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HEALTH
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St. Colmans Hospital

RATHDRUM, CO. WICKLOW.



Annual Report



1997



**EASTERN
HEALTH
BOARD**

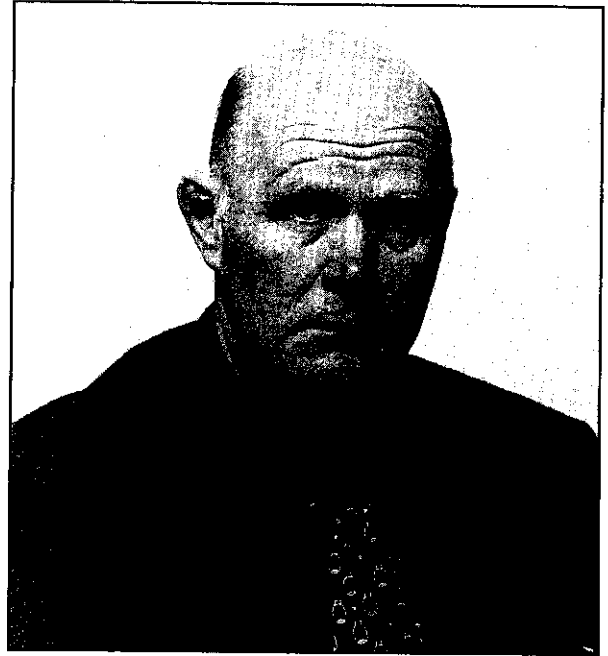
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Dr. James Leitch, Medical Officer.



St. Colmans Hospital

RATHDRUM, CO. WICKLOW.



Ms. Marion Mac Siurtain, Matron (standing),
Ms. Lily Byrnes, Local Hospital Manager (seated).

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General Hospital Care Programme
Committee Meeting
Thursday 19th February 1998
St. Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum

Matron	-	<i>Ms. Marion Mac Siurtain</i>
Medical Officer	-	<i>Dr. James Leitch</i>
Area Hospital Manager	-	<i>Mr. John Hempenstall</i>
Local Hospital Manager	-	<i>Ms. Lily Byrnes</i>
Engineering Officer	-	<i>Mr. Michael Kinsella</i>

BED COMPLEMENT

Admissions/Rehabilitation	12
Extended Care	92
Welfare	22
Respite	10
Young Chronic Sick	4
Terminal	2
	142

Day Care	45 Places
Physiotherapy Service	
Occupational Therapy	
Chiropody Service	
Speech Therapy	
X-Ray Service	

AGE BREAKDOWN OF PATIENTS

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Under 65	2	1
65 - 74	8	17
75 - 84	23	33
85 - 94	17	36
	50	87

DEPENDENCY LEVEL OF PATIENTS

Single Incontinent	51	Doubly Incontinent	43
Dress Themselves	48	Help with Dressing	89
Mobile	56	Immobile	65
Feed Themselves	90	Help with Feeding	47
Bed Bound	16	Partially Mobile	16

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Admissions	453	420
Discharges	378	345
Deaths	75	68
Bed Days	48,203	47,543
Bed Occupancy Rate	94%	92%

BUDGET 1997

Pay	<i>£2,140,023.00</i>
Non-Pay	<i>£ 277,640.00</i>
Gross Total	<i>£2,417,663.00</i>
Less Income	<i>£ 463,246.00</i>
Net Total	<i>£1,954,417.00</i>
Average gross daily cost	<i>£49.85</i>
Average net daily cost	<i>£40.29</i>

ADMISSIONS/REHABILITATION UNIT

There are no direct long stay admissions to the Hospital. All admissions to the Hospital are to the Admissions/Rehabilitation Unit.

Patients admitted to the Unit are assessed from a medical, nursing and social view point in their home environment prior to admission with the emphasis on retention in the Community with the appropriate support of the Community Services. For those admitted the process of assessment and rehabilitation continues to enable as many persons as possible to return home. In 1997, over 75% of patients who were admitted to the Unit were treated, rehabilitated and returned to their own homes with the back-up services of Community Care.

An Assessment Team meets weekly at the Hospital. The team consisting of Hospital and Community Care staff is as follows:-

- Consultant Geriatrician
- Hospital Medical Officer
- Hospital Matron
- Liason Public Health Nurse
- Unit Sister
- Hospital Manager
- Senior Physiotherapist
- Occupational Therapist
- Social Worker

The Team monitors admissions to the Assessment Unit and considers applications for admission. Patients who are admitted through the Admissions/Rehabilitation Unit will be discharged to one of the following locations:-

- Home
- Other Hospitals
- Long Stay Beds in St. Colmans
(Respite Care, Terminal Care)

STATISTICS

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Admissions	447	420
Discharges	427	426
Home	313	288
Respite	12	20
Welfare	17	15
Transfer - Other Hospitals	14	16
Terminal Care	3	7
Long Stay	68	72
Deaths	23	8
<u>Occupancy at 31st December</u>	9	8

<u>Source of Admission</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
General Practitioners	361	315
St. Columcilles Hospital	63	71
St. Vincents Hospital	10	14
Newcastle Hospital	-	1
Orchard Welfare Home	-	1
Nursing Homes	2	2
Other Hospitals	6	8
Sheltered Houses	5	8
	<u>447</u>	<u>420</u>

<u>Geographical Analysis</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Wicklow/Ashford	64	77
Arklow/Avoca	167	133
Aughrim/Tinahely	72	69
Rathdrum	44	66
Glendalough/Roundwood	25	29
Newtown/Bray	75	46
	<u>447</u>	<u>420</u>

Respite Facilities

The Respite Service has proved to be a very valuable facility and is a tremendous support to the population in maintaining their elderly in the community. The respite programme has been developed over the past number of years and has become one of the most important services that the Hospital provides.

