

**Andrea Nelson**  
**Senior Macmillan Head & Neck CNS – RGN, Dip, BSC**  
**London Northwest University Trust (Northwick Park Hospital)**



I have been a Macmillan Head & Neck clinical nurse specialist for more than 20 yrs - this is a role and service that I have developed over the years. I have extensive experience in supporting head and neck patients throughout their disease trajectory. I have an excellent understanding and insight into the patient's pathway and support patients from the point of diagnosis. My role involves working collaboratively with the wider MDT team and supporting patients through some of the most life changing treatment on offer. I'm working in the Regional Surgical Unit for head & neck cancer at London Northwest University Trust (Northwick Park Hospital) where we meet patients at the point of diagnosis and are seeing follow-up cancer surveillance patients post-surgical and oncological treatment for 5 years.

I am also privileged to manage, mentor and lead a small team of exceptional specialist nurses whose drive, passion and determination never fail to inspire me.

I have been an active BAHNON (British Association of Head & Neck Nursing) committee member for several years. BAHNON is dedicated to supporting and empowering head, neck and thyroid nursing through education, professional development, and advocacy.

I have been involved in reviewing national guidelines, local policies, and Macmillan patient information. I have also presented at national conferences.

I am a very experienced, confident, and dedicated surgical head and neck CNS with a wealth of experience and knowledge. I have personal experience of Peer Review following a GIRFT (Get it right first time) review of the head & neck service at London Northwest University Trust (Northwick Park Hospital). I have previously contributed to a Head and Neck Nursing project which focused on complex workloads and identified resources required to deliver high quality, efficient care.

Salivary gland tumours are rare, and patients can present with challenging and complex symptoms. The treatment for these cancers is complex, requiring the input and expertise of the MDT. I'm passionate about supporting this group to improve the patient's outcome and experience.