

BABY-FRIENDLY ACCREDITATION

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South Tipperary General Hospital has been designated as a Baby Friendly Hospital and presented with their Baby Friendly Hospital award by the National Baby Friendly Health Initiative (BFHI) Co-ordinator.

Local business woman and five times All-Ireland camogie champion Una O'Dwyer joined the staff at the hospital to celebrate their Baby Friendly Hospital award. The Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative is a whole hospital initiative and representatives from many disciplines attended the award ceremony including the Hospital Management Team,

consultant paediatricians, CNM2 paediatricians, consultant obstetricians, household services, staff midwives, staff Nurses and midwifery Management, as well as representatives from the Community Mothers programme in Tipperary.

Following the award, the assessment team were invited on a tour of the antenatal clinic and the maternity ward to congratulate staff.

Designation as a Baby Friendly Hospital means the hospital has implemented international standards and has gone through an extensive assessment by an external team.

The Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative is an international evidence-based best practice initiative, which includes standards in relation to breastfeeding practice, promotion, support and protection. International evidence confirms the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative is effective in contributing to an increase in breastfeeding rates.

Once the standards are reached, the hospital is required to monitor practices to remain at that standard and continue to improve. Baby Friendly Hospitals must complete the assessment process and be re-designated every five years.



Pictured at the presentation of the Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative Award to the Maternity Ward in STGH, Dr Genevieve Becker presents Mary Burke, Asst General Manager, with the award surrounded by staff and guests.

CONSULTANT PHYSICIAN WITH SPECIAL INTEREST IN DIABETES JOINS BANTRY GENERAL HOSPITAL

DR. MARK HANNON, a consultant physician and endocrinologist, has recently joined the staff at Bantry General Hospital. Dr. Hannon becomes the fourth full-time consultant based at the hospital joining Dr. Peter Wieneke, consultant physician, Dr. Brian Carey, consultant geriatrician and Dr. Olivier de Buyl, consultant physician who provide vital medical services to the people of west Cork and parts of Kerry.



Dr. Hannon attended the CBS in Charleville, Co. Cork and went on to study medicine at University College Cork, graduating in 2004. Dr Hannon is no stranger to Bantry as he did part of his medical training in Bantry General Hospital as well as Cork University Hospital, the Mercy University Hospital, and St. Vincent's University Hospital in Dublin. He completed his MD research in Beaumont Hospital Dublin and then travelled to the USA to work as a research fellow in endocrinology in Georgetown University Hospital, Washington DC. Dr. Hannon then spent a year in the Royal London Hospital and St. Bartholomew's Hospital in London, working as a clinical lecturer in endocrinology, diabetes and general medicine. He now specialises in diabetes and other endocrine disorders such as thyroid, pituitary, ovarian and adrenal disease and general medicine.

Speaking on his recent appointment Dr. Hannon said, "I am delighted to join the medical team at Bantry General Hospital. As part of my role as consultant physician with special interest in diabetes, I plan to extend the diabetes service as well as providing specialist endocrine services in the west Cork region. Bantry General already has a clinical nurse specialist in diabetes, Ms. Tracy Hourihane. The expanded service will mean that fewer patients will now have to travel to Cork to receive specialist diabetes and endocrine care."

Ms. Jackie Daly, Manager at Bantry General Hospital said, "We are delighted to have Dr. Hannon join the Department of Medicine at the hospital. His role will further enhance the professional services we provide."

This service will complement the services already being provided at BGH in general medicine, cardiology, gastroenterology, neurology and medicine for the elderly.

INSET: Dr Mark Hannon