There are ten beds available for respite care to allow relatives a break for social reasons, holidays or to offer regular intermittent care to those who can as a result lead a fuller and more satisfactory life at home. There is a flexible approach however to the number of beds available for respite care and the number of beds can be increased to meet demands at particular times throughout the year. Numbers of respite admissions for 1995 and 1996 were as follows:-

<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
312	275

The service is fully availed of by the Community and families are more encouraged to retain their elderly at home in the knowledge that a regular respite break is available to them from the Hospital.

Day Care Facilities

Attendances at the Day Care Unit are arranged from the lists drawn up by the Public Health Nurses in close co-operation with the General Practitioners. Patients being discharged from the Hospital who would benefit from attending at the Day Centre are also catered for. Persons attending receive a full range of services including Medical, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Chiropody and X-Ray.

A main meal and snacks are provided as are a range of personal services. i.e. bathing, hairdressing, laundry. Persons attending the Day Care Unit either travel by private means or by transport provided by the Eastern Health Board.

The availability of this service undoubtedly assists in maintaining people in the community who would otherwise have to be admitted for Long Stay Care.

The Day Care facility operates on a five day basis, i.e. Monday to Friday. The total number of patients currently on the Day Care Register is 217 with an average of 40 attending each day. The frequency of attendances depends on the individual needs of the patients. However, the objective is that each patient attends at least once a week. The total number of attendances in 1996 and 1997 were as follow:

<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
7,483	7,785



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Sheltered Houses

The twelve terraced bungalows situated in the Hospital grounds and managed by the Elderly Citizens Trust continue to be fully occupied. The occupants of the bungalows have the back-up of all the hospital facilities.

The Gate Lodge (Nolan House) also provides accommodation for two ambulant/independent patients. Admission to the Houses is via the normal weekly assessment team meetings and support is available from the main Hospital as required.

The Sheltered Houses and Gate Lodge complement the already mentioned wide range of services available on the campus and provide a much needed secure facility for the community.

Physiotherapy

There are two Physiotherapists employed at the Hospital. The Physiotherapy service plays a vital role in the rehabilitation and progressive recovery and discharge home of patients.



	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
In-patients treated	540	601
Out-patients treated	572	652
Day Care Patients	288	323
Total Patients	1,400	1,576
Total Treatments	5,591	5,521



Occupational Therapy

There is an Occupational Therapist employed at the Hospital and she is a member of the Assessment Team. There is a fully equipped Occupational Therapy Department at the Hospital where patients are assessed and helped to cope with the activities of everyday living at home as part of their rehabilitation.

The total number of treatments in 1996 and 1997 were as follows:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
No. of Patients	851	696
No. of Treatments	4,542	5,255

The Occupational Therapist also carries out home visits to advise on any alterations necessary or aids to be put in place prior to the patients discharge.

The services of the Occupational Therapist have assisted greatly in the rehabilitation and early discharge of patients back into the Community.

X-Ray

There is a limited Radiology Service available for all in-patients including the Assessment/Rehabilitation Unit and the Day Care Unit with Consultant cover provided from St. Columcilles Hospital. A small out-patient service is also provided.

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
In-Patients	76	75
Out-Patients	209	184
Total	285	259
No. of Examinations	349	285

Chiropody

There is a Chiropody service provided at the Hospital for in-patients and day patients. The Chiropodist attends twice weekly and the availability of this service has proved to be of great benefit in the rehabilitation of patients.

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
In-Patients	753	692
Out-Patients	396	572
Total	1,149	1,264

Nutritional Advisor

The availability of this service to the Hospital has greatly assisted in meeting the dietary needs of the patients. In 1997, the Nutritional Advisor has continued to visit the Hospital to monitor the progress of the Nutrition Education Programme initiated at St. Colmans.



Poor Servants of the Mother of God

In early, 1997, the Order of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God announced that due to falling numbers they would have to withdraw the remaining Sisters from St. Colmans Hospital.

In June 1997, a plaque was unveiled by the Chairperson of the Eastern Health Board, Councillor Roisin Shortall, T.D. to mark the loyal and devoted service of the Poor Servants of the Mother of God to the patients of St. Colmans Hospital from January 1922 to May 1997.



A presentation of Waterford Crystal glass was made to Sr. Rosarii, Mother General of the Order and plaques were presented to the last three Sisters who had direct involvement with the Hospital namely, Sr. Austin, former Matron, Sr. Bernadette, Ward Sister, and Sr. Patronella, Pastoral Care Sister.

Voluntary Fund Raising

The Voluntary Fund Raising Committee, the Elderly Citizens Trust continues to raise funds to provide additional comfort for the residents through varied activities and events organised throughout the year.

In 1997, the Committee contributed substantial monies towards the cost of building a Verandah on Unit C. This new facility will provide a pleasant area for the patients on the Ward to sit during the daytime and to meet and talk to relatives during visits.

Events organised by the Committee each year include, Annual Field Day, Sponsored Walk, Sponsored Swim and Raffles. The Committee also organise entertainment for the patients in the Hospital, i.e. Bingo, Music and Outings for the patients.



A group of Carol Singers who entertained the patients, Christmas 1997.

Technical Services Department

In the past year the Engineering staff have completed the following works in St. Colmans Hospital:-

- a) Building of Verandah on Unit C.
- b) General up-keep of Hospital and Grounds

Service Requirements

- a) Erection of extension to enhance accommodation for confused elderly patients.
- b) Continuation of painting programme.
- c) Repair of Tarmacadam - Hospital Grounds.