

RCN Fertility Nursing Conference 2026

Every step matters: accessible, equitable and
compassionate care



Thursday 15 October 2026

**Royal College of Nursing
20 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0RN**

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Welcome letter

Dear Colleague,

On behalf of the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) and the Fertility Nursing forum, welcome to the RCN Fertility Nursing Conference 2026.

We trust that you will find the conference stimulating and informative and that you'll have an opportunity to network with colleagues during the course of the event. We hope you will go away feeling inspired and invigorated and armed with information to share with colleagues in your workplace.

The RCN believes in life-long learning and actively promotes the continuing professional development of nurses. For this reason, certificates of attendance are included in the conference pack and the framework for reflection can be found on the reverse. You are encouraged to contribute attendance at RCN events towards your framework for reflection which can be included in your portfolio.

You will receive an email with a link to the online conference evaluation. We'd be grateful if you would complete this as soon as possible and within seven days of the conference. Your comments and feedback are invaluable in helping us plan future RCN conferences.

RCN staff and committee members are also on hand to answer any queries you may have regarding your membership. Or if you're a non-member, they can inform you of the many benefits of joining the RCN. As a member, you can join any number of the RCN Forums. Forums have active Facebook groups that provide you with the opportunity to connect with colleagues and keep up to date on current practice related issues.

The RCN has professional forums across the diverse nursing arena and RCN members can join as many of these forums as they wish. With 202105 forum members, forum membership is set to continue to rise. Forums are a huge area of influence and direction for the RCN and are a valuable opportunity to network with colleagues around the UK and be involved in:

- consultation responses
- conferences, events and workshops
- forum-led publications.

We'd like to thank you for supporting this conference and look forward to welcoming you back to future RCN events.

With best wishes,
Anne Howard, Forum Chair

Programme at a glance

9.00	Registration, exhibition, networking and refreshments
9.45	Chair's opening remarks Anne Howard, Chair, RCN Fertility Nursing Forum
9.50	The Preconception Pathway: Advice, NICE Guidance and Equitable Routes to Secondary and Tertiary Care Francesca Steyn, Head of Clinical Services, Quality and Compliance, Malebox Health Ltd
10.20	Beyond fertility: understanding the whole-body impact of PMOS and endometriosis Caroline Andrews, Volunteer Trustee and Patient Advocate, Verity Joanne Hanley, Specialist Advisor, Endometriosis UK Advanced Clinical Practitioner
10.50	Refreshments and exhibition viewing
11.20	Sponsored session hosted by IBSA UK The BMI - Fertility Link: Why weight loss matters and how we can support it. Katie Best, Fertility Nurse Specialist Liaison, IBSA UK
11.45	Trauma-Informed Fertility Care: Practical approaches to reducing distress and preventing re-traumatisation in fertility settings Grace Addyman, Trainee Clinical Psychologist, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
12.15	Building Empathy, Communication and Understanding in Fertility Care: British Infertility Counselling Association (BICA) guidance. Deborah Petrou, Accredited member of BICA Psychodynamic Psychotherapist at Queen Anne Street Practice
12.45	Lunch and exhibition viewing
13.45	Additional routes to parenthood Sara Venditozzi, Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist for Fertility Preservation and Donor Co-ordinator, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee Danielle Ellis, Head of Clinical Operations, Ethica
14.15	Transition from fertility to maternity services – building a good pathway Jenny Wylam, Clinical Teaching Fellow, Midwifery Department, King's College London Maria Symeonaki, Professional Lead Midwifery and Women's Health, RCN
14.45	Refreshments and exhibition viewing
15.15	Panel discussion: Access to fertility treatment Sorah Jones, Nurse Manager, Herts & Essex Fertility Centre (England)

	• Lee Noquet, Gamete Donor Co-Ordinator, Edinburgh Fertility, Reproductive & Endocrine Centre Deputy Charge Nurse, Simpson Centre for Reproductive Health (Scotland) • Natasha Witchell, Nurse Manager, The Fertility Home (Wales) • Melissa Mark, Head of Nursing, Thérapie Fertility (N. Ireland) • Katie Rollings, CEO and Founder, Fertility Action Chair: Stephanie Pryor, Quality Assurance Manager, Wellbeck
16.00	Chair's closing remarks Anne Howard, Chair, RCN Fertility Nursing Forum
16.15pm	Conference close

General information

Conference enquiries

Please ask staff on the registration desk if you have any specific requirements regarding access, lost property or have queries regarding your membership.

