The flagship annual UNFPA State of World Population (SWOP) report – 8 Billion Lives, Infinite Possibilities: The case for rights and choices – was launched by Minister for International Development Seán Fleming at an event chaired by Senator Lorraine Clifford Lee. The IFPA was delighted to partner with DCU School of Nursing, Psychotherapy and Community Health for the event which was held on campus.

Professor John Doyle, DCU vice president for research, opened the event. UNFPA principal adviser Jacqueline Mahon presented the report. Other speakers included Irish Aid policy unit director Sarah Hunt, full professor of nursing Anne Matthews and IFPA director of advocacy and communications Maeve Taylor. Students from DCU's Health and Society undergraduate programme joined non-government organisations, government officials, advocates and civil society organisations in the audience.

Irish Aid chose the launch event to announce details of its long-promised sexual and reproductive health and rights initiative, including plans to scale up funding and strategic partnerships, particularly in relation to the unmet need for contraception.

Heroes of Reproductive Autonomy



Dr Loughran with President Michael D Higgins at a reception at Áras an Uachtaráin to mark the IFPA's 50th anniversary in 2019. Maxwell Photography.

Dr Jim Loughran

In 2023, Dr Jim Loughran, one of the seven original founders of the IFPA, passed away at the age of 97. IFPA CEO Niall Behan described Dr Loughran as “a soft-spoken revolutionary. He was polite but very determined. He was motivated by the poor living conditions of many women in 1960s and 1970s, the layers of poverty and the impact that multiple pregnancies had on their lives.”

Dr Moira Woods

2023 also saw the passing of Dr Moira Woods, who was a former medical director of the Irish Family Planning Association, giving women access to contraceptives at a time when many family doctors were unwilling to prescribe them.



Dr Moira Woods. Photographer unknown.

Heroes of Reproductive Autonomy

May Magee presented with Praeses Elit Award as recognition of her “immense contribution to Irish law and society”



Left: May and Seamus McGee at the Four Courts, 1973 (archive photo). Photographer unknown.

Right: May and Seamus McGee on the night May was presented the Praeses Elit Award, photographed with (back row, left to right) Professor Aileen Kavanagh, Director of TriCON at Trinity College Dublin (TCD) Law School, Professor Linda Doyle, Provost and President of TCD, Mr Justice Gerard Hogan, Supreme Court, and Eoin Ryan, auditor of the Trinity College Law Society, December 2023. Irish Times Photography.

In 2023, Trinity College Centre for Constitutional Governance (TriCon), Trinity Centre for Constitutional Governance (TriCON) based in the Law School at Trinity College Dublin, marked 50 years since the landmark Supreme Court case that overturned the ban on contraception and, according to current Supreme Court judge, Mr Justice Gerard Hogan, started a ‘social revolution’. Mary (May) McGee got her first formal recognition after 50 years for a case that was the ‘legal equivalent of the moon landing’, when Mr Justice Hogan presented her with the Praeses Elit Award, in recognition of her “immense contribution to Irish law and society”. The IFPA presented the McGees with our 2019 annual report, which includes photos of Dr Jim Loughran with President Michael D Higgins and then Minister for Health, Simon Harris TD. Dr Loughran was May McGee’s GP in Skerries and encouraged her to challenge the contraception ban in the courts.

Education and Training

Comprehensive sexuality education plays a critical role in preparing young people for a safe, productive and fulfilling life.

It provides them with information and confidence that supports them to make informed decisions about relationships and sexuality. The IFPA provides sexuality and sexual health education and training programmes tailored to meet the diverse needs of young people, parents, guardians, teachers, youth workers and carers.

Our key training in 2023 was Speakeasy, a programme for parents, guardians or carers which provides the information, skills and confidence needed to talk to children openly about sexuality; and Speakeasy Plus, which is for those who care for children with physical or intellectual disabilities or who have extra support needs. Speakeasy Plus supports and encourages communication with children about sex, relationships and growing up.

In 2023 our education and training team focused on delivering Speakeasy Plus. Programme content was updated to include new resources and information for social care services and to improve online course delivery and engagement. We trialled grouping participants from different organisations in the same geographic areas for training sessions, an approach that received very positive feedback.

In total 38 participants (divided into two groups) completed Speakeasy Plus in 2023. Capacity issues due to maternity leave and staff changes meant that some Speakeasy Plus training had to be postponed until 2024. This also had a short-term impact on delivering other education and training programmes.

In preparation for improved capacity in 2024, the Speakeasy programme was also reviewed and updated following participant feedback. Topics such as digital media and consent were incorporated into it.

We continued to experience high demand in 2023 for Speakeasy and Speakeasy Plus training from social workers, clinical psychologists, parents and other professional groups and individuals. We are optimistic this trend will continue.

In 2023 we continued to build our female genital mutilation (FGM) capacity building outreach programme. Nine sessions were delivered reaching an estimated 280 frontline service providers. Participants included GPs, nurses / midwives, obstetrician / gynaecologists, and social care workers. Key partners in delivering these workshops included the Irish College of General Practitioners, St James's Hospital, the Mater Hospital, Cork University Maternity Hospital, SafetyNet and CervicalCheck.

Governance and Management

The Irish Family Planning Association CLG is registered in Ireland as a company limited by guarantee without share capital.

It is governed by memorandum and articles of association. Members of the IFPA board of directors are elected at the association's annual general meeting. As required by provisions of the Charities Act 2009, IFPA board members are volunteers and do not receive remuneration. The only expenditure incurred by the board of directors was the cost of sandwiches for its meetings. The directors and secretary who served during the year had no financial interests in the company.

