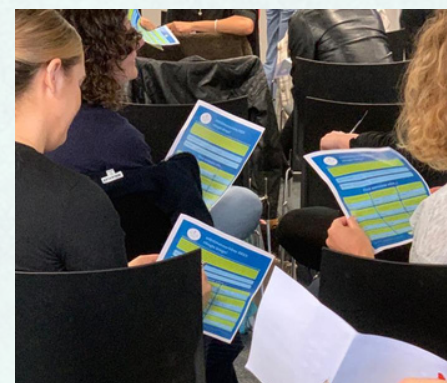




IRISi NEWS

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IRISi NETWORK DAY 2023: REFLECTING ON A DAY OF INSPIRATION AND COLLABORATION

On September 26th, IRISi held its first National Network Event since before the pandemic. The event was open to all advocate educators and clinical leads working in both [IRIS](#) and [ADVISE](#) sites across the UK. 67 network members attended the event, 18 of whom were Clinical Leads.

Post-event, we gathered feedback by asking attendees to share their favourite moments and a recurring highlight emerged: the opportunity to network with staff from various sites, meet individuals in person, exchange skills and expertise, and, notably, the engaging presentation by Professor Monckton Smith on the 8 stages of homicide.

On the whole, attendees liked the mix of content from the IRISi team and the 2 excellent external speakers. We were fortunate to also have Dr Alison Gregory, whose work addresses the needs of informal supporters of survivors, as well as research on abuse experienced by healthcare professionals. This was particularly relevant as IRIS/ADVISE sites offer clinicians the chance to seek

and access support, as we know that one of the barriers for healthcare practitioners supporting patients can be their own experiences of abuse.

A huge thank you from us for making the day so informative and enjoyable. We look forward to welcoming you to the next National Network Event!

“[I appreciate] the opportunity to meet colleagues from other regions, and hear about how they may be handling similar challenges, their successes and plans for the future.”

- Feedback from an attendee who joined our event

[Click here to read it in full](#)

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence: IRISi reflected on 75 years of NHS's commitment to women's health, rights and safety

In 2023, the National Health Service (NHS) celebrated its 75th anniversary, a significant milestone. At IRISi, we've selected this special occasion to focus on the NHS's significant contributions to women's health, rights and safety. During our campaign for the 16 days of activism against Gender-Based Violence, we presented 16 topics, each underscoring the vital role healthcare settings can play in tackling GBV, exploring where more needs to be done and how IRISi can support this work. As part of the same campaign, we launch an infographic to summarise all the topics.



>>> To read the blog post, please [click here](#).
>>>To access the infographic, please [click here](#).

Commissioned by Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse, IRIS is expanding its reach into General Practices across Sefton, Halton and Herefordshire

IRISi is thrilled to announce the launch of the [IRIS programme](#) in general practices across Sefton, Halton and Herefordshire – where the initiative will be delivered in partnership with [Sefton Women's Aid and Children's Aid \(SWACA\)](#), [Halton Domestic Abuse Service](#) and [West Mercia Women's Aid \(WMWA\)](#).



These regions were selected based on Whole Health mapping conducted by [Standing Together Against Domestic Abuse](#) on a national scale. The decision to commission the IRIS programme in these areas was made collaboratively with healthcare professionals, local authority domestic abuse leads, and domestic abuse service providers. [READ MORE>>](#)

The Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH) highlighted the ADViSE Programme

The Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (FSRH) spotlighted the [ADViSE Programme](#) in an article authored by Charlotte Chappell, ADViSE Lead. The piece explores the correlation between domestic violence and health, providing a deeper understanding of the programme's effectiveness in addressing this issue within the sexual health clinic setting. It also underscores the programme's reach to a diverse range of patients. The FSRH stands as a leading authority in sexual and reproductive healthcare, serving as the advocate for professionals in this field.



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HIGHLIGHTS



Introducing Mariah Kelly: a new IRISi Board Member committed to advancing gender equality and health equity

We are thrilled to introduce Mariah Kelly, the newest addition to the IRISi Board of Directors. Mariah brings a wealth of knowledge and a strong commitment to advancing gender equality, health equity, and social justice. In a recent interview, she shared her background, motivations, and aspirations for her role at IRISi. Join us in welcoming Mariah to the IRISi community!

[READ MORE>>](#)

Navigating changes to medical record access: IRISi's approach to supporting healthcare professionals and survivors

Over the course of a year, IRISi and Women's Aid actively participated in monthly meetings with the NHSE Safeguarding Reference Group. During these sessions, the group diligently examined the potential impacts of changes to medical record access on various patient demographics, particularly those vulnerable to domestic abuse, specifically coercion and control. In addition to pinpointing specific challenges, the group proactively instituted safeguarding measures designed to mitigate potential risks. Notably, they established a national reporting system for adverse effects, enabling the group to address issues promptly and make recommendations for system changes when deemed necessary.

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE US A HAND?

Do you have something to share about IRISi, IRIS or ADVISE - such as the impact of the intervention, suggestions or feedback? We would love to hear from you! Please email us at: geisa.davo@irisi.org.

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