Delegate Badges

For security purposes, participants must wear their badges at all times. Participants will not be admitted to the conference sessions without the appropriate badge.

Programme

Please refer to the programme for details of the times and locations of all conference sessions. Staff will be on hand to guide you as necessary.

Exhibition

There is an exhibition running alongside this event. These exhibitors have chosen to exhibit at this conference as they feel their products and/or services may be of interest to you. The exhibition also supports the conference, therefore please take the time to go and visit each exhibition stand during the exhibition viewing times.

Receipts

If you require a receipt or have any queries relating to your registration or payment for this event, please contact staff on the registration desk at the event. Alternatively, receipts are also available by contacting RCN Event Registrations direct on 029 2054 6460 between 9.00am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

Specific requirements

Please ask at the registration/enquiries desk if you have any specific requirements (e.g. dietary, accessibility etc.)

Electronic devices

Out of courtesy to others, delegates are requested to switch off or set to silent all electronic devices during conference sessions.

Liability

The RCN will not accept any liability for loss or damage to personal effects which may arise as a result of attendance at this event.

Continuing Professional Development

The Royal College of Nursing believes in lifelong learning and actively promotes the continuing professional development of all nurses. Authorised Royal College of Nursing certificates of attendance have been issued to all participants. This event is also subject to the RCN Events quality assurance framework. You should log what you have learnt at this event using the Framework for Reflection guidelines on the back of your certificate and keep this document in your personal professional portfolio.

Free information at your fingertips

The Royal College of Nursing offers a number of FREE online resources with all the latest information and guidance on particular nursing practice issues such as: clinical guidelines, patient safety and eHealth. Visit <http://www.rcn.org.uk/development/practice> for more information.

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Acknowledgement and thanks

RCN Fertility Nursing Forum

Anne Howard	Chair, RCN Fertility Nursing Forum Deputy Director of Nursing, Peppy Health
Sara Venditozzi	Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist for Fertility Preservation and Donor Co-ordinator, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee
Lee Noquet	Gamete Donor Co-Ordinator, Edinburgh Fertility, Reproductive & Endocrine Centre Deputy Charge Nurse, Simpson Centre for Reproductive Health (Scotland)
Danielle Ellis	Head of Clinical Operations, Ethica
Natasha Witchell	Nurse Manager, The Fertility Home (Wales)
Stephanie Pryor	Quality Assurance Manager, Wellbeck
Maria Symenaki	Professional Lead Midwifery and Women's Health, RCN

Exhibitors

The RCN would like to thank the following exhibitors for taking part in this event.

- IBSA UK
- Tilly Blooms
- European Sperm Bank
- Nordic Pharma
- Besins
- Health Medica
- Affirm Healthcare

Plenary speaker abstracts

Francesca Steyn, Head of Clinical Services, Quality and Governance, Malebox Health Ltd

Talk Title: The Preconception Pathway: Advice, NICE Guidance and Equitable Routes to Secondary and Tertiary Care

