

## RCN Forum Annual Report 2023

Forum Name: Ophthalmic Nursing Forum (ONF)

Introduction:

The ophthalmic nursing forum consists of ophthalmic nurses who share a commitment to the care of people with ophthalmic conditions and visual impairment. We are dedicated to promoting an ophthalmic nursing workforce who have the appropriate education, skills and expertise to provide safe and effective patient care.

Membership of the forum:

Total number - all 1592 first choice 1160

Our membership numbers have *f*

**APPG on Eye Health and Visual Impairment: The Emotional Impact of Sight Loss** - member represents the Ophthalmic Nursing Forum (ONF) on the APPG. A number of presentations about mental health and sight loss ; noted the of specialist support for people with mental health problems; more needed to support people (including children)July 2023

**APPG on the Eye Care Support Pathway 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2023**

**College of Optometrist Workforce Advisory Group: ONF represented to** ensure the role of the ophthalmic nurse is recognised in this workforce development project.

**Eye Health Forum/ Eye Care Services, Dept. Health and Social Care Rationale for attending** - to have the role of the ophthalmic nurse as part of the eye care workforce recognised. Ministerial update-support for increasing the eye care workforce and discussed need to increase number of healthcare professionals; apprenticeships, digital and technical learning; eye care as a pillar of primary care.

**National Falls Prevention Coordination Group (NFPCG) - NHS Public Health team**  
Updates from researchers e.g. action for falls- falls in care homes and Group

4 x Committee members  
7 x Speakers

Learning outcomes:

1. Enhance knowledge about ophthalmic nursing and ophthalmic care via a range of perspectives.
2. Think critically about individual ophthalmic nursing practice in the context of eye care restoration in question and answer sessions following each presentation.
3. Critically appraise ophthalmic nursing practice by participating in a panel discussion.
4. Make the links to NMC revalidation.

Delegate feedback (30 respondents):

Topic (77%), networking opportunities (53%) and speakers (47%) attracted delegates to the conference.

80% of delegates rated the content and speakers 8/9/10 out of 10.

90% of delegates said the event satisfactorily met or exceeded expectations in terms of meeting the learning objectives.

Preferred delegate format: Virtual 10% v In-person 90%.

Forum Webpages

Refreshed and updated by the RCN digital team supported by our professional lead CB.

FGG Projects

Nature, Scope and Value of Ophthalmic Nursing review completed and published on ONF clinical pages.

Awaiting feedback from Corporate Relations regarding sponsorship for digital publication.

Vine Simulation Workshop for NI-FGG awarded to complete a face to face workshop, originally on hold due to the pandemic (Workshops completed in England, Scotland and Wales pre pandemic)

Talking Heads project: A selection of