

## **News Release: Dated 10<sup>th</sup> January 2008**

### **Planning Application submitted for co-located hospital on the site of Mid-West Regional Hospital, Limerick**

The Mid-West Regional Hospital and Beacon Medical Group (BMG) are pleased to announce that a planning application has been submitted today, 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2008 for a co-located hospital on the grounds of Mid-West Regional Hospital. The new facility will represent an investment of almost €250m by BMG. When fully operational the new hospital will directly employ over 456 staff. With additional indirect employment of approximately 702 people, the new hospital is expected to make a significant positive contribution to the local economy.

Construction is planned for completion within 30 months from the start date.

The hi-tech, state-of-the-art hospital will comprise 175 single rooms with 8 CCU beds, 6 operating theatres, ambulatory surgery and full diagnostics incorporating some €24.7m worth of new generation equipment. The gross floor area will encompass approximately 25,047 sq metres. The hospital will mirror the case-mix of the public hospital, in that all specialities catered for in the public hospital will also be catered for in the co-located hospital – both medical and surgical, with the exception of national specialities. There will be a joint governance structure to manage shared issues.

Further to the recommendations of the SARI Report 2005, all rooms will be single occupancy, each with its own en-suite facility, offering enhanced patient benefit with regard to infection control standards and patient privacy. The co-located hospital facilitates an adaptive care model, whereby patients can stay in their designated room even if their medical status changes.

The co-located hospital will comply with HIQA directions. It will also comply with all legal requirements relating to quality and standards issued by the Minister of Health, the HSE and any other appropriate governmental regulatory body. The Joint Commission International (JCI) accreditation process will commence six months after opening as is required by the JCI.

#### **Notes to the Editor**

##### *Facilities at the new co-located hospital*

- 150 single rooms + additional shelled out 25 bedded ward
- 8 critical care beds
- Cardiac services - 2 Cardiac Cath Labs supported by 8 recovery bays, ECG, Echo, Holter and Stress Exercise facilities
- 6 Operating Theatres
- Day Procedures Suites – 42 medical and surgical day beds supported by 2 endoscopy Suites and 2 procedure rooms
- 12 Medical Oncology/Haematology day beds
- Physiotherapy Area
- General Clinical Space
- 10 Consultants Suites
- 24/7 Assessment Unit

- Diagnostic Imaging Dept.
- Pharmacy Services
- Laboratory Services
- Central Sterile Supply Dept.

### *Background to Co-located Private Hospitals Project*

In July 2005, the Irish Government issued a policy direction to the HSE under section 10 of the Health Act 2004 to implement the Co-located Private Hospitals Project. The project was aimed at freeing up additional beds for public patients in public hospitals and the development of private hospital facilities on public hospital sites.

No public land is being sold to successful bidders. The hospitals will be privately operated hospitals for the provision of health care to public and private patients alike and not exclusive to private patients.

The new co-located hospitals will allow for 24/7 admission from the public hospital, the public Emergency Department (ED), primary care centres and through GP referrals. They will have the capacity to treat all private patients currently catered for in Public Hospitals thereby freeing up public beds for additional public patients.

As part of the partnership approach between the public and co-located hospitals, where the Public Hospital is full and the Private facility has capacity, there will be a Service Level Agreement (SLA) in place for the Private hospital to take in Public patients. The reverse may also apply. Similarly, where there is a deficiency of certain medical equipment and other infrastructure in the public hospital, it has been agreed that the Private hospital will supply and enter a Service Level Agreement with the public facility to provide these.

### *About Beacon Medical Group*

Beacon Medical Group (BMG) ([www.beaconmedicalgroup.ie](http://www.beaconmedicalgroup.ie)) is a healthcare company founded by cardi-thoracic surgeon Professor Mark Redmond and his partners Michael Cullen and Paddy Shovlin. BMG built and owns the Beacon Medical Campus which includes Beacon Hospital, Beacon Renal, Beacon Consultants Clinic and Concourse, Beacon Dermatology and the planned Women's, Children's and Maternity Hospital.

### *For Further Information Contact*

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