



Biennial Post National Conference Committee Report

‘Rising to the Challenge’

Liverpool June 2023



Foreword from the Chair

I am in the very privileged position to run as the current chair for BAHNON and it was an even greater privilege to chair the morning session of the recent conference in Liverpool alongside our vice chair Marry Smith, in the afternoon.

With two years in organisation (thanks to our committee members) we thought we would hold the conference this year in Liverpool, this followed on nicely after the Eurovision and I hope provided an interesting, thought provoking and interactive day. Our feedback will I am sure prove this was the case.

We were lucky to have 117 delegates in all, along with 13 charity and company representatives without whom we could not manage to subsidise the day. Attendees ranged from head and neck nurses, ward staff, radiographers, dietitians and speech and swallow therapists.

Having not held a conference since 2019 in Glasgow, the atmosphere was buzzing with delegates interacting with each other, with speakers and representatives on the day. It was great to be part of a face-to-face study day that offered so much to so many.

I would like to personally thank all the committee members for their hard work and commitment towards the day, most of which is carried out in their own time in addition to busy clinical practice.

Roll on BAHNON 2025!

Joanne Greedy

BAHNON Chair

Introduction

On the 9th June 2023, The British Association of Head and Neck Oncology Nurses [BAHNON] hosted their Biennial National Conference in the magnificent city of Liverpool. The aim of the day was to raise an awareness of how we can rise to the post Covid-19 challenges that now face healthcare professionals across the field of Head, Neck & Thyroid Cancers.

Committee members, delegates and company representatives were equally, given a warm and friendly welcome from the staff at the Crowne Plaza Hotel; which proved to be the perfect venue all round.

The committee would like to commend the ticketing and discovery platform 'Eventbrite' for their assistance in making the conference a success, and extend their warm wishes and thanks to the guest speakers and numerous company representatives who helped to make the day interesting, informative and relevant.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF HEAD & NECK ONCOLOGY NURSES

BAHNON exists as a professional organisation that cares about head and neck cancer nursing. Its key aims and objectives are:

- To raise the profile of head and neck cancer nursing nationally, and internationally
- Improve patient care by influencing national policy and practice
- Provide a voice and support for members
- Provide a professional network to share experience and expertise
- Promote research and developments in head and neck cancer nursing

Committee members meet quarterly and contribute to clinical and practice guidelines on a national scale. In collaboration with organisations within the Head and Neck Cancer coalition and through interdisciplinary teamwork, BAHNON has a leading influential role in research and development projects that are linked to this specialty site

COMMITTEE DINNER Gino De Campos, Liverpool, L3 9LQ.

The committee enjoyed some much needed post organisational 'down time' prior to the big day. Thanks go to Amanda Naylor for organising the table booking at this beautiful modern open plan restaurant.

FUNDING & SUPPORT

The committee express their gratitude to the following companies who sponsored the day's event and who provided interesting and relevant stands for the delegates to browse during recess. Particular acknowledgement goes to Galen [GelX] for their principle sponsorship and support and to ATOS for their kind prize draw contribution in the form of a John Lewis voucher.



Representatives from principle sponsor Galen, display their products and supporting information

1. Galen	2. Thor
3. Insight	4. Ethypharm
5. Atos	6. Oraleive
7. Flenhealth	8. LaRoche-Posay
9. RIS Products	10. MSD
11. Severn (Blom Singer)	12. HRH Healthcare

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES

Total Reps	26
Total Delegates	96
BAHNON Committee	10
Speakers	11
Total numbers	143

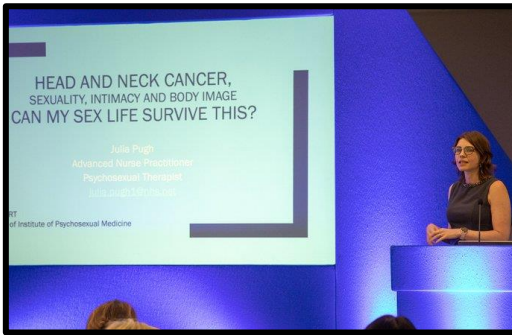
CONFERENCE FORMAT & THEMES

The one-day conference ran from 08:30 to 17:00 hours and comprised of 12 speakers, including the much-revered Professor Simon Rogers as Key Note Speaker and the inspirational return of one of BAHNON's original founders, Dr Libby Potter, who is now Head of Portfolio at Health Education England and who likened her invitation to 'coming home again'. Attendees were seated in a 'wedding format', with a number of large round tables strategically placed around the large conference room and facing the main stage which housed the speaker's podium and large projection screen. Mid-morning and afternoon breaks, along with a 55-minute lunch break offered delegates the opportunity to visit rep stands which were stationed in the adjacent room.

