

RCN Forum Annual Report (2023)

Forum Name:

Advanced Nurse Practitioner Forum

Introduction:

Our forum is for nurses working at or educated to work at an advanced level in any setting. Advanced level practice has already been defined by both the RCN and country bodies such as NHS England and NHS Wales in policy documents which outline the four pillars.

Membership of the forum

We currently have 11,648 members in the forum, up from 11,245 last year.
We are the first-choice forum for 6,736 members, up from 6,521 members last year.
We have 2420 members in our Facebook group, and 2148 followers on X (twitter).

Our steering committee has had four vacancies this year. We had 18 applicants for the four vacancies and have recruited to all the vacancies.

Reflections on 2023: (Outputs and outcomes)

In 2022 we continued our engagement work with the four nations, looking at the governance of all four nations on advanced practice. We planned a conference in October on this area, but due to the pay ballot work it was cancelled and we held a revised version in October 2023

We have been actively involved in the Professional Framework Programme and facilitate member lead for the Levels of nursing workstream which includes updating and developing the levels of enhanced, advanced and consultant level practice. At the time of the writing of this report this work is about to be published.

Our strategy day, early in 2023 focussed on the priorities of the conference, looking at the RCN Advanced Level Practice Credentialing process, and we discussed EDI in relation to advanced nurse practitioners.

Further to our discussion on the RCN Advanced Level Practice Credentialing process, we have recommended that the RCN pause the process temporarily and review it.

Congress 2023:

We attended with 7 voting members. We spoke on the following resolutions and matters for discussion:

- Nursing Support Workers
- Corridor Care
- 75th Anniversary of the Empire Windrush and the NHS

- Private Health care
- Clinical Audit
- One Royal College, two critical functions

We also supported the following events:

- World Café with all the forums

We also represented on the forum stall at our designated time.

Contribution to Consultations/Policy development

- Working with HEE Centre for Advancing Practice
- Mental Health Advanced Practitioners in General Practice Roundtable with parliament hosted by the General Practice Nurse Forum and the Mental Health Nurse Forum
- NMC Advanced Practice Workshop by the Nuffield Trust

Representation

Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust Advanced Practitioner Forum: Research Pillar within the ANP role presentation.

On 5th July 2023 one of our forum committee members (Sharlene Hogan), with a current position as an ANP in a global research company, represented the RCN to share best practice by providing advice and information on how to achieve the research pillar as part of their role while also discussing her career pathway.

The main points discussed included:

- How to approach research teams and research protocols.
- How individuals can achieve their own studies as part of the ANP training
- Differences between Audit and Research

the future and members wanted ongoing contact with RCN forum.

British Heart Valve Society: Heart Valve Disease Summit a National Call to Action for the Improvement of Heart Valve Disease (HVD) Detection and Management. On 10th November 2023, Sharlene Hogan who has a Cardiovascular background including HVD, was asked to represent the RCN forum to help with strategy development and sharing best practice.

The main points discussed included:

- Future of HVD care in the HNS- challenges & controversies
- HV clinic in 2023 diversified and evolved clinics
- The HVD MDT- types and roles
- Health Inequalities and HVD
- Improving detection and diagnosis of HVD- Detection vs Advanced diagnosis
- Establishing disease specific pathways

- Workshop on Mitral Regurgitation and Tricuspid Regurgitation
RCN to consider endorsing a research study on TAVI nurses to help with its recognition once published.

Neal Aplin (Forum Committee Member) has been working with the Brain Tumour Charity U.K. to explore ways of increasing awareness of brain tumour presentations to triage nurse in Emergency Departments. One of the key ideas has been to introduce 'Brain Tumour Charity Champions' in Emergency Departments and help support 'Ten Minute Tea Trolley Teaching' supported by informative resources to staff. Plans are currently in development.

Plans for 2024:

We will hold our strategy day in 2024.

We will work with the RCN on any review of the RCN Advanced Level Practice Credentialing process.

We will be presenting at the Annual Conference of the British Rheumatology Society.

Date Prepared: 10/11/23

By:

Jennifer Charlewood, Jacqueline Thompson, Helen Wenger-Francis