Summary: This session sets out the preconception advice most likely to change outcomes, from weight and supplementation to smoking, alcohol and the male partner's fertility, before turning to what has changed in the updated NICE guideline NG257. We will map the route from a first GP or private consultation through to secondary and tertiary fertility services, addressing both NHS-commissioned and self-funded pathways. Its central focus is the pathway itself: a practical, stage-by-stage map from a first GP or private consultation, through secondary care investigation and diagnosis, to tertiary assisted conception services. This covers referral timing and criteria, what happens at each stage, and how NHS-commissioned and self-funded routes differ in practice. We will also look at where the pathway does not treat patients equally: referral timing that assumes heterosexual intercourse, the additional self-funded route faced by female same-sex couples and single patients, and the disparities in funding and treatment success experienced by Black and ethnic minority patients. Attendees will leave with a clear outline of the referral and treatment pathway, an updated summary of supplement and referral guidance, and a sharper view of where equity of care requires active attention.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Preconception advice and guidance: By the end of this session, participants will be able to state the current NICE (NG257) recommendations on preconception advice and referral timing, including at least two specific changes from the previous guideline (CG156), and apply them accurately in a patient conversation.
2. The pathway itself: By the end of this session, participants will be able to describe the full referral pathway from a first primary or private consultation through secondary care investigation to tertiary assisted conception services, including the referral criteria at each stage and how NHS-funded and self funded routes differ.
3. Equity of access: By the end of this session, participants will be able to identify at least three specific points in the fertility pathway where access or outcomes are inequitable (by gender, sexuality/relationship status, or ethnicity), and describe one practical action they can take in their own practice to address each.

Recommended reading list/references:

1. National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (2026) Fertility problems: assessment and treatment (NG257). Available at: <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng257> (replaces CG156).

2. Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (2024) More single patients and female same-sex couples are having fertility treatment, but disparities in access remain, says regulator. Available at: <https://www.hfea.gov.uk/about-us/news-and-press-releases/2024/more-single-patients-and-female-same-sex-couples-are-having-fertility-treatment-but-disparities-in-access-remain-says-regulator/>
World Health Organization (n.d.) Infertility. Available at: <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/infertility>

Biography:

Francesca Steyn is a senior fertility nurse specialist with over 20 years' experience in the sector. She is the Head of Clinical Services, Quality and Compliance at Malebox Health Ltd and the Clinical Director for the IVFN. She was previously the HFEA Person Responsible and Head of Service at Wales Fertility Institute, the only NHS Fertility service in Wales. She is the immediate past chair of the Royal College of Nursing's Fertility Nursing Forum and the former Wales representative for the British Fertility Society. Francesca has worked in various busy units across both the NHS and private sectors, developing a wide range of skills. Francesca has presented her work internationally. She was awarded Surrogacy Professional of the Year in both 2018 and 2019 at the National Surrogacy Awards and was awarded the Royal College of Nursing Award of Merit in 2023.

Caroline Andrews, Volunteer Trustee and Patient Advocate, Verity

Talk Title: Beyond fertility: understanding the whole-body impact of PMOS and endometriosis

Learning outcomes:

1. Understanding a patient being able to make informed choices
2. PMOS is not just a fertility condition
3. How Nice guidelines and the renaming of the condition will move understanding forward

Biography: Volunteer Trustee for Verity and patient advocate. Having been diagnosed in 2002 after dozens of GP appointments, Caroline can share her patient journey from delayed diagnosis to mismanagement of the condition to life long health complications. Verity is a leading international advocate group helping to establish the APPG for PMOS, the top ten research priorities and the renaming of the condition globally.

Joanne Hanley, Specialist Advisor, Endometriosis UK

Talk Title: Beyond fertility: understanding the whole-body impact of PMOS and endometriosis

Learning outcomes:

1. Recognising the common symptoms of endometriosis
2. Understanding diagnosis and treatment
3. How we can work together to reduce diagnosis times and improve access to treatment

Biography:

Joanne is a Specialist Advisor for Endometriosis UK, the leading UK charity supporting the 1.5 million individuals living with endometriosis. With an MSc in Advanced Clinical Practice and 15 years of nursing experience in gynaecology, Joanne brings extensive clinical expertise alongside a deep commitment to improving patient outcomes.

