

What can I do to mark this week? ...

Absolutely everyone can do something to support and celebrate Men's Health Week (MHW) 2024 ...

At school, every pupil is told that you need to know your numbers if you are to get on in life. This message is usually not welcomed at the time, but it's a solid piece of advice.

During Men's Health Week 2024, everyone is being asked to 'Know Your Numbers'. Policy makers need to know statistics on the state of men's health. Men need to know the key health numbers that they should be working towards. Everyone needs to know the numbers for support services at times when things go wrong. Men's health really does count!

The focus for MHW this year - 'Know Your Numbers' - lends itself to a wide range of ways to mark this occasion. Everyone (health professionals, service providers, youth groups, sporting bodies, community organisations, employers, Churches, policy makers, family workers, pharmacists, the media, parents, individuals ...) is being asked to set themselves a simple, realistic and practical target to improve the health of men, and to go for it.

However, you don't have to stick rigidly to this particular theme. Anything which promotes the week and encourages men and boys to lead healthier lifestyles, to be more aware of preventable health problems, and to seek early detection and treatment for health difficulties will be very welcome.



In Ireland, there is a MHW poster, postcard, logo and a social media image pack which can be used by everyone who wishes to raise awareness of the week. All of these images are available for free online downloading at: www.mhfi.org/mhw/mhw-image-pack.html. There is also a free, /www.mhfi.org/mhw/mhw-image-pack.html. There is also a free, /www.mhfi.org/mhw/mhw-2024.html for details on how to access these materials, as well as to find out more about MHW this year.

These resources are important promotional tools - as one of the key aims of MHW is to let as many people as possible (especially men) know about the week, when it will happen, and how they can get involved. So, why not begin by sending / giving the men you know a copy of this year's MHW 'postcard' and/or a copy of the new Men's Health in Numbers Z-Card ...



Even if you don't have a lot of time, energy or resources to give, there are still some really easy (and FREE) ways that you can show your support ...

WHAT

HOW



Put a Men's Health Week poster (or two or three) up in your workplace / meeting space / community centre / local shop / waiting room / church hall / Men's Shed / gym / library / pub / surgery / construction site / home ...



Promote the week on your website / social media - using a copy of the Men's Health Week <u>logo</u> or <u>badge</u> or <u>banner</u> or <u>Twitter Header</u> or <u>Facebook Cover image</u>.



Link to the web page devoted to Men's Health Week 2024 (www.mhfi.org/mhw/mhw-2024.html) from your own website, Facebook page or other social networking site.



Send an email to everyone on your mailing list to tell them about Men's Health Week, and ask them to forward the message to all their contacts. Why not also insert the MHW logo, badge or banner into your outgoing emails during May and June?



Become a fan of the Men's Health Week in Ireland's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/MensHealthWeek) and send this link to all your online friends.



Include information on Men's Health Week 2024 in your mailouts and newsletters.



Tell others about what is happening in your area during Men's Health Week by posting details on the MHFI website. Use the form at: www.mhfi.org/mhw/promote-an-event.html



Make the Men's Health Week <u>logo</u> or <u>badge</u> your computer desktop 'wallpaper' during May and June.



Remind your colleagues to follow all the latest news on Twitter (www.twitter.com/MensHealthIRL). Also Tweet about the week yourself, and include #MensHealthWeek and #KnowYourNumbers in your message.



Encourage the men you know to get involved in some of the activities taking place during the week.

However, even more is possible. If you're a ...

HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDER

Why not produce a men's health leaflet, or offer men's health (MOT / NCT) checks, or run a men's health campaign in your area, or consult with local men about what services they need, or give free pedometers to men, or ...?

SPORTING BODY

Why not use your unique position (as many men like sport already) to give out men's health information at games, or get local men to join-in training sessions, or ask your best known athlete to give a men's health talk, or develop forms of your sport which older men can participate in, or print men's health messages on your players' shirts, or put details about the week into your match programmes, or set-up / support a 'ParkRun' programme, or ...?

COMMUNITY / VOLUNTARY GROUP

Why not start-up a walking group, or organise a healthy eating cookery class, or form a men's health group, or launch a men's swimming / cycling club, or get your local leisure centre / gym to offer a free pass to men during MHW, or collate and display a list of local Helplines / support services for men, or ...?

EMPLOYER

Why not organise health checks for men in your workplace, or set-up a regular game of football before / after work, or invite speakers to come in and give talks on specific aspects of men's health, or produce your own workplace guide to men's health, or offer an hour off to your employees to attend a men's health event, or support a walk / cycle to work week, or ...?

MEDIA PERSON

Why not cover MHW 2024 in your publication / programme, or research and produce an in-depth special report on a specific men's health issue, or promote the work of a local men's health project, or run a series of features on men's health during MHW 2024, or have a men's health supplement in your newspaper, or ...?

If you're a ...

LOCAL POLITICIAN / POLICY MAKER

Why not table a debate on men's health in Dáil Éireann / Stormont / local council chamber, or set-up an inter-party group on men's health, or host a men's health seminar in your constituency, or propose a party policy on men's health, or look at how elements of the 'Healthy Ireland Men Action Plan' in the Republic of Ireland could be introduced to Northern Ireland, or set your department the goal of tackling a specific men's health issue over the coming year, or have a look at some of the evidence about men's health status (available at: www.mhfi.org/resources/research-policies-and-reports.html) or ...?

OTHER SERVICE PROVIDER

Why not display men's health information in your public spaces, or direct your service users to men's health programmes, or provide a room and administrative support for a local men's health initiative, or think about helping to start-up a 'Men's Shed' or ...?

HELPLINE

Why not specifically target men and encourage them to use your service during MHW, or ...?

MAN

Why not be an 'Action Man' and consider following one (or more) of the ten top tips in the Man Manual?

During MHW 2024, get to know your numbers – because men's health counts!

WOMAN

Why not encourage the man / men in your life (partner, son, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, neighbour, friend, colleague etc.) to take part in one of the MHW events, or to see their GP about that niggling health concern, or to join a men's health group, or ...?



However, maybe the easiest thing of all is to read (or give a male you know) a copy of the 'Action Man' booklet - which offers ten top tips to improve men's health ...



Find out how to get it at: https://www.mhfi.org/mhw/mhw-2024.html#ActionMan