

RCN Forum Annual Report 2023

Forum Name: Pain and Palliative Care Forum

Introduction:

This very active Forum provides expert guidance, education, and support for all members. It also has and continues to develop guidance and tools to support the nursing teams providing care to patients in all healthcare settings. The main areas that we cover include acute, chronic (persistent) and procedural pain, supportive care, symptom control, advance care planning and end of life care.

Membership of the forum

Year	Total Membership	First Choice
2023	11813	5248
2022	12068	6000
2021	12341	6000

Committee membership – comprises of a mixture of nurses working within pain management and palliative care, from clinical practice and education.

Martin Galligan Forum Chair

Karin Cannons

Suzanne Monks

Sandra Campbell

Olajumoke Isaiah

Vacant Post

Vacant Post

Early in the year we attempted to recruit to the 2 vacant positions within the forum, there was 4 applications only 2 of which were suitable for interview. At interview it was felt that the two candidates did not meet the requirements for a position on the steering committee however they were encouraged to become more involved and familiar with the work of the forum to support a future application. At the second round of forum appoints there was significantly more applications and this led to the appointment of two new forum members that will start their term of office in January 2023. Martin Galligan was reappointed and will continue for a second term and continue in the role of chair.

Reflections on 2023: (Outputs and outcomes)

During 2023 the forum has continued to work extremely hard despite having 2 vacant positions. The key outputs from the forum in 2023 include:

Webinar: In early 2023 we hosted our first live webinar with a focus on introducing the wider membership to the forum steering committee. The webinar was split into two parts, the first was an overview of the work of the forum and the second focused on education content on having difficult conversations. There was 120 live delegates in attendance at the webinar and the recording has been placed on the forum website.

Blogs: We have established a blog schedule to ensure that we are producing content throughout the year on various topics relating to pain and palliative care. This has enabled the forum to keep the wider membership updated.

Pain Assessment in Learning Disability Project: Sandra Campbell has been leading the work of this project and in 2023 had this approved by FGG. The project is now progressing to plan with an extensive stakeholder network from across the four nations supporting this project.

Mouthcare Matters: Suzanne Monks continues to lead this extensive project in conjunction with Marie Curie. The outputs for this project have included the publication of two documents and education material in combination with Marie Curie.

UK Career Framework for Pain Nurses: Martin Galligan has been leading the work of this project and was able to gain endorsement from The British Pain Society and the Pain Nurse Network. This resource is now fully available via the forum webpages.

Congress attendance: This year the forum steering committee were all able to attend congress and take part in activities to promote the work of the forum. This included a meet the forum session and attendance at the world café.

Forum Link Nurses / Stakeholders groups: Martin Galligan has been leading on this work to improve engagement with the wider forum membership. The aim is to set up two groups to support the work of the forum:

Pain link nurses: This is open to all forum members from across all levels of nursing practice. The aim is to promote good practice in pain and palliative care nursing within their areas and support the work of forum. We held the first link nurse meeting in December 23 with 19 link nurses coming forward. They represent a range of clinical backgrounds and levels of practice.

Stakeholder Group: The goal of the stakeholder group is to bring together experts from across pain and palliative care nursing to support the work of the forum in commenting on and informing national documents in relation to pain and palliative care nursing. The group has been identified by the forum steering committee with the first meeting being planned for December 23.

Getting it right every time- Fundamentals of Nursing care at the end of life: (developed on information in 2014. Will now be revised and relaunched after a complete overhaul through FFG submission and action plan going forwards led by Suzanne Monks and the wider committee in 2024. For now, it is archived. Discussion concluded by Suzanne and Ola

RCN Representation

- Karin Cannon is now our representation with The British Pain Society and will attend their council meetings.
- Martin Galligan is our representative with the Pain Nurse Network and the European Pain Federation Nursing Education Task Force.
- Sandra Campbell is representative with the Daffodil Project and the SIGN guidelines for palliative Care.
- Martin Galligan has been providing representation for the national end of life care audit. This will be handed over to one of the newer committee members in the new year.

Contribution to Consultations/Policy development

- SIGN guidelines for palliative Care
- Faculty of Pain Medicine Epidural Guidelines
- Faculty of Pain Medicine managing opioids after surgery patient information booklet
- Faculty of Pain Medicine NSAIDs patient information leaflet
- Welsh Government Chronic Pain document
- Faculty of Pain Medicine Surgery and Opioids Best Practice Guidelines
- Mouth Care Matters Resources
- Hospice UK Bounce Back Boy Facilitator Pack

Plans for 2024:

Our plans for 2024 will be confirmed at our strategy day in the new year, however we would like to consider the following:

- Educational podcasts focused on topics in pain and palliative care nursing.
- Learning Disability in Pain Assessment resource.
- Take resolutions and education fringes to congress.
- Regular Blogs
- Continue engagement with link nurses and stakeholders.
- Hold face to face education conference/study day in Scotland.
- Develop national survey to explore pain nurse role.

Date Prepared and By: Martin Galligan 3.12.23