Katie Best, Fertility Nurse Specialist Liaison, IBSA UK

Talk Title: The BMI - Fertility Link: Why weight loss matters and how we can support it.
[Sponsored session]

Learning outcomes:

4. Understand the clinical link between BMI and fertility outcomes
5. What is available to help reduce BMI
6. How supporting patients with a raised BMI can make a difference

Biography:

Katie Best is a Fertility Nurse Specialist Liaison at IBSA UK with extensive experience in fertility nursing and reproductive healthcare. Prior to joining IBSA, Katie was Consultant Nurse at the Hewitt Fertility Centre and Unit Lead/ Quality Manager at Gateshead Fertility Unit. She was involved in developing and delivering high-quality fertility services and supporting multidisciplinary teams. She is passionate about patient-centred care and education. Katie regularly works with fertility professionals across the UK, sharing practical knowledge and evidence-based approaches to support better outcomes and experiences for patients.

Grace Addyman, Trainee Clinical Psychologist, Cardiff and Vale NHS Trust

Talk Title: Trauma-Informed Fertility Care: Practical approaches to reducing distress and preventing re-traumatisation in fertility settings

Summary: This presentation examines the role of trauma-informed care in fertility services, drawing on a modified Delphi study that developed stakeholder-led consensus recommendations. Trauma-informed care is an approach to healthcare delivery that recognises the impact of trauma and seeks to prevent re-traumatisation. Emerging evidence indicates that infertility and its treatment can be experienced as

psychologically distressing and, in some cases, traumatic, with symptoms such as intrusion, avoidance and emotional distress reported across the fertility journey. However, trauma is often under-recognised in routine care, and clear guidance for clinical practice has been lacking.

The recommendations demonstrate how trauma-informed care can be integrated across the patient pathway, from initial contact through treatment, outcomes and follow-up. They focus on promoting safety and dignity; delivering clear, compassionate communication and supporting informed choice and collaboration. They also highlight the need to recognise and minimise potential re-traumatisation, address stigma and cultural and identity-related factors, and provide inclusive, individualised care.

Key learning outcomes include: recognising trauma responses in fertility settings; identifying aspects of care that may contribute to distress; and applying practical strategies to enhance patient safety, communication and equity. These findings support fertility staff to embed trauma-informed principles within everyday practice to improve patient experience and engagement.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Identify common trauma-related responses (e.g. intrusion, avoidance, emotional distress) within fertility care settings and recognise how these may present during patient interactions.
2. Describe key principles of trauma-informed care, including safety, trust, collaboration, and empowerment, and explain how these apply across different stages of the fertility treatment pathway.
3. Apply at least three practical strategies to reduce re-traumatisation and enhance trauma-informed care, including adaptations to communication, clinical procedures, and the care environment.

Recommended reading list/references:

1. Gameiro S, Dummer A, Copeland L, McCluskey G, Ross R, McLaughlin D, et al. Experiences of infertility-related traumatic events and their association with symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and complex post-traumatic stress disorder: results from a mixed-methods online survey. *Hum Reprod* 2026;deag030.
2. Lawson A, Swanson A (eds). *Trauma-Informed Reproductive Healthcare*. Cham: Springer Nature; 2024. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SAMHSA's concept of trauma and guidance for a trauma-informed approach. Rockville (MD): SAMHSA; 2014.

Biography:

Grace is Trainee Clinical Psychologist working in South Wales. She has experience across adult community and inpatient mental health, child and adolescent services, and psycho-oncology. She has worked psychologically with PTSD and complex trauma using varied therapies, including EMDR. She has contributed to research at the University of Southampton on detecting and responding to at-risk mental states for psychosis. Her doctoral research explores trauma-informed fertility care, comprising a Delphi study and

a systematic review. She has presented this work at the launch of Women's Health Research Wales and the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology's 2026 conference.

