

4/5/2025



## **EUROPEAN ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY**

### **Nomination Form EONS Board**

*I hereby confirm my intention to stand as a nominated candidate for election to the EONS Board of the European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS).*

**1. NOMINEE'S NAME:**

Dr Wendy McInally

**2. NOMINATION FOR ROLE OF:**

**(select one option only)**

☒ EONS President-Elect

**3. ELIGIBILITY:**

**(complete one section only)**

I am an EONS Individual Member. Yes

***I would like to become an EONS Board Member because:***

Continuing as a European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS) Board Member and moving into the President-Elect role is an opportunity that aligns perfectly with my professional aspirations and personal values.

In the President-Elect role, I am confident that I can help guide EONS to an even brighter future by utilising my previous EONS experience blended with my academic and practical expertise. I have six years of experience with the EONS Board, and during that time, I have successfully driven several EONS projects and collaborations between various working groups and other national and multiprofessional organisations.

EONS has built a remarkable reputation for promoting excellence in cancer nursing through education, research, and advocacy. In the EONS President-Elect role, supporting the new President and working with the current and new Board Members, I can actively participate in shaping the future of oncology nursing, ensuring that nurses are equipped with the latest knowledge and skills to provide the best possible care to people affected by cancer.

I believe in the power of collaboration and networking for nurses. EONS provides a unique platform for cancer nurses across Europe to connect, share experiences, and learn from each other. The challenges faced by cancer nurses are multifaceted, ranging from emotional burnout to the need for continuous professional development. As President-Elect, I would work tirelessly to address these issues, ensuring that cancer nurses receive the support they need to thrive in their roles.

As a widely recognised and influential cancer nurse specialist for children and young people, and academic, I have led, developed and implemented many best practice initiatives through EONS and other cancer organisations such as the European School of Oncology (ESO), European Cancer Organisation (ECO) and Children and Young People's Cancer Association (CYPCA) (previously known as Children's Cancer and Leukaemia Group and Teenagers and Young Adult Cancer). I have built a comprehensive professional portfolio in cancer nursing by combining the knowledge, skills, insight, and expertise developed over 30 years in practice, education, and research locally, nationally, and internationally.

I excel at supporting others develop through mentorship, shadowing, and coaching and have been a mentor for many colleagues. I am currently leading on mentorship for research and scholarship within the United Kingdom's (UK) Open University, where I am the Associate Head of School

for Research and Scholarship across three programmes (nursing, social work and health and social care) and four nations in the UK (Scotland, England, Ireland, and Wales).

I joined EONS in 2013, becoming a member of the Education Working Group (EWG) in 2018, Co-Chair and Chair in 2019, and then moving to EWG Board Member in 2020. As the Chair of the EWG, I am proud to have worked tirelessly with the group members to achieve our shared objectives. The group dynamics changed over the years, but we delivered the agreed objectives through effective leadership, strategy, teamwork, and support from one another. For example, collaborating with the ESO in developing eight nursing pathways aligned to the Cancer Nursing Education Framework (2022) is a particular highlight.

I was part of the working group in 2020, led by EONS President Andreas Charalambous, assessing the feasibility of developing a European College for Cancer Nurses (ECCN) in 2022. This project, supported by ESO, has been successful, with the current EWG Co-Chair taking the lead with my support and leadership.

With my knowledge, experience, and networks locally, nationally, and internationally, I am well-placed to contribute to furthering cancer nursing through education, research, and practice. I work well with the EONS national societies, EONS members, and key stakeholders at national and international levels.

For more information about me, please click [here](#).

***My aims during my term on the Board of EONS would be:***

EONS provides a unique platform for cancer nurses across Europe to connect, share experiences, and learn from each other. As President-Elect, I would work systematically to ensure that cancer nurses receive the support they need to thrive in their roles. I would collaborate with the President, Board and Team to prioritise the following key areas to achieve EONS' Mission, Vision, and Values over the short, medium, and long term:

**Short-term goals:**

- Collaborate effectively with the President, Board, Chief Operations Officer, and EONS team members to ensure cohesive and aligned governance.
- Work with the Board to provide clear operational direction for the EONS Team.
- Effective leadership and strategic direction to enhance collaboration and communication as a Board member and for the EONS Team.

