

RCN Pain and Palliative Care Conference



Breaking Barriers: Advancing Access to Palliative and Pain Care

RCN HQ

Tuesday 22 September 2026

Please note these programme details and timings are subject to change. A final programme will be provided during onsite registration.

Programme at a glance

9.00	Registration, exhibition, networking and refreshments
9.30	Chair's welcome and overview <i>Martin Galligan, Pain and Palliative Care Forum Chair</i>
9.35	Keynote – Access and delivery of palliative and end of life care In the community <i>Dr Ben Bowers, Assistant Professor of Primary Care and Queen's Nurse / Honorary Nurse Consultant in Palliative Care, CPFT</i>
10.15	Role of early palliative care interventions within an acute setting <i>Kelly Moffat, Lead Nurse for Acute Palliative care, NHS Lothian</i> <i>Alison Williams, Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist, NHS Lothian</i>
10.45	Refreshments and exhibition viewing
11.15	Designing inclusive palliative care services <i>Olajumoke Isaiah, Macmillan team lead in Palliative & End of life care, Newham University Hospital</i>
12.00	Nursing role in assisted dying <i>Cathryn Smith, Professional lead community nursing and end of life Care, RCN</i>
12.30	Lunch and exhibition viewing

13.15	Keynote: Accessing chronic pain services: updates from GRIFT project <i>Dr Helen Makins, Consultant Pain Anaesthetist and National Clinical Lead, GIRFT Chronic Pain Programme, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust</i>
14.00	Nursing role in managing cancer-related pain <i>Vic Sorel-Cameron, Clinical Nurse Specialist, UCLH</i>
14.30	Refreshments and exhibition viewing
15.00	Managing Chronic Pain in Children and Young People <i>Nicola Davis, Clinical Nurse Specialist - Pain Nurse, Birmingham Children's Hospital</i>
15.30	Nursing role in ensuring opioid safety in chronic pain <i>Rachel Barton, Senior Lecturer in Healthcare and Continued Professional Development, Edge Hill University</i>
16.00	Launch of Pain Nurse Career Framework and panel discussion exploring the future of specialist pain nursing in the UK. <i>Martin Galligan</i> <i>Rachel Barton</i> <i>Charlotte Sear, Senior Specialist Advanced Clinical Practitioner (pain medicine), Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospital</i> <i>Karin Cannons, Nurse Consultant, Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust</i> <i>Suzanne McCarthy, Specialist Pain Nurse, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust</i>
16.45	Conference close