

Dental care for older people vulnerable to Delirium - multidisciplinary team approach



British Society of
Gerodontology

**Friday 20th June 2025, Daysh Building at Newcastle University, Newcastle
upon Tyne NE1 7RU**

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/Rcrw7d4fpSHBZ2RQ9>

Time	Title	Speakers
09-30-09.50	Registration, Refreshments and Trade Stands in the Exhibition Space on 1st floor	
09.50-10.00	President's Welcome	Dr Becky Wassall, Senior Lecturer/Hon Consultant in Special Care Dentistry
10.00-10.45	Delirium & Dentistry	Dr Adelina McLeod, Consultant in Geriatric Medicine with a specialist interest in Dementia and Delirium.
10.45-11.30	Growing old with endodontics	Prof John Whitworth, Professor of Endodontology/Hon Consultant in Restorative Dentistry
11.30-12.15	Facial pain & oral infection	Dr Emma Beecroft, Clinical Doctoral Fellow/Hon Oral Surgery Speciality Trainee
12.15-13.15	Lunch	
13.15-14.00	Multidisciplinary working & realistic dentistry	Dr Susan Baines, Consultant in Special Care Dentistry
14.00-14.45	Educating the next generation of clinicians (Narrative medicine & the importance of including older people in dental education)	Dr Luisa Wakeling, Senior Lecturer/Director for Engagement Dr James Fisher, Consultant Geriatrician/Hon Senior Clinical Lecturer
14.45-15.00	Comfort break	
15.00-16.00	Lightening Talk 1 – Living longer with implants	Dr Francesca Mullan, Clinical Lecturer/Hon Restorative Speciality Trainee
	Lightening Talk 2 – Domiciliary Dental Care a Whistle stop tour of the literature	Dr Megan Roberts, Special Care Dentistry Specialty Trainee
	Lightening talk 4 – Living longer with cancer	Dr Anne Chambers, Consultant/Hon Senior Lecturer in Oral and Maxillofacial Histopathology
16.00-16.30	Close	Dr Becky Wassall, Senior Lecturer/Hon Consultant in Special Care Dentistry

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Learning outcomes include (GDC enhanced outcomes A, C and D)

- Understand **delirium** as a factor to consider when planning dental care for older people.
- Gain an overview of the prevalence and management of **endodontic** disease in older adults.
- Recognise and manage **facial pain and orofacial infections** in older patients.
- Appreciate the role of **multidisciplinary working** and apply the principles of **realistic dentistry** in older adult care.
- Explore current approaches to the **education and training** of clinicians involved in caring for older adults.
- Review the **published literature** and evidence base surrounding **domiciliary dental care**.
- Receive an update on the oral health needs of older patients **living longer with cancer**.
- Receive an update on the management of older patients **living longer with dental implants**.

Speaker Profiles

Dr Adelina McLeod

Adelina graduated from Newcastle Medical school in 2010 and is a Consultant Geriatrician in the North East of England. She participates in a medical memory clinic which offers assessment for frailer elderly patients presenting with cognitive decline. She specialises in dementia and delirium.

Professor John Whitworth

John is Professor of Endodontology and Restorative Consultant in Newcastle where he currently directs the 3-year MCLinDent programme in Endodontics. He is immediate Past President of the European Society of Endodontology and Past-President of the British Endodontic Society. For 10 years, he served as Deputy Editor of the International Endodontic Journal and has published widely during his 40-year career.

Outside of dentistry, he enjoys being active outdoors and spending time in his craft studio.

Dr Emma Beecroft

Emma is an academic oral surgery trainee at Newcastle University, who is American board-certified in orofacial pain. Emma's academic and clinical practice is focussed on management of acute and persistent orofacial pain. As lead author for the 2024 RCS NHS England guideline

for TMD management, clinical lead for the MiTiGate clinical trial and with her current PhD thesis focussed on trigeminal pain Emma's hopes to improve outcomes for those living with persistent orofacial pain.

Dr Susan Baines

Susan is a Consultant in Special Care Dentistry, NHS Lothian. She has worked in many areas of special care dentistry. Her main clinical area currently is dental care in an acute hospital for medically compromised and oncology patients.

Dr James Fisher

James is an Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer at Newcastle University where, for medical students, he is the Course Director for 'Early Transitions and Essentials of Clinical Practice'. He is also a Consultant Geriatrician working in Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust.

During his specialty training he completed an MD in Parkinson's disease-related research and is still involved with research through contribution to the delivery of Parkinson's-related studies running in his NHS trust. His other big interest is medical education and he has a passion for encouraging interest and uptake into the specialty of geriatric medicine.

Dr Luisa Wakeling

Luisa is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Dental Sciences, Newcastle University. With a background in ageing biology, Luisa incorporated ageing into education by co-leading the Newcastle University Ageing Education module with colleagues and older members of the public. She continues to work with colleagues in exploring dementia education and in her Director of Engagement role in the Faculty of Medical Sciences, supports the involvement of members of the public in the education of our healthcare professional students.

Dr Megan Roberts

Megan is currently completing her Specialty Training in Special Care Dentistry working across South West Wales. She graduated from Cardiff in 2010 and with an early interest in Special Care Dentistry she went on to work a range of core training posts across South Wales providing clinical input into hospitals, psychiatric units and care homes.

She then worked in Community Dental Service in Swansea for 9 years first as a dental officer then senior dental officer where she continued to provide Domiciliary Dental Care alongside clinical based care and completing the diploma in conscious sedation from Newcastle University in 2015.

Dr Francesca Mullan

Francesca is a Clinical Lecturer at Newcastle University and is currently completing her Specialty Training in Prosthodontic Dentistry within Newcastle Hospital Trust.

She has a particular interest in dental education and is the incoming president for the British Society of Dental Education.

Dr Anne Chambers

Anne is a Consultant and Honorary Senior Lecturer in Oral and Maxillofacial histopathology at Newcastle. After graduating from Queen's Belfast she spent time in Scotland, Australia and Northern Ireland before settling in Newcastle for her specialist training and subsequent consultant post. Her current job combines her three great loves of teaching, head & neck pathology and a good mystery!