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Dr Peter Garrett and Dr Kieran Hannan
CAWT Renal Project Executive
c/o Renal Unit
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10 March 2008

Dear Dr Garrett and Dr Hannan

CAWT Renal Project: Quality Assurance

We have pleasure in forwarding our final external quality assurance report for the CAWT Renal Project (2006-2008). Significant progress has been made over the previous 2 years and the CAWT Renal Project has delivered on all of its key objectives as detailed in the Renal Project Planner (February 2006-January 2008)

The project aims and objectives were initially announced in a public meeting at the Manor House Hotel, Killdeas, 23 June 2006.

Since that date we have had access to all the documentation linked to the CAWT Renal Project and attended meetings focused on quality assurance (listed below).

QA of CAWT Renal Project Meetings	VENUE	DATE
1	Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh	6 th October 2006
2	Railway Hotel, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh	2 nd March 2007
3	Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh	10 th August 2007
4	Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh	7 th December 2007
5	Manor House Hotel, Killdeas, Co Fermanagh	22 nd February 2008

In completing our final QA report we have reviewed

- Project Initiation Document (PID)
- Risk Log
- Project Stage 1 Plan (February – June 2006)
- Project Stage 2 Plan (July – December 2006)
- Renal Project Planner (February 2006 – January 2008)
- Phase I and Phase II Audit data

Results and conclusions from the CAWT Renal Project have recently been disseminated publicly at the Cross Border Renal Project Seminar, 22 February 2008.

The project has achieved its objectives and we particularly wish to highlight the following important milestones.

1. Establishment a multidisciplinary cross-border network of healthcare professionals committed to sharing anonymised information from dialysis units in the border counties.
2. Agreement on the clinical standards for audit of quality of healthcare in haemodialysis patients.
3. Introduction of Emed Renal IT system into Renal Units in Cavan, Sligo and Letterkenny and the development of working lab interfaces at all sites.
4. Linkage of healthcare related ICT from two jurisdictions (Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland) to allow download of data from Emed for comparative audit (with appropriate respect of data protection issues).
5. Completion of a Phase I and later Phase II clinical audit that captured comparable data from all six participating renal units.
6. Demonstration that “cooperation and working together” on EU-funded cross border health initiatives delivers high quality clinical outputs

The CAWT Renal Project has clearly identified the need for enhanced provision of surgically created vascular access and interventional radiology support for haemodialysis patients in border counties. We would encourage the project team and their respective healthcare commissioners to vigorously pursue options to secure funding to improve this aspect of clinical care. Innovative proposals to share cross border resources should be explored.

Continued comparative audit between renal units in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland could also form the nucleus of an all Island of Ireland Renal Registry.

We compliment the efforts of the multidisciplinary project board, the leadership of Drs Garrett and Hannan and hard work of project manager, Deirdre Keown on steering this project to a successful conclusion on time and within the available budget.

Yours sincerely

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C.C.
Deirdre Keown, CAWT Renal Project Manager/Audit Facilitator
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