



Excellence. Innovation. Leadership in Neuro-disability Nursing

The Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, Putney 28 April Programme

08:45 Registration and refreshments

- 9:00** **Chair's welcome and introduction**
Outline the Conference objectives
Professor Daniel Kelly, *Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Convenor of Fellows*
- 9:15** **RHN Nursing Excellence – journey and impact on the nursing workforce**
Paul Allen, *CEO, RHN*
Della Warren, *Chief Nursing Officer, RHN*
- 9:45** **10-Year Workforce Plan**
Annesha Archyangelo, *Regional Director of Nursing, Direct Commissioning, NHS England*
- 10:15** **Neighbourhood health – the challenges and opportunities for integrating health and social care**
Tabitha Brufal, *Deputy Director, Health and Social Care Integration, Adult Social Care Group, DHSC*

10:45 Refreshment break

- 11:15** **Innovations to care delivery: Pathway to Excellence**
Kaleb Lloyd, *Deputy Head of People and Culture, RHN*
Justin Finbow, *Director for Pathway to Excellence / Interim Head of Patient Safety*
- 11:45** **Neuro-disability nursing – the landscape**
Sandy Gill, *Lead Nurse, RHN Academy*
- 12:15** **Poster Tour Showcasing RHN Nursing Excellence and Research**
Fariba Sarajzada, *Clinical Educator / Preceptorship Lead, RHN*

13:15 Lunch break



14:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION Subject matter experts**
Facilitated by: Professor Daniel Kelly

BARRIERS and OPPORTUNITIES in neuro-disability nursing

- **Jonathan Beebee**, RCN Professional Lead in Learning Disabilities Nursing
Professional Lead in Neuroscience Nursing
RCN Nursing Practice Academy
- **Dr Mark Brown**, Senior Lecturer - Learning Disability Nursing
Course Lead - BSc Learning Disabilities, MSc child/learning disabilities & Mental health/Learning Disabilities
- **Sorin Neacsu**, Head of Safeguarding RHN
- **Reegan Puthussery**, Matron in Complex Respiratory and Long-Term Ventilation Services and Lead Advanced Nurse Practitioner.

14:50 **WORKSHOP: EXCELLENCE in Care**

De Lancey Lowe

Dental Care in Health Promotion Louise Gallagher, Dental Nurse, RHN	Education programmes at the RHN Fariba Sarajzada, Clinical Educator, RHN
Enteral tube prevention of fungal infection study Louise McIntyre, Clinical Nurse Specialist Enteral Care, RHN	Innovations in care delivery Matt Fulford, Tristel Ltd

15:30 **Refreshment break and networking**

16:00 **Feedback/discussions and closing remark** **16:30**

16:30 **Close**



A bit about our speakers:

Conference Chair

Professor Daniel Kelly OBE PhD RN FRCN FRSA

Professor Daniel Kelly is a respected leader in cancer and palliative care research and education, recognised both nationally and internationally. Since 2011, he served as the RCN Chair of Nursing Research at Cardiff University, where he significantly promoted nursing scholarship, research influence, and professional leadership.

Daniel started his clinical journey as a Charge Nurse at the Edinburgh Cancer Centre, gaining essential experience in specialised cancer care. He then moved to the Royal Marsden Hospital, where he taught cancer care and helped develop future professionals before fully shifting to academia. In 2021, he was awarded the OBE for his notable contributions to cancer and palliative care research and education.

He was also elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Nursing in 2016, highlighting his prominent impact. He presently acts as Convenor of the RCN Fellows. Currently, he chairs the Education, Research and End-of-Life Policy Committee at St Christopher's Hospice, where he is a Trustee, and holds Visiting Professorships at the University of Edinburgh, UCL, and Oxford Brookes. In addition to his academic roles, Daniel is Governor at King's College London NHS Foundation Trust, fostering strong links among research, policy, and practice. He is Co-Chair of the European Cancer Organisation HPV Action Network promoting vaccination across Europe to prevent cancers in later life. Residing locally, he continues to support innovation, education, and compassionate care in nursing and care.



Conference Speakers

Jonathan Beebee, RCN Professional Lead in Learning Disabilities Nursing, Professional Lead in Neuroscience Nursing, RCN Nursing Practice Academy

Jonathan is a Registered Nurse in Learning Disabilities. He is the Professional Lead for Learning Disabilities and Neuroscience for the Royal College of Nursing. Jonathan is also CEO and Nurse Consultant for PBS4, a social care provider for people with learning disabilities and complex needs in South Central England. Jonathan has a MSc in Applied Behaviour Analysis and Positive Behaviour Support. He has previously worked in NHS and social care roles, for NHS England and Department of Health, University of Hertfordshire, and for the Care Quality Commission.





Annesha Archyangelio, Regional Director of Nursing, Direct Commissioning, NHS England

RGN | MSc (Management: Health & Social Care) | MSc (Infection Prevention & Control) | BSc Health Studies | Mary Seacole Leadership PgC | Florence Nightingale & Mary Seacole Scholar.