The overall objective of the conference was to offer a post Covid-19 revival and update of the key topics which underpin Head and Neck Cancer but at the same time, deliver an agenda that was cutting edge, visionary and which stretched the imagination of the attendees. The day was skilfully chaired by Jo Greedy and Marry Smith, who kept the running agenda carefully on track whilst allowing valuable time for delegates to foster discussions and ask any questions.

The day's agenda is outlined below and the committee would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to all the speakers.

8.30–9.00am	Registration & Coffee	
9.00–9.15am	Welcome & Morning Session Chair	Jo Greedy BAHNON Chair
9.15–10.00am	Proton Beam Therapy	Dr Lip Lee, Consultant Oncologist Christies
10.00–10.30am	Evolving Role of the Head & Neck CNS	Claire Barber & Andrew Fishburn, Nurse Consultants
10.30–10.45am	Coffee Break & Exhibitor Stands	
10.45–11.30am	<u>Keynote Speaker - Unmet Needs Unmet</u>	Professor Simon Rogers, Consultant OMFS Surgeon
11.30–12.00pm	The ACCEND Framework	Libby (Elizabeth) Potter, Health Education England
12.00–12.30pm	Thyroid Pathways, DRS & Patient Support	Amy Gough, Lead Thyroid Nurse
12.30–12.50pm	Terminal Haemorrhage in Advanced Malignancy	Lisa Marie Thompson, CNS in Head & Neck
12.50–1.45pm	Lunch & Exhibitor Stands	
1.45–1.50pm	Welcome & Afternoon Session Chair	Marry Smith, BAHNON Vice-Chair
1.50–2.20pm	Post-Treat Oral-Health QOL & Dental Implants	Mr Matt Jerreat, Consultant Restorative Dentist
2.20–2.50pm	Mouth Care – Let's Talk	Joss Harding, Dental Hygienist
2.50–3.10pm	Challenges of Prosthetics in Head & Neck	Sarah Flemming, Prosthetist
3.10–3.30pm	Non-Surgical Management of ORN	Lucy Koh, Consultant Radiographer
3.30–3.45pm	Coffee Break & Exhibitor Stands	
3.45–4.15pm	Management & Innovations of Lymphodema	Aaron Knowles, Head and Neck Lymphodema Consultant
4.15 – 4.45pm	Can my sex life survive this?	Julia Pugh, Advanced Nurse Practitioner
4.45pm	Closing Comments & Prize Draw	Jo Greedy BAHNON Chair, Maria Smith BAHNON Vice Chair



Julia Pugh (L) and Aaron Knowles (R) reminding us of some of the challenges that many of our patients face following treatment



Lucy Koh (L) & Joss Harding (R), both clearly passionate about their speciality areas, gave engaging and eye-opening presentations



Matt Jerreat (L) and Amy Gough (R) demonstrated their wealth of knowledge and experience in their engaging content delivery



Libby Potter (L) a founder member of BAHNON describes an educational framework for cancer nurses of all clinical levels. Lisa Marie Thompson (R) presents her outstanding and much appreciated work on the highly emotive topic of managing terminal haemorrhage in advanced malignancy.



Dr Lip Lee (L) kicks off the day with his informative and fascinating talk on proton beam therapy. Dr Simon Rogers (R) - key note speaker, presents some challenging data around unmet needs



Committee members Andrew Fishburn and Claire Barber match their roles as Head & Neck Nurse Consultants, against the four pillars



It goes to show that staying until the very end has its advantages!

Jo Greedy [Chair] and Marry Smith [Vice chair] present the prize draw gift voucher, kindly provided by ATOS, to the lucky winning recipient.

Photography: With thanks to Andrew Fishburn

FEEDBACK

Delegate feedback was collated utilising SurveyMonkey and the results were unanimously encouraging. Hotel venue, location and catering were commended and there were positive comments and enthusiastic views on how the conference has since helped to re-shape thinking, shift career goals and offer alternative approaches to practice.

A snap shot of comments:

Dr Lip Lee – Proton Beam Therapy

Absolutely fascinating learning about the advances in PBT and how it can be applied to our patients.

Very informative to the different pathway a patient can follow.

Brilliant presentation

Andrew Fishburn & Claire Barber – The Evolving Role of the Head and neck CNS

Very insightful. Has inspired me to look at developing my role towards that of a Nurse Consultant

Fantastic enthusiasm. The passion really shines through

I'm new in post this was extremely inspiring and gave recognition to the advance role the CNS position deserves.

Inspired me to implement more independent and autonomous clinical commitments.

Claire and Andrew are paving the way for the transforming roles of a nurse.

Really empowering

Dr Simon Rogers - Unmet needs:

Excellent speaker and again thought
provoking around a hot topic .

Excellent presentation with many
good concepts.

Very interesting presentation

Libby Potter - Accend Framework

Interesting to see what's ahead

Very informative


Amy Gough - Thyroid pathways

Inspiring CNS

Thyroid patients do need more input and
care across the board this was a fantastic
talk.

