



Name: Joanne McNaughton

Place of Work: University of Stirling

Role: Lecturer in Nursing

1. How did you first get involved with UKONS, and what drew you to it?

I first joined UKONS as a newly qualified nurse working in an acute oncology setting. I was drawn by the idea that there was a whole network of people who shared my passion of supporting people with cancer. I have always been really interested in evidence-based practice, and the variations in how different practitioners/units/trusts implement this in their clinical practice. Being able to see the different questions/answers on the forums really helped me to make sense, as a newly qualified, about how evidence becomes practice. Later in my career, it was an opportunity to connect with peers and learn from each other.

2. How has UKONS influenced your career?

I think it is always a helpful reminder that there is a world bigger than what you are directly involved in and that we all share the same driver, to support people with cancer, and each other. It's made me more confident to share my experience and opinions on subjects, as I have experienced firsthand how other experiences have helped me.

3. In what ways has UKONS influenced or supported your cancer nursing career?

UKONS has been a constant in my career as I have moved through various roles. It has helped me see the bigger picture in cancer care and where I might fit in it. I now work in nursing education at the University of Stirling and get to share my passion for cancer nursing - a plan I would not have foreseen or thought I was capable of when first joining UKONS!