Annesha Archyangelio is a distinguished healthcare executive with decades of experience across the NHS, private sector, public health and global nursing organisations. She is Regional Director of Nursing for Direct Commissioning at NHS England, Northeast and Yorkshire, providing regional and system-wide leadership across more than 30 NHS hospitals and other commissioned services. She serves as deputy to the Regional Chief Nurse. Originally from Jamaica, Annesha began her nursing career there before relocating to the UK, progressing through senior roles across acute, community, mental health, integrated care and national policy.



She is widely recognised for authoring *The Matrons' Handbook* and *The International Healthcare Professionals' Handbook*, used nationally and internationally to support workforce transition, leadership development and professional excellence. Her professional contributions have been acknowledged through national commendations, including recognition in the *Health Service Journal*.

Guided by values of integrity, excellence, empowerment, community and innovation, Annesha is committed to enabling sustainable improvement, inclusive leadership and exceptional patient outcomes. Her work underpins the mission of Talent Recruitment International (TRI), strengthening global healthcare capability, capacity and confidence.

Tabitha Brufal, Deputy Director, Health and Social Care Integration, Adult Social Care Strategy, Funding and Integrated Care, Department of Health and Social Care

Tabitha Brufal first worked as a clinical psychologist in the NHS before joining the Department of Health and Social Care in 2001. She has carried out a wide variety of roles in that time but over the past three years has worked in the Adult Social Care group.

Tabitha is Deputy Director for Health and Social Care Integration and focuses on the development and implementation of policies which will help to join up NHS and social care services for people who have long-term and often complex health and care needs. Tabitha is involved in the development of neighbourhood health policy and is passionate about the opportunities that this provides to improve people's health outcomes and help people to live as healthily and as independently as possible.





Della Warren, RHN Chief Nursing Officer RN, RM, RSCPHN / Health Visitor, BA, MA, Queen's Nurse

Della Warren is a highly accomplished international healthcare leader and Board-level Chief Nursing Officer with extensive experience across the NHS and independent health and social care sectors. Recognised nationally and internationally for raising standards of care, strengthening governance, leading clinical transformation, and driving innovation in patient services and new models of care.

Della was awarded the Queen's Nurse title (2013) and the NHS Medal for Safeguarding, Innovation and Excellence (2021). As Chief Nursing Officer at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, she led the organisation to achieve Leaders in Safeguarding Gold Awards (2023, 2025), to implement the National Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF) early in 2023, and to achieve an international Pathway to Excellence® designation in 2024.

Della is an International mentor for Pathway to Excellence® and a member of the American Nurses Credentialing Center International Advisory Council. Former independent panellist for the Nursing and Midwifery Council (8 years) and national clinical specialist advisor to the Care Quality Commission. Della is also a registered nurse in the UK and Australia, and a former State Director of Nursing for Queensland and CEO of a large health and social care social enterprise in Southern Queensland.



Sandy Gill, RN MN BSc, Lead Nurse, RHN Academy

Sandy Gill is a senior nursing leader specialising in neuro-rehabilitation, complex care, and workforce development. She holds a Master's degree in Nursing from the University of Toronto, Canada, and has completed the Professional Nurse Advocate programme alongside multiple specialist neuro-rehabilitation and leadership qualifications. Sandy has a broad background in clinical, operational, and strategic leadership, with a focus on delivering high-quality education, service improvement, and strong governance within complex care environments.

Her international career spans stroke, neuroscience, and neuro-disability services across both Canada and the UK, giving her a strong track record in patient safety, clinical quality, and transformational change. Sandy is currently the Lead Nurse for the RHN Academy at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, where she is shaping innovative education and workforce capability pathways to advance neuro-disability nursing nationally. She is passionate about developing compassionate, highly skilled teams through evidence-based practice and collaboration.



Paul Allen, Chief Executive Officer, Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability

Paul brings extensive board-level leadership experience across private, public and charitable sectors. He is currently in his tenth year as CEO at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability.

Previously, Paul served as CEO and trustee of The Abbeyfield Society, a charity providing supported housing and residential care for older people and as COO and Deputy CEO at the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust. Earlier in his career he held senior leadership roles at ICI, Mars, MSAS McGregor Cory (Exel/DHL), and Associated British Ports.

His work has focused on growth strategy, organisational turnaround, operational performance and delivering high-quality services within complex healthcare systems.



Louise McIntyre, Enteral Clinical Nurse Specialist, RHN

Louise McIntyre is a veteran clinician with over 40 years of nursing experience, the last decade of which has been dedicated to the specialised care of enterally fed patients. Since joining the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability (RHN) in 2019, she has been instrumental in standardising enteral care protocols and providing education to clinical staff and families.

