

ACHD Heart Bridge Global Forum

International ACHD Nursing Symposium: From Survival to Living Well

In collaboration with the Nightingale Academy

Date: 9 October 2026

Time: 10:00-16:30 BST

Format: Online Programme (FREE)



Abstract Submissions

We welcome abstract submissions (250–300 words) aligned with the themes of the forum.

Submissions will be peer-reviewed and organised into the following areas:

- Innovation in ACHD Clinical Practice and Service Delivery
- Patient-Centred Care, Quality of Life and Psychosocial Health
- Transition, Lifelong Care and Ageing in ACHD

Submission deadline: 15 September 2026

Submission email: h.habibi@nhs.net

Time	Session	Speaker(s)	Theme
10:00-10:10	Welcome and Opening Remarks	Prof Margarita Brida (UK) Hajar Habibi (UK)	Opening
10:10-10:35	The Global ACHD Landscape	Prof Michael Gatzoulis (UK)	ACHD Population
10:35-11:00	Growing Older with CHD: Challenges and Opportunities for Patients and Nurses	Dr Maggie Simpson (UK)	Ageing & Lifelong Care
11:00-11:25	How Research Influences Policy-Making and Clinical Guidelines	Prof Mary Wells (UK)	Research & Policy
11:25-11:45 Coffee Break			
11:45-12:10	Core Outcome Sets and Transition Care in ACHD	Prof Arianna Magon (Italy)	Transition Care
12:10-12:35	Implementation Science in ACHD Nursing	Prof Philip Moons (Belgium)	Implementation Science
12:35-13:00	What Matters to Me: Living, Dying and Being Heard in ACHD	Prof Daniel Tobler (Switzerland)	Person-Centred Care
13:00-13:40 Lunch Break			
13:40-14:05	From Survival to Living Well	Dr Mike Rigby (UK)	ACHD Evolution
14:05-14:30	Developing the Future ACHD Nursing Workforce	Christy Sillman (USA)	Workforce Development
14:30-14:55	Using Exercise VO2 Testing to Empower ACHD Patients	Jennifer Gilmartin (USA)	Exercise & Rehabilitation
14:55-15:40	ACHD Nursing Without Borders: Global Perspectives Panel (International Panel)	Chair: Prof Laila Ladak Panelists: Prof Laila Ladak (Pakistan) Christy Sillman (USA) Dr Sara Thorne (Canada/UK)	Global Perspectives
15:40-15:55	My Journey with Tetralogy of Fallot: Living to 70 and Beyond	Richard Weller (UK)	Patient Perspective
15:55-16:10	Closing Reflections, Abstract Awards and Call to Action	Hajar Habibi (UK)	Closing

Faculty:

- Hajar Habibi
- Professor Michael Gatzoulis
- Professor Philip Moons
- Professor Margarita Brida
- Liz Allibone
- Carl Harries
- Clare Finlay
- Ella McDonnell