Deborah Petrou, Psychotherapist, Queen Anne Street Practice

Talk Title: Building Empathy, Communication and Understanding in Fertility Care: British Infertility Counselling Association (BICA) guidance

Summary: Using patient experiences and case examples, this session highlights the role of empathetic communication and patient-centred care.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Increased understanding of the lived experience of fertility patients
2. Recognition of the emotional and psychosocial impact of fertility treatment
3. Improved awareness of the importance of communication and language in patient care

Recommended reading list/references:

1. Walk a Mile in Their Shoes, BICA Workshop

Biography:

Deborah is a psychotherapist specialising in fertility and couples therapy. For over ten years, she has supported individuals and couples navigating the emotional challenges of fertility treatment, infertility, miscarriage, baby loss, donor conception and surrogacy, working in both fertility clinics and private practice.

She is a registrant of the British Psychoanalytic Council (BPC), a trainer and accredited member of the British Infertility Counselling Association (BICA). Deborah is also a member of the British Psychotherapy Foundation (BPF) and the National Counselling and Psychotherapy Society (NCPS). She runs a private practice in central London, working with both individuals and couples.

Sara Venditozzi, Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist for Fertility Preservation and Donor Coordinator, Ninewells Assisted Conception Unit, Dundee

Danielle Ellis, Head of Clinical Operations, Ethica

Talk Title: Alternative Routes to Parenthood

Summary: Our presentation will cover the options available for those who need to consider treatment using donor eggs, sperm or embryos, surrogacy or adoption to create their family and also choosing or accepting childlessness. We are considering who might access these alternative routes to parenthood, how accessible these services are across

the UK and whether this is equitable. We will highlight how as fertility nurses we can best support our patients to make these often difficult decisions about these treatment options and how to meet their needs throughout treatment or making the decision to stop trying for a family.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Participants should have an Increased awareness of alternative ways of creating a family
2. Participants should be able to recognise that access to services is not equitable around the UK and that particular people or patient groups might face additional challenges
3. Participants should be able to describe we as fertility nurses can do to best support our patients

Recommended reading list/references:

- Sarah Graham (2026) A silent Sorrow. Therapy Today. May 2026. P52-55.
www.hfea.gov.uk/about-us/hfea-dashboard

Biographies:

Sara Venditozzi is Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist for Fertility Preservation and Donor Co-ordinator at Ninewells Hospital Assisted Conception Unit, Dundee. She is currently Vice Chair of the Royal College of Nursing's Fertility Nursing forum, a member of the Senior Infertility Nurses Group (SING) and of the Fertility Preservation special interest groups for both the Scottish Fertility Network and the British Fertility Society.

Danielle Ellis is Head of clinical operations, Ethica. She leads clinical operations across the UK and internationally, working with clinical teams and partners to deliver high-quality care and a positive experience for our members. Her role covers everything from developing clinical pathways and improving how services operate, to strengthening clinical governance and supporting intended parents on their journey to parenthood.

Jenny Wylam, Clinical Teaching Fellow, Midwifery Department, King's College London

Maria Symeonaki, Professional Lead Midwifery and Women's Health, RCN

Talk Title: Transition from fertility to maternity services – building a good pathway

Summary: Pregnancy following fertility treatment can be a time of great joy, but it often comes with additional emotional, psychological and clinical considerations. The transition between fertility and maternity services is a critical point in the patient journey and can leave some individuals feeling unsupported as care moves from specialist fertility teams to maternity services. The Transition from Fertility to Maternity Care guidance highlights the importance of recognising the unique experiences of those who have conceived

following fertility treatment and ensuring continuity, communication and personalised support throughout pregnancy.

This presentation explores why the transition from fertility to maternity services matters, the impact that fertility treatment can have on emotional wellbeing, and the importance of embedding mental health support throughout pregnancy. It also outlines the key components of a high-quality pathway, including effective handover processes, continuity of care, coordinated communication, and informed decision-making.

