

# 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	<b>Registration, exhibition, networking and refreshments</b>
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>
10.45	<b>Refreshments and exhibition viewing</b>
11.15	Designing inclusive palliative care services <i>Olajumoke Isaiah, Macmillan team lead in Palliative &amp; 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	<b>Lunch and exhibition viewing</b>

13.15	<p>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></p>
14.00	<p>Nursing role in managing cancer-related pain  <i>Martin Galligan</i></p>
14.30	<b>Refreshments and exhibition viewing</b>
15.00	<p>Managing pain in CYP - transition from children to adult services  <i>Rachel Desai, Nurse Consultant, Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital</i></p>
15.30	<p>Nursing role in ensuring opioid safety in chronic pain  <i>Rachel Barton, Senior Lecturer in Healthcare and Continued Professional Development, Edge Hill University</i></p>
16.00	<p>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 Desai</i>  <i>Rachel Barton</i>  <i>Charlotte Sear, Senior Clinical Nurse Specialist in Pain Management, Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospital</i>  <i>Karin Cannons, Nurse Consultant, Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust</i>  <i>Suzanne McCarthy</i>  <i>Zoe Thompson</i></p>
16.45	<b>Conference close</b>