

**Job Description

Job Title:  Clinical Manager for Advocacy and Research**

**Reporting to:**Chief Executive

**Location:**Head Office, 19 Northwood Business Campus, Santry, Dublin 9

**About Diabetes Ireland**

Diabetes Ireland is the only national charity in Ireland dedicated to helping people with diabetes. We achieve this by providing support, education and motivation to everyone affected by diabetes and their families. We also raise public awareness of diabetes and its symptoms and fund research into finding a cure for diabetes.

With our comprehensive range of education, care and support services and activities, we constantly strive to provide what our members need to optimally manage their diabetes. Our Aims are to:

* provide support, education and motivation to people with diabetes, their families, and friends.
* raise awareness of diabetes in the community and foster programmes for early detection and prevention of diabetes.
* support and encourage advances in diabetes care and research.

**Main Duties and Responsibilities**

This role exists to support the achievement of the following aims:

* **MANAGEMENT** – Support the CEO in developing, delivering and championing the most effective ways for people to manage their diabetes, or their risk, so that they are empowered to live a long and healthy life. Act as a Diabetes Resource and support the CEO in the development and provision of education and the management of the Regional Development Team (healthcare professional educators), diabetes support helpline, the overall organisation, its services and employees as required.
* **POLICY** - Work with policy makers and key stakeholders to maintain diabetes as a public policy priority and ensure continued improvement in the provision of diabetes services.
* **ADVOCACY** – Plan develop & deliver (Media spokesperson) effective media and political communication campaigns to advocate for diabetes service development as appropriate.
* **RESEARCH** - Work with Diabetes Ireland Research Alliance (DIRA) & other external research partners to leverage new and existing relevant research to influence key decision makers.

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**Management**

Support the CEO in developing, delivering and championing the most effective ways for people to manage their diabetes, or their risk, so that they are empowered to live a long and healthy life.

Manage the Regional Development Team (healthcare professional educators) to develop, implement and evaluate existing patient education services and develop new projects to enhance patient knowledge, education and quality of life.

Collaborating and Working with team, evaluate and audit the new online CODE programme for people with Type 2 diabetes and evaluate the efficiency of the Helpline and its glossary to ensure its development to meet the ongoing needs of callers.

Effectively support the CEO in the development and management of the organisation, the helpline, its services and help employees and services as required.

Support ongoing education and development of staff and health professionals.

Promote education and empowerment of people with diabetes and their families.

**Advocacy and Policy**

Advocacy for optimum medical care and quality of life for people with diabetes and their families. This includes the following:

* Promote healthy lifestyle and diabetes prevention.
* Advocacy for those with diabetes to receive optimum patient care including access to services and treatments required to maintain optimal metabolic control and wellbeing and prevention of complications.
* Develop trust between Diabetes Ireland, Stakeholder and the general public based on mutual respect, expertise, honesty, transparency, responsibility and accountability.
* Work with HSE/DOHC and other stakeholders to develop and implement HSE diabetes services and advocate for the implementation of new HSE diabetes service development commitments.
* Advocate for local service development including the provision of supporting documentation as required with other stakeholders.

Promote education, support and empowerment of people with diabetes and their families

Have effective interpersonal communication skills and thus enables the exchange of information, and allow for effective collaboration with patients, their families and also with clinical and non-clinical colleagues and the broader public.

Represent Diabetes Ireland and the diabetes community on various government and other bodies to enhance diabetes services at both regional and national level.

Engage and develop positive relationships with TDs and Senators and their staff on key challenges and issues facing the diabetes community at national and regional level.

Seek to remove inequality issues that can affect career and lifestyle choices of people with diabetes through working to improve understanding of diabetes among relevant stakeholders.

Develop a co-ordinated and focussed Diabetes Advocacy Campaign Strategy in conjunction with the Board of Directors and the Diabetes Ireland Advocacy Committee.

Develop, implement, drive and manage key campaigns and produce evidence based research and supporting documents and reports.

Plan and develop effective media and political communication campaigns to advocate for diabetes service development as appropriate.

Collaborate and co-operate with colleagues to work effectively ensuring clear lines of communication and systems of accountability in place.

Conduct relevant audit and research on patient outcomes in Ireland with reference to international best practices in order to advocate in an evidence-based manner.

Maintain professional competence in clinical skills and international best practice relating to diabetes care.

Adhere to good personal and professional practice

Represent the Diabetes Community in contributing to a variety of not-for-profit networks, alliances and coalitions in the pursuit of improved patient care, agreed advocacy objectives, and adhering to high ethical standards and GDPR.

Act as secretary to the Diabetes Advocacy Committee and the Cross Parliamentary Party on Diabetes and complete actions within agreed timescales.

**Research**

Undertake qualitative and quantitative research to evaluate Diabetes Ireland services and diabetes patient experience of living with the condition and using the findings to influence decision makers and develop new projects to enhance patient knowledge and quality of life.

Supporting and working with the Diabetes Ireland Research Alliance (DIRA) oversee research grant applications and provide up to date information on diabetes research through Diabetes Ireland communication streams.

Collaborate with external researchers to secure funding for Irish Research and to facilitate recruitment of participants for appropriate research projects complying with high ethical standards, Health Research Regulatory requirements and GDPR.

**General**

Act as a diabetes resource and spokesperson for media contacts and people with diabetes.

Be a member of the Editorial Boards of “Diabetes Ireland” and “Diabetes & Cardiology Professional” magazines to produce quality publications.

**Person Specification**

The following qualifications are considered essential:

Healthcare Qualification (Level 8 Degree) with a research module preferable but not essential.

Strong experience in healthcare and/or voluntary sector.

Strong knowledge and understanding of diabetes/chronic disease areas.

**Work Experience**

* A seasoned track record (minimum 5 years) in achieving change through advocacy, policy, research and service provision.
* Knowledge of both healthcare and political environments in Ireland.
* Experience in communications (online & offline) and media relations
* Excellent people skills to engage and unify staff and wider diabetes community on campaigns and projects.
* Ability to liaise and work with Government agencies, HSE, Academia, Patients and

 Industry at the highest levels with credibility

* Demonstrate innovative and strategic thinking to enhance the delivery of services and projects.
* Demonstrable project management skills - showing the ability to drive ideas and oversee projects and teams from creation with ongoing monitoring and evaluation built in.
* Experience in undertaking patient focussed research, data analysis, evaluation and reporting.
* Proven excellent managerial competence and leadership.
* Exceptional attention to detail and the ability to manage a diverse workload.
* A general understanding of the not-for-profit sector in Ireland is desirable but not essential.

Salary: Based on experience.

**Letter of application and CV should be sent to:**

**Gillian Reynolds, Diabetes Ireland, 19 Northwood House, Northwood Business Campus, Santry, Dublin 9 or Email: gillian.reynolds@diabetes.ie. Closing date for applications: Monday 8 February 2021 (5PM). For further information, please contact Gillian on 01 8428118.**