Learning outcomes:

- Recognise the emotional and psychological challenges that may be experienced during pregnancy following fertility treatment, including anxiety, uncertainty and the effects of previous infertility or pregnancy loss.
- Identify the key elements of an effective transition pathway, including communication, continuity of care, personalised support and timely referral processes.
- Understand the role of nurses, midwives and multidisciplinary teams in supporting individuals and families during the transition to maternity services.

Recommended reading list/references:

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/Professional-Development/publications/rcn-transition-from-fertility-to-maternity-care-uk-pub-012-250>

Biographies

Maria is the Professional Lead for Midwifery and Women's Health at the Royal College of Nursing. With a diverse background in clinical practice, workforce leadership, education, and service improvement across the UK, Europe, and Australia, she is passionate about empowering nurses, midwives, and support workers to deliver high-quality, innovative care. Alongside her national leadership role, Maria continues to regularly undertake clinical shifts, helping her stay connected to the experiences of staff and women using maternity services.

Panel discussion: Access to treatment

Chair: Stephanie Pryor, Quality Assurance Manager, Wellbeck

Biography: Steph is a registered NMC and NIMBI-registered midwife with extensive experience across fertility, women's health and reproductive medicine in both NHS and independent sector services. Within her clinical career, she has supported patients throughout their fertility journeys, working across nurse-led and multidisciplinary settings to deliver safe, compassionate, patient-centred care. Her expertise spans fertility treatment pathways, regulatory compliance, clinical governance, and quality improvement within reproductive healthcare.

Alongside her clinical practice, Steph has contributed to innovation within digital health and reproductive medicine. She was part of the founding team at Juniper, involved in developing the UK's first reproductive health insurance product, helping to shape a new model of access to fertility support. She has also worked within digital health platforms focused on supporting employees through fertility, pregnancy and wider women's health pathways, combining education, early intervention and personalised care to improve patient experience and outcomes.

Steph is currently serving as Quality Assurance Manager at Welbeck Oxford, where she leads the development and embedding of robust clinical governance systems within a newly established multi-million-pound hospital. Her work focuses on strengthening quality frameworks, regulatory readiness and fostering a culture of continuous improvement across services.

As a committee member of the Fertility Nurse Forum at the Royal College of Nursing, Steph is committed to advancing standards in fertility nursing through education, leadership and innovation. She has a particular interest in the evolving role of digital health within reproductive medicine and how governance, technology and clinical excellence can work together to improve care for patients and support the professional development of fertility nurses across the UK.

Sorrah Jones, Nurse Manager, Herts & Essex Fertility Centre (England)

Biography: Sorrah has over 30 years of nursing experience, predominantly within women's health, including more than 20 years specialising in fertility nursing. As Fertility Nurse Manager, Complaints Officer and NHS Nurse Lead, she plays a key role in supporting patients and the wider nursing team. Sorrah is passionate about empowering women, men and partners with the information and support they need to make informed choices about their health, treatment, and fertility journey. With extensive experience in fertility care, including NHS-funded treatment, she has witnessed first hand the emotional and practical impact of inequalities in access to NHS Funded fertility treatment and is committed to providing clear, compassionate, and individualised support, ensuring every patient feels listened to, respected and confident in understanding their options.

Lee Noquet, Gamete Donor Co-Ordinator, Edinburgh Fertility, Reproductive & Endocrine Centre | Deputy Charge Nurse, Simpson Centre for Reproductive Health (Scotland)

Biography: Lee is an experienced senior fertility nurse with over ten years of clinical practice in assisted reproduction, specialising in sperm, egg and embryo donation. She leads the Gamete Donation Programme in Edinburgh, coordinating donor and recipient pathways and ensuring safe, ethical and person centred care in line with HFEA regulations.

With two degrees, including a BA (Hons) in Complementary Healthcare and further training in counselling, Lee brings a holistic, compassionate and resilience focused approach to nursing. Her work spans all aspects of third party reproduction, including reciprocal IVF, surrogacy and fertility preservation. She is also committed to improving equity in fertility services and is developing more public engagement to raise awareness of the shortage of donors from ethnic minority backgrounds and promote fairer access to treatment for all communities.

