

Health Information and Quality Authority

2 – 3 June 2008

Background

- Republic of Ireland: 4.2m population
- Recent strong economy now becoming challenged
- Split health and social care provider market – monopoly state provider/commissioner
- Strong health insurance component

Regulatory Terrain

- Medical Council
- An Board Altranaís (Nursing Council)
- Dental Council
- Mental Health Commission
- Health and Social Care Professionals Council
- Radiation Protection Institute
- Pharmaceutical Society
- Health and Safety Authority
- Medicines Board
- HIQA

Health Information and Quality Authority

- Established 15 May 2007 (Health Act 2007)
- Government body reporting to the Minister for Health and Children
- Independent mandate – quality and safety across all health and social care services
- Currently 75 core staff, 300 by end of 2009



**To drive high quality and safe
care for people using our health
and social services**

Functions

- **Setting standards**
- **Monitoring/inspecting quality and safety in Healthcare**
- **Social Services Inspection** – formal registration and inspection function
- **Investigating serious adverse events**
- **Health Technology Assessment**
- **Health Information**

Regulatory Basis



Regulatory Powers

- Vary across health and social care functions
- Monitoring of standards, inspection of social care providers, investigation service issues
- Retrieval/removal of information, requirement for interview (warrant if required)
- Enforcement of recommendations for inspection up to closure (social care)
- Sanctions – custodial and financial

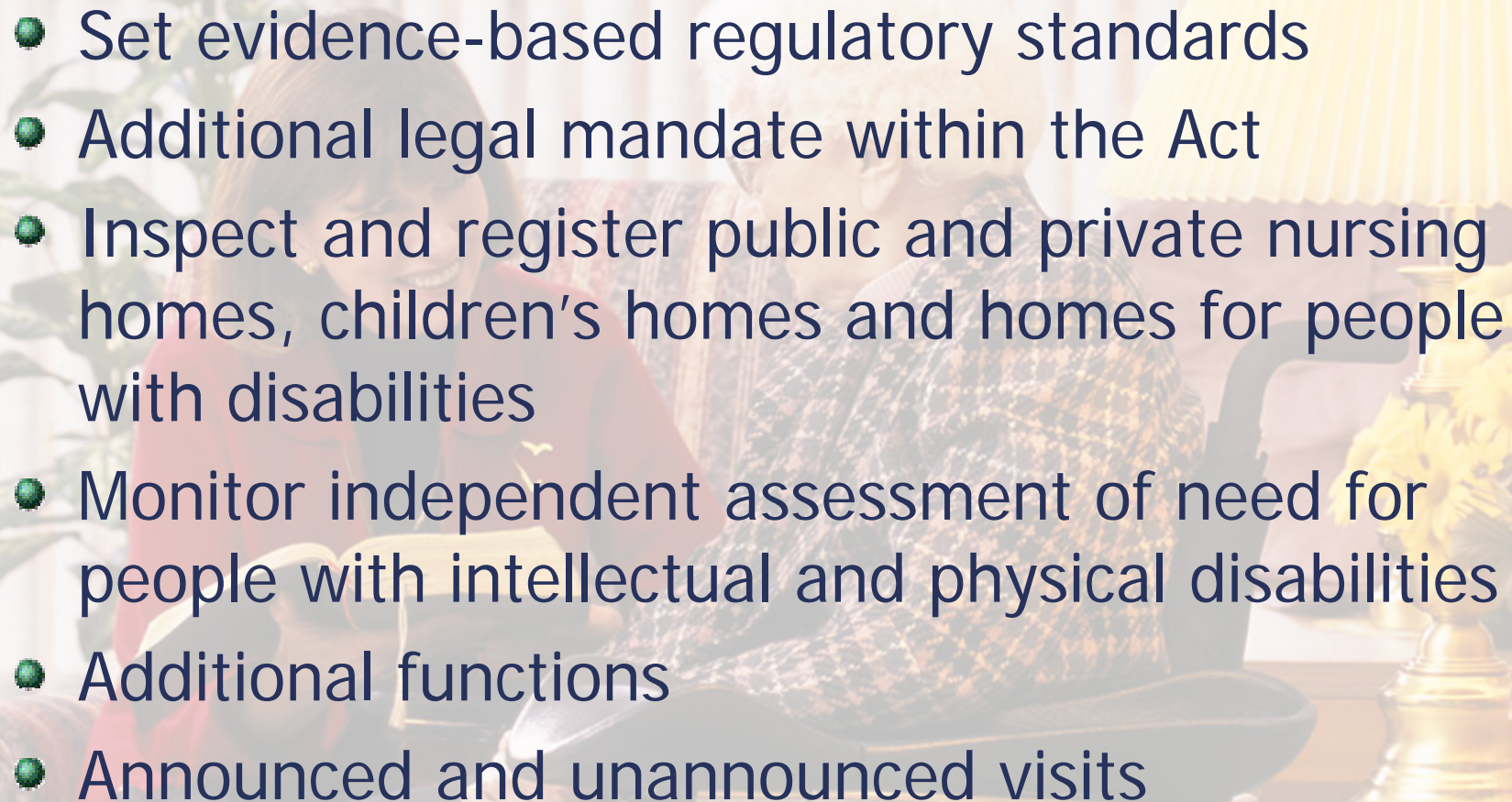
Monitoring Quality and Safety in Healthcare



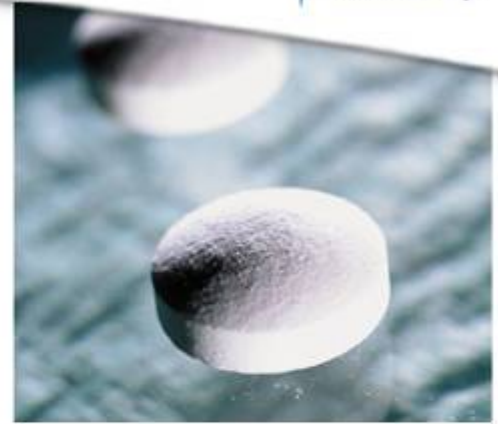
- Set evidence-based mandated standards
- Mandatory quality assurance reviews (licensing)
- Undertake national themed reviews
- Investigate serious concerns
- Publish all reports
- Patient safety initiatives – WHO Collaborative Project, Safer Surgery Saves Lives, EUNetwork Patient Safety
- EU Quality Networks, ISQua

Social Services Inspection



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- Set evidence-based regulatory standards
 - Additional legal mandate within the Act
 - Inspect and register public and private nursing homes, children's homes and homes for people with disabilities
 - Monitor independent assessment of need for people with intellectual and physical disabilities
 - Additional functions
 - Announced and unannounced visits


Health Technology Assessment



- Lead HTA activities across system
- Prioritised appraisals in drugs, medical devices, therapeutic procedures, health promotion activities
- Lead and oversee appraisals - outsource research and evaluation
- Strong engagement in the international scene for HTA – EUNetwork HTA, HTAInternational
- Develop capacity and capability in system for informed decision-making
- HTA's: Human Papillomavirus vaccination, colorectal screening programme

Health Information



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- Evaluate and provide accurate and trusted information on health and social services
 - Inform development of ICT systems
 - Develop technical standards for inter-operability
 - Establish an information governance framework
 - Develop Performance Indicators across health system
 - Share and connect learning for knowledge

Challenges

- System wide challenges – high reliability culture, clinical leadership, governance, management
- Establishing organisation whilst responding to serious safety issues
- Potential licensing regulatory framework for acute services
- Balance of providing development yet regulating the system
- Diverse functions – difficult to establish core purpose with public and system



Thank You