CPD Sessions develop E-Learning programme for Suicide Prevention in Primary Care



(Pictured above on far left David McLean, CEO CPD Sessions shaking hands with An Taoiseach)

525 deaths from suicide were registered in Ireland during 2011. The role of health professionals in suicide prevention and indeed of all those in the primary care practice should not be underestimated, as many patients present to primary care in the months prior to the event. Physician education in the recognition and treatment of depression has been shown to reduce suicide rates.

This eLearning programme developed by <u>CPD Sessions</u> in association with the <u>National</u> <u>Office for Suicide Prevention</u> and the <u>Irish College of General Practitioners</u> will provide a blended learning approach to educating all primary care staff in the identification and management of 'at risk' patients.

The eLearning programme was launched by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny and Ministers James Reilly and Kathleen Lynch on April 16th 2013 in Government buildings and made available to all primary care staff, GP's, Nurses, administrative staff and allied health professionals working in primary care. It is hoped that this educational programme will impact on the numbers of deaths from Suicide in the coming years.

The online programme is part of a suite of eLearning modules developed by CPD Sessions for Irish and International healthcare professionals. CPD Sessions is based in <u>Invent DCU</u> and much of the Suicide Prevention in Primary Care Programme was actually filmed on location in DCU.

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