

RCN Forum Annual Report 2022

CYP Specialist Care Forum

Introduction:

The forum committee membership consists of a diverse range of specialities endocrinology, oncology, adolescent transitional services and neonatal inter alia. There is considerable overlap between this forum and the interests of the other 4 CYP forums. Education, management, and consultancy are all embedded within the roles of the committee members. Like last year the forum has had an unplanned change of Chair and this has reinforced the need for succession planning.

Membership of the forum

Total number:

November 2022 – 3478

November 2021 - 3465

November 2020 - 3389

This data was provided by Jannathul Ahmed who is the project co-ordinator for the CYP Forums as I don't have access to the data platform. I would appreciate access to the platform on which this is held so I can monitor the membership.

Current and established forum committee members are

Christine Whistler
Jaqueline Johnstone
Nellie Kumaralingam
Rachel McQueen

Doreen Crawford – Chair until June 2022 – retired from all RCN roles
Gillian Priddy – Previous Chair temporarily stood down 2021.

I understand that vacancies were recently filled, with the established members of the forum completing their tenure and new applicants. These interviews were facilitated by Nellie, as I was reapplying for my second tenure. I am awaiting confirmation details of application outcome. and I recall she was very impressed by the new appointments. We also have links and input from other specialists and to other forums across the RCN fields. Michelle Eleftheriades the Professional Lead for Children and Young People's Nursing is active in supporting this network and sharing of specialities and professional development.

Reflections on 2022:

This past year has been a challenging year for the forum with the third change of Chair in 12 months. The Forum remain mindful of Gillian's reasons for stepping back and continue to be

thankful of her support over the previous years. The introduction of a new Professional Lead, who shares many of our visions for our forum development, has been a galvanising influence on the members. The new roles/RCN Representations we have taken on, previously fulfilled by Doreen, have allowed links to other forums and opportunities for Forum members to feel more involved.

To the best of my knowledge no FGG projects from the CYP Specialist Care forum were submitted. Possibly because experience regarding the approval process, clarity of funding and support for the completion of activity has not been transparent/ good.

Some forum members were active at Congress and Doreen was a contributor to the development and success of the World Café. Nellie and Rachel were able to attend Congress and found the experience inspiring. They made links with one of the adult forums.

Forum members have been involved representing the interests of the RCN for example with HEE with regards to a standardising of neonatal education and a large project on Neonatal Careers Competence and Education which includes a 4 Countries' perspective which will soon be used to direct HEE guidelines. Forum members also currently represent the RCN at the strategic oversight obesity group which is every 2 months. This group has been formed to plan for a wider obesity national service in paediatric services; The RCPCH refresh of the Facing the Future Standards.

Forum members also bring their experiences with links to SANDS NBCP, NIB, RCPCH and NNAP, Endocrine and Oncology external commitments.

Within the RCN, Forum members are linking for Safeguarding, Mental Health, Diabetes and with other Forums – ANP and Ophthalmology.

Gillian our Chair was an expert in tweeting and blogging, unfortunately the current Chair and active Forum members were unable to access the twitter account and so a new twitter account has been established. The Forum are working on regaining the 800+ followers on the new Forum Twitter account.

Generally, there have been problems finding a compatible time for all forum members to attend every forum meeting. Three members have moved to new posts, and this had made planning dates and times in advance hard. There have also been expressions of concern that we have been unable to meet face to face at the strategy day. Unfortunately, the RCN decision to cancel the original date for the strategy day has led to some forum members unable to attend the rescheduled date.

Covid-19

The effect of the post pandemic / new normal continue to affect the capacity of the forum members to, at times, be as active in this voluntary role as they plan as clinical and work commitments need to take priority.

Plans for 2023:

Ongoing concerns over the marginalisation of the specialist nature of CYP Nursing continues. There are a number of very acute challenges which will need to be addressed next year (2023) and going forward, one the relevance of the NMC Child Field of Practice curriculum standards. The Children and Young People Nurse Academic UK are increasingly concerned about the generic nature of the programmes designed to equip children's nurses. The feeling prevalent in the CYPNA UK membership is very much that the NMC Standards are not appropriate for the care of infants and children. The clinical competences in particular are hard to attain and simulation to attain competence in a skill is not the answer.

Oncology challenges inter alia remain, and all children's services encounter the same difficulties as the rest of the NHS. Looked after children continue to increase in number and the needs of the child migrant, immigrant and other marginalised sections of society are not being well met. Also standardising QiS Neonatal Standards remains a priority.

In 2023 Forum members are hopeful of attending Congress and getting the opportunity have the CYP and Professional voice heard at Congress. There is also Plans to work with the library on exhibitions and the Child and Law event. We also hope to establish further links and produce outcomes form the links with other forums. We look to continue to grow the new Twitter account and to contribute and produce some podcasts and increasing the presence of the Professional aspect of the RCN and CYP voice with the ongoing support of our Professional Lead, Michelle Eleftheriades.

Date Prepared: 7 November 2022

By: Jacqueline Johnstone (Interim Chair CYP Specialist Forum) on behalf or Gillian Prida.y