A qualified Nurse Prescriber, Louise champions a multidisciplinary approach, having established a specialist enteral team of dietitians with an extended scope of practice. Her leadership ensures the delivery of high-quality, integrated care for patients with complex neurological needs. Louise is also an active contributor to the field of nursing research; her recently published work investigates stoma site complications, offering new evidence-based insights into the management of gastrostomy challenges in long-term clinical settings



Fariba Sarajzada, Clinical Educator, RHN

Fariba Sarajzada is the Lead Clinical Educator for Post-Registration Nursing, dedicated to advancing professional development and excellence in patient care. With strong clinical leadership experience in ventilation care and complex long-term care, she is committed to promoting high-quality, safe, and inclusive practice. Fariba achieved a PGCert in Education and Training, strengthening her expertise in adult learning and evidence-based teaching. She develops and leads innovative CPD programmes that inspire clinical excellence, including the launch of Epilepsy Awareness Training in 2024, which later achieved CPD accreditation. Her work focuses on empowering healthcare professionals, fostering educational growth, and enhancing standards of care across multidisciplinary teams.

Key Achievements & Focus Areas

- Lead Clinical Educator for Post-Registration Nursing





- Clinical leadership and management experience within a Ventilator Unit
- PGCert in Education and Training
- Development and launch of CPD training programmes
- Launched Epilepsy Awareness Training (2024), now CPD accredited
- Champion of quality, safety, and inclusive education
- Promotes workforce development and professional growth
- Passionate about empowering staff through education and evidence-based practice

Kaleb Lloyd, Deputy Head of People & Culture, RHN (Assoc CIPD)

Kaleb is Deputy Head of People & Culture at the Royal Hospital for Neuro disability (RHN), London. He leads Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), Wellbeing and Staff Engagement across the whole organisation, partnering with every staff group—particularly the nursing workforce, the largest—to co design interventions that enhance experience, retention and a compassionate culture.

Kaleb served as organisational lead for the Pathway to Excellence® Wellbeing Standard, aligning evidence and lived experience to strengthen psychological safety, staff voice and support for mental health. His portfolio has delivered sustained, external validation of inclusive practice through accreditations including Disability Confident Leader (Level 3), Mindful Employer, Race Equality Matters Trailblazer, and Pathway to Excellence®.

Anchored in data and staff voice, his work spans engagement diagnostics and targeted wellbeing initiatives. He is a Mental Health First Aider and an Associate Member of the CIPD, with a track record of turning policy into practical, people-centred improvements that support high-quality patient care.

What drives Kaleb is the clear link between staff experience and patient outcomes—creating environments where people feel they belong, can speak up, and can deliver their best work.



Reegan Puthuserry, Matron, RHN

Originally qualified in nursing in India, Reegan began his career with two years of clinical experience before migrating to the UK for further education and career advancement. Reegan has extensive experience across a range of senior roles, including Ward Manager, Training and Quality Improvement Manager, Lecturer, Clinical Site Manager, and Matron. Reegan spent 18 years at the National Centre for Excellence in Respiratory Weaning and Rehabilitation, and progressed into leadership within long-term integrated services. Reegan also contributed to academia as a Lecturer in Nursing at the University of West London and worked as a Clinical Site Matron at East Surrey Hospital.



Reegan's academic achievements include a Degree in Nursing, Degree in Critical Care Nursing, a Master's in Cardiorespiratory Nursing, a Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education, and a Non-

Medical Prescribing qualification. Currently, Reegan work as a Matron in Complex Respiratory and Long-Term Ventilation Services and Lead Advanced Nurse Practitioner.

Louise Gallagher, Registered Dental Nurse, RHN

Louise Gallagher is a registered dental nurse with over 20 years of experience in special care dentistry. She holds multiple dental nursing qualifications, including dental radiography, sedation, orthodontics, and oral health education. Louise has worked across dental services within the NHS, private practice, and the Community Dental Service in central London. In 2019, she joined the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability as Dental Nurse Manager.

In addition to her clinical and management roles, Louise is a mouth care lead, collaborating with nursing and allied health professionals to ensure effective governance and high-quality oral care for people with brain injuries. She provides training for healthcare assistants, student nurses, and dental nurses externally, sharing her expertise to improve oral care practices more broadly.

Louise is actively involved in research at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, focusing on the importance of oral care and sedation, and has authored papers published in the *British Dental Journal*. Her professional interests include advancing mouth care standards, supporting education, and promoting best practice in oral health for people with complex needs.



Justin Finbow, Interim Head of Patient Safety and Quality (PS&Q) RHN

Justin is a registered nurse and proven healthcare leader with a record of improving patient outcomes through clinical excellence, service optimisation, and innovative practice. Track record of advancing nursing practice, strengthening the quality of care, and shaping strategy at both operational and organisational levels while fostering environments that support collaboration and sustained improvement. Recognised with the Chief Nursing Officer for England's Silver Award for contributions to nursing leadership and professional practice.

Led the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability to become the first independent hospital in the UK to achieve Pathway to Excellence designation. Dedicated to developing people, embedding cultures of safety and accountability, and ensuring services remain patient-centred and responsive to the evolving demands of healthcare. Currently undertaking an MBA at UCL's Global Business School for Health, developing expertise in healthcare leadership, digital transformation, and strategic management to drive change across complex systems.