IFPA Board of Directors

Board members in 2023 were:

- Síona Cahill (term ended 20th July 2023)
- Megan Reilly
- Fiona McNulty (on maternity leave from June 2023)
- Cian Power (chairperson until 20th July 2023)
- Shannon Glaspy (elected chairperson 20th July 2023)
- Dymphna Kenny
- Áine Travers
- Mary Short
- Grace Ó Sé (term ended 7th June 2023)
- Caitlin Faye Maniti (co-opted April 2023, ratified 20th July 2023)
- Sarah Manning (co-opted April 2023, ratified 20th July 2023)

The board met five times in 2023 (February, June, July, October and December). Chief executive Niall Behan attended all meetings along with Michelle O'Leary, financial controller, who acted as company secretary.

Codes of Practice

The board is guided in its governance by best practice principles including the Dóchas Code of Corporate Governance and the Dóchas Guidelines for Annual Reports and Financial Statements, the Dóchas Code of Conduct on Images and Messages, and the Statement for Guiding Principles for Fundraising. The IFPA is an accredited member association of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF). The IFPA board upholds and promotes the IPPF Code of Good Governance which includes 48 compliance standards that represent good practice in governance.

Governance and Management

Funding

The IFPA generates income from fee-paying clients at our two clinics. We are also funded by the Health Services Executive (HSE) for our service to GMS clients; by the HSE Sexual Health and Crisis Pregnancy Programme and HSE National Office for our specialist pregnancy counselling and early medical abortion care, respectively. Our cervical cancer screening programme is funded by the National Cancer Screening Service. The IFPA is grateful to the following for funding our research, advocacy and communications work in 2023: the United Nations Population Fund; the International Planned Parenthood Federation (European Network); and the HSE National Lottery Fund Grant Scheme.

IFPA Management Team

IFPA management team members in 2023 were:

- Niall Behan, chief executive officer
- Dr Caitríona Henchion, medical director
- Maeve Taylor, director of advocacy and communications
- Michelle O'Leary, financial controller
- Eimir Molloy, clinical operations manager
- Clare O'Brien, counselling service manager

2023 Personnel Changes

In 2023 the IFPA welcomed several new clinic staff: Maeve McCarthy, Samuel Hunter, Stephanie McNerney, and Louise Rainey joined our medical team and Tricia Casey joined as receptionist. Clare O'Brien also joined the senior management team as counselling service manager.

We said goodbye to some valued staff members, including Orla Fitzgerald, Julianne Barry and Niamh Thompson from our medical team; Jennifer Swannock and Laura McCaffrey from our counselling team; Shelby Gavigan, clinic receptionist; Laura Byrne from our education and training team; Róisín Venables, director of counselling; and Sophie MacNeice, communications officer. Madeline Stringer, clinic doctor, also retired.

Governance and Management

Pictured from left to right: Maeve Taylor, Niall Behan, Molly O'Meara, Cindy Chin Zi Cian, Anne O'Reardon, Eimir Molloy, Clare O'Brien, Hayley Baugh, Dr Caitriona Henchion, Christina Connolly, Alison Spillane, Elizabeth Webb, Adam Smith.



Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure) for the year ended 31/12/2023

Continuing Operations	2023			2022		
	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total Funds €	Unrestricted Funds €	Restricted Funds €	Total Funds €
Income from:						
Donations	194	-	194	134	-	134
Charitable activities:						
- Charges for services	749,437	-	749,437	747,860	-	747,860
- Statutory grants	43,568	1,306,516	1,350,084	-	1,243,048	1,243,048
- Other grants	-	266,928	266,928	89,844	273,799	363,643
Other activities	8,717	-	8,717	7,482	-	7,482
Total income	801,916	1,573,444	2,375,360	845,320	1,516,847	2,362,167
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	(687,224)	(1,620,968)	(2,308,192)	(830,823)	(1,522,133)	(2,382,956)
Total expenditure:	(687,224)	(1,620,968)	(2,308,192)	(830,823)	(1,522,133)	(2,382,956)
Operating income / (expenditure)	114,692	(47,524)	67,168	14,497	(35,286)	(20,789)
Interest payable	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest earned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income / (expenditure)	114,692	(47,524)	67,168	14,497	(35,286)	(20,789)
Transfer between funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	114,692	(47,524)	67,168	14,497	(35,286)	(20,789)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward	224,805	(88,144)	136,661	210,308	(52,858)	157,450
Total funds carried forward	339,497	(135,668)	203,829	224,805	(88,144)	136,661

Incoming and outgoing resources relate to continuing operations.

The company has no recognised gains or losses other than the movement in funds for the year.

Financial Statements

Balance Sheet as at 31/12/2023

2023			2022	
	€	€	€	€
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets		80,543		113,888
Total		80,543		113,888
Current assets				
Stocks	17,794		25,203	
Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year	197,638		148,854	
Cash at bank and in hand	136,046		135,110	
Total	351,478		309,167	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(228,192)		286,394	
Net current assets		123,286		22,773
Total assets less current liabilities		203,829		136,661
Net assets		203,829		136,661
Capital and reserves				
Accumulated funds		203,829		136,661
Member's funds		203,829		136,661

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board.



The Irish Family Planning Association (IFPA) is a Company Limited by Guarantee. Registration number: 28395. Registered charity numbers: CHY5694 and 20008949. The IFPA is compliant with Charities Regulator's Charities Governance Code.

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