After two decades in the hospitality sector running her own business, Lee describes her move into nursing as “swapping patrons for patients”, carrying forward the same commitment to compassion, communication and high quality care. This background strengthened her leadership, service delivery and interpersonal skills, which now underpin her inclusive and person centred approach within a multidisciplinary team.

Lee has been invited to speak at national professional events, including the IPSA Scottish Nurse Meeting, the Scottish Human Reproduction and Embryology Group (SHREG) conference by the Progress Educational Trust (PET), contributing to wider discussions on donor conception and inclusive fertility practice.

Natasha Witchell, Nurse Manager, The Fertility Home (Wales)

Biography: Natasha qualified from Cardiff University in 2015 and is currently a nurse manager at The Fertility Home in South Wales. She has 10 years’ experience in women’s health and assisted reproduction across the NHS and private sector. Natasha is certified by the BFS to perform nurse-led embryo transfer and completed her Independent nurse prescriber qualification at the University of South Wales in 2025.

A former member of the Royal College of Nursing’s Fertility Nursing Forum committee, Natasha is passionate about championing nurse-led care within the fertility sector. Her special interests include nutritional support during fertility treatment and promoting the health and wellbeing of patients and their future families.

Melissa Mark, Head of Nursing, Thérapie Fertility (N. Ireland)

Biography: Melissa is an experienced fertility nurse with over 10 years' experience in fertility care and currently works with Thérapie Fertility, supporting services across clinics in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.

An ESHRE-certified nurse, Melissa also holds a Certificate in Fertility Ultrasound from University College Dublin. Throughout her career, she has been committed to advancing nursing practice and improving the patient experience within reproductive healthcare.

As a member of the leadership team at Thérapie Fertility, Melissa has a particular interest in promoting high-quality fertility care that is accessible and affordable. She is passionate about innovation and the evolving role of nursing in improving access to care, promoting consistent standards and ensuring patients receive compassionate, patient-centred support throughout their fertility journey.

Katie Rollings, Founder and CEO, Fertility Action

Biography: Katie Rollings is Founder and CEO of Fertility Action, a national charity delivering evidence-based education, an extensive and continually evolving range of support, and national advocacy to improve fertility care. Shaped by the needs of the community it serves, Fertility Action is committed to ensuring people have access to trusted information, compassionate support, and a stronger voice throughout their fertility journey. Inspired by her own experience of infertility, Katie also co-founded Fertility Access UK and, as Secretariat for the UK's first All-Party Parliamentary Group for Fertility, works with policymakers, clinicians, and patients to drive more equitable fertility pathways across the UK. Her background in business development, marketing, and PR strengthens her leadership in reproductive health advocacy.

Sponsor listings

The RCN welcomes sponsorship from the health care industry to deliver educational initiatives and events for the nursing profession. Financial support is accepted where there is clear alignment in objectives and strong grounds that the collaboration will add value to the RCN's educational offer.

The RCN works to ensure that all commercial activity is ethical, mutually beneficial and complies with the Bribery Act and relevant codes of practice e.g. Association of British Pharmaceutical Industries and Association of British Healthcare Industries.

Sponsorship or exhibition led activity does not imply endorsement by the RCN of any products and services displayed by the sponsors or exhibitors at an RCN event.

The Royal College of Nursing would like to thank the following organisations for supporting this event.

Sponsors



Future RCN Events

Date	Event	Location
17 November	RCN Nurse-Led Innovations and Quality Improvement Conference	RCN HQ, London
18 November	RCN Student Ambassador Conference	RCN HQ, London
23 November	RCN Nursing Support Workers' Conference	RCN HQ, London / Online
27 November	RCN and SOM Occupational Health Nursing Conference	RCN HQ, London
8 December	RCN Women's Health Forum Conference	RCN HQ, London