- Cooperate closely with the President to gain insights into the role and ensure a smooth leadership transition in 2027.
- Assist the President in delivering the Society's objectives and perform duties delegated by the President or Board.
- Function as a spokesperson for the Society at external engagements, fostering strong relationships with stakeholders.

**Medium-term goals:**

- Ensure continuity and strategic alignment within the Society's governance.
- Provide knowledge, insight, and expertise in cancer nursing, education, research, and practice.
- Effective leadership and support for the working groups and members.
- Awareness of equality, diversity, and inclusion within EONS's membership, ensuring inclusive representation and equitable support for cancer nurses across Europe.
- Build relationships with working groups, members, national societies, and key stakeholders.
- Support and provide leadership in the development of a Patient Advisory Group.
- Collaborate in advocacy efforts, representing EONS positions on significant issues.

**Long-term goals:**

- Drive the Board's initiatives, Mission, Vision, and Values.
- Seek new ways to generate income for the Society within the realms of the EONS Team.

For more information about me, please click [here](#).

***The skills and experience that I would be able to bring to the role are (800 words max):***

As a widely recognised and influential specialist cancer nurse, I will continue to drive EONS forward to the centre of cancer nursing in Europe, ensuring excellence in delivery through collaboration and teamwork. This role is a natural step for me and an ideal match for my passion and commitment for EONS, a Society I have always been proud to be associated with. Being part of EONS has given me a deep knowledge and understanding of the organisation. Fulfilling the Chair of the EWG role has been a privilege as has allowed collaborating with nurses from across many European countries.

Combining the knowledge, skills, insight, and expertise developed over 30 years in practice, education, and research locally, nationally, and internationally, I bring an extensive range of personal and professional skills and experience to the President-Elect role.

Throughout my career, I have built a comprehensive research portfolio around children and young people with cancer, specifically focusing on teenagers and young adults aged 13 to 29, covering nursing and inter-speciality practice, education, and advocacy. I am inspirational and creative in developing and implementing best practice initiatives, such as the safe administration of chemotherapy for children and young people with cancer and inter-speciality education and training for healthcare professionals across Europe who care for all people affected by cancer. An example was the Interact EU project led by the ECO. I supported and led one of the implementations of the findings from the England-based BRIGHTLIGHT study - 'Does specialist age-appropriate care for teenagers and young adults make a difference?' (2018). In addition, earlier this year, I contributed a chapter to the new Adolescent and Young Adult Blueprint of Care for nurses.

In 2022, I developed a proposal with the President of the United Kingdom's Oncology Nursing Society (UKONS) for EONS to bring the European Cancer Nursing Day (ECND) to Edinburgh, Scotland. Ninety-eight nurses attended from across the UK and Europe, successfully illustrating how well EONS can work with other national societies and the members, always in the belief that we work better together than apart. Through pump-priming funding, we supported European nurses from low-income countries in attending and being part of the ECND. My strategic leadership and international teamwork delivered this highly successful collaborative event.

I have a deep working knowledge and experience in securing European Union grants from being a work package leader with the INTERACT project. Within The UK's Open University, as the Associate Head of the School for Research, my responsibilities include financial budgeting and resource allocation in non-profit and profit settings. I am skilled in developing and implementing strategic plans that align with organisational goals and priorities. In doing so, I assess complex issues, balance long-term vision with operational realities, and lead colleagues in engaging and developing research and scholarship that will influence care delivery and outcomes in healthcare environments. For example, I created a Youth Advisory Forum for Patient and Public Involvement in the application of various grants.

Education has always been important to me as a lifelong learner and in advancing patient care. I have been an active member of CYPCA since 2012; I was the Chair of the Education Group from 2013 to 2017, and I am a member of the Society of International Paediatric Oncology /Europe. As such, I am ideally placed to collaborate with colleagues from across Europe in the continuing development of cancer research, education, and practice. Through my leadership and support, two nurse members who