Find out more about joining the Specialist Section for Oncology and Palliative Care

e-Newsletters • Journals • CPD opportunities • Online resources • Networking • Events • Social media

www.rcot.co.uk/opc
Specialist Section

Oncology and Palliative Care

The Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section – Oncology and Palliative Care is a branch of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT). The membership includes occupational therapists from a variety of backgrounds such as educators, researchers, occupational therapy practitioners and students who are interested in oncology and palliative care and related clinical areas such as HIV and progressive organ conditions/failures.

The Specialist Section promotes good practice in HIV, cancer, palliative and end of life care and organ diseases/failure in a variety of settings including hospital, community, social care, private health or the voluntary sector. The Specialist Section-Oncology and Palliative Care has close links to service users, carers and associated organisations.

All Specialist Sections are led by a National Executive Committee (NEC) made up of volunteers elected from the membership at the Annual Review Meeting (ARM). Members support fellow members at local and national levels across the UK. All Specialist Section – Oncology and Palliative Care members must also be a member of RCOT.

There is a HIV Clinical Forum within the Specialist Section-Oncology and Palliative Care, who network and offer information, advice, learning opportunities and support each other. The HIV Clinical Forum is open to members who are working in or have an interest in HIV and who want to keep informed of current developments.

Wherever possible the Specialist Section works with service users, carers and associated organisations to actively support and promote innovations within the scope of practice.

Aims of the Specialist Section

- To provide a network and act as a resource to all Specialist Section members to enable sharing of best practice.
- To meet the professional and learning development needs of members in a variety of ways and learning styles.
- To raise the profile and value of occupational therapy within HIV, oncology and
palliative care services across the UK.

- To contribute to the production of relevant resources and information.
- To promote and support best practice and encourage passion and innovation in all areas of HIV, oncology and palliative care.
- To support high and improving standards of practice through research and developments.
- To influence, develop and contribute to local, national and internationally policy, acting in an advisory capacity to RCOT and other organisations.

The Specialist Section aims to assist in meeting professional and learning development needs and actively pursues ways to facilitate good practice of palliative care and occupational palliative rehabilitation principles for all UK occupational therapists. Membership provides the opportunity to network with people who share this passion and to influence others, because good palliative and end of life care is everybody’s business.

**Membership Benefits**

- Access to current initiatives and practice innovations, information and resources via quarterly e-Newsletters a year.
- Access to support for advice and specialist queries from other members.
- Access to national conference (often at a discounted rate).
- Access to regional study days and learning events (free or often at a discounted rate).
- Opportunities to develop knowledge and skills via professional networking, locally, regionally and nationally.
- Access to members’ resources that can support Continuous Professional Development.
- Advise on potential research topics and support with the research process.
- Opportunities to influence and inform key policy developments.
- Access to information via the website.
- Access to social media updates and networking.

**Regions**

The membership is organised into regions throughout England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, some of which meet to provide support and networking and have their own study days. Many members work in isolation and find meetings and networking with others a great help.
For more information about the Specialist Section – Oncology and Palliative Care please visit our website: rcot.co.uk/opc

Q: How do I join Specialist Section – Oncology and Palliative Care?
A: Please visit the web pages at rcot.co.uk/opc

Q: How long does my membership last?
A: The membership runs from 1st October to 30th September annually.

Q: Who can join?
A: Anyone who is a member of the RCOT.

Q: Can I belong to more than one Specialist Section?
A: Yes, you can belong to as many as you wish.

For further information contact:
Email: specialistsectionadmin@rcot.co.uk