

OvaCare
Ovarian Cancer Community 



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1.0 Vision

Our vision is that all women concerned about or diagnosed with ovarian cancer have immediate access to the knowledge and support that is available, which empowers them to make critical personal and family decisions in a supportive environment.

To achieve this we endeavor to elevate awareness, accelerate diagnosis and educate women affected by ovarian cancer within Ireland.

We source and share knowledge of developments in global research and best practice with the OvaCare community.

We provide support and advocacy through OvaCare's dedicated support networks.

2.0 Aims and Objectives

We aim to create a positive and personal difference to the OvaCare community of patients, their families and friends and to empower them with the knowledge to make informed decisions and to increase awareness of prevention for their families.

Moving into the future, we aspire to become a charity that is

- recognised as a leader in the provision of specialised cancer services
- Committed to education and provision of information to our patients and families
 - Acknowledged as an expert educator in the field
 - Influential in shaping national policy and practice
- Open to working collaboratively with other statutory and voluntary agencies

Internally we will:

- Meet new national standards for governance in the charity sector
- Be compliant with all appropriate regulatory requirements particularly in the areas of data protection and health and safety and will formally adopt new codes/policies as necessary
- Be open to regular external reviews of our systems
- Continue to develop services for all patients and families



- Strengthen our resourcing through the expansion of the fundraising and development functions
- Continue to ensure that robust financial management and administrative systems are in place
- Develop and implement a consistent communications and influencing strategy

3.0 Implementation

3.1 Governance

As a registered charity OvaCare understands the importance of rigorous, transparent governance both to engender confidence in our supporters and to ensure that our resources are expended in a manner that ensures the best possible outcomes for our patients and families.

The Board of Directors are committed to be fully compliant with the Governance Code by end 2019.

Key Performance Indicators:

- Review of the Memorandum and Articles of Association in 2019
- All Governance Policy and Procedures to be in place by September 2019
 - Annual confirmation from the Board that the policies and procedures accurately reflect our charity's work
 - Annual review and update of policies to ensure compliance with Governance and regulatory requirements
 - Review of the format of the Annual Report and the website to ensure that they meet transparent reporting standards by 2020
- Deliver training to the Board on Governance by end 2019
- Optimize Board membership by end 2019



3.2 Research

OvaCare is committed to supporting research into the early identification and treatment of ovarian cancer and sharing the most up to date information with its patients and families.

Key Performance Indicators:

- Identify a research project within these stated areas of interest in 2019
- Provide a bursary to facilitate the research project in 2019
- Monitor and report of the findings of this project in 2020
- Assess whether this can be considered a valuable ongoing use of resources and if so, develop into an annual Bursary award by 2021.
- Consider increasing the number of patient days annually to provide the most up to date identification and treatment information to our patients and families by 2021.

3.3 Fundraising

OvaCare is committed to increasing its funding in order to adequately meet the current and projected needs of our patients and families, and as such a new fundraising strategy is now being developed.

OvaCare is compliant with the Irish Charities Tax Reform (ICTR) Code of Practice for Fundraising and aims to be compliant with any future developments in best practice in this area.

Key Performance Indicators:

- Develop a Fundraising Strategy by end 2019 and implement it in 2020.
- Develop a panel of fundraising volunteers from 2020 onwards
 - Continue to maintain good working relations with our private sector funders and comply with all funding criteria
- Review our website to ensure that it is accessible for users



3.4 Communications

OvaCare is committed to providing clear and easily accessible information to its shareholders, including patients and families, regulatory bodies, medical personnel, our fundraising partners and the general public.

Key Performance Indicators:

- Put in place an annual communication strategy by the end of 2019 with a view to informing our funders, supporters and members of the public about our successes
- Ensure that clear and easily accessible information on our aims, goals and achievements is available on our web-site by 2020
- Ensure that fundraising and event information is clearly available on our website by 2020
- Consider the use of other platforms to increase the profile of OvaCare to the public, as well as targeting those who may need our assistance most and implement by 2021.
- Running monthly / bi monthly Coffee & Chat sessions across the country bringing together patients and their families and friends for support within the areas they live by 2019.
- Assess the possibility of funding Regional Ovarian Cancer Coordinators – enlist the help of our support community in a more structured way across Ireland to raise awareness and work with us to provide support nationally by 2021
- Student Program – under our patient services – work with Nurses, Medical Schools and GP colleges across the country to raise awareness of ovarian cancer and promote BRCA awareness, and what patients’ needs are through enlisting the help of our OvaCare community to carry out talks at the colleges by Develop patient feedback practices to promote the patient voice, including consideration of the use of forums, questionnaires and surveys by 2020.
- Develop links with other patient groups and charities in the area to further promote women’s health by 2020.

3.5 Finance and Administration

OvaCare has developed robust and compliant financial and operational management systems and our goal is to continue to support and develop these systems.



The company secretary reviews the financial accounts on a monthly basis and an external audit is undertaken each year. Annual budgets are prepared by the Chairperson with input from the other board members and approved by the Board, with performance against budget reviewed at each Board meeting. The strategic plan is for the annual budgets to reflect an increase in funding in the next three years.

Our operational systems are reviewed as per the review cycle and updated as required or necessary to reflect our operations.

Key Performance Indicators:

- Preparation and approval of the annual budget - annually at the AGM
- Complete the review of the Data Protection Policy and implement by mid 2019
- Put in place a framework of regular reviews of compliance with all legislative obligations by the end of 2019
- Perform an annual risk assessment and ensure a risk register is maintained annually
- Ensure that all financial reporting requirements are completed in a thorough, transparent and timely manner - annually

4.0 Implementation

The implementation of this plan will be reviewed every six months from the date of issue, by the board, to ensure that the KPIs are being met and to assess the effectiveness of the strategic plan.

5.0 Conclusion

OvaCare has evolved since its conception to become an organization committed to providing the best possible information and support to our patients and families. We continue to strive for excellence in all our endeavors, to best assist and educate those who use our service.



From 2019 to 2022 we aim to build on our successes to date and ensure that we are transparent and goal focused in our actions, through better communications and robust governance.