We need more Amys!

Lisa Marie Thompson - Terminal Haemorrhage



Personally, I feel very passionate about patients and their palliative journey and pathway. There has to be early conversations and better communication and education to our colleagues to help them support patients in their care.

Very well presented.

Very constructive and helpful information provided

Informative and good knowledge-sharing

Mr Matt Jerreat - Oral Health

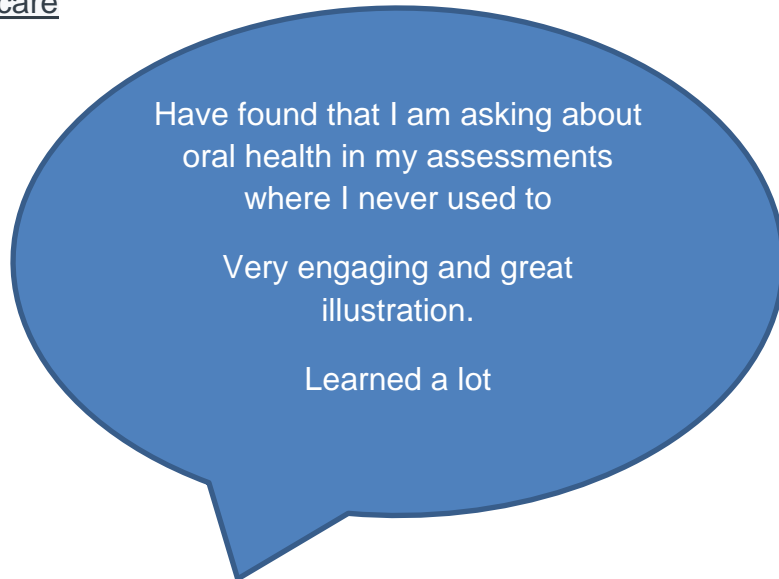


Amazing presentation.

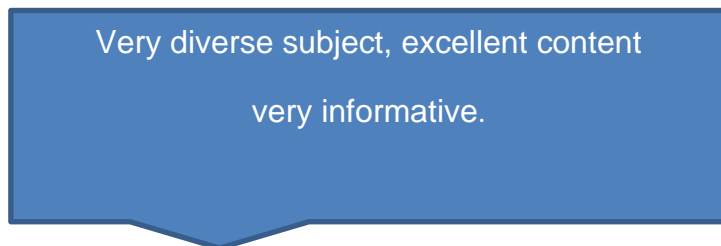
Very good

Great to have a Dentist onboard.

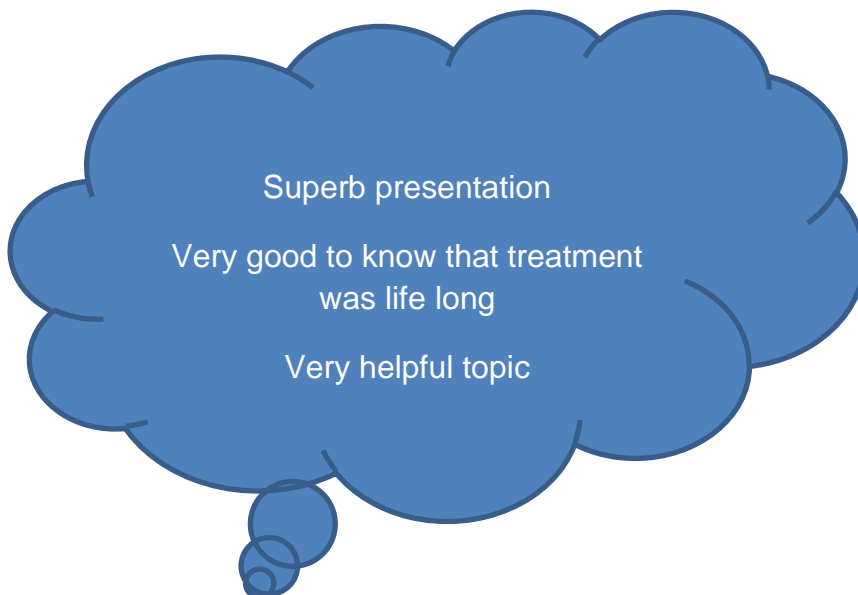
Joss Harding - Mouth care



Sarah Fleming - Prosthetics



Lucy Koh - ORN



Aaron Knowles – Lymphoedema

Really enjoyable presentation
Shame not enough time to discuss everything
This was extremely beneficial and very well presented.
Many Thanks again

Julia Pugh - Can my sex life survive this ?

Great discussion around very sensitive topic
Thought provoking .
Unique subject that is not discussed enough.
Would have liked to have listened more to this lady.
Sad that she wasn't able to have the full time slot
allocated to her as I would have enjoyed discussing this
topic more in depth

CONFERENCE 2025

To be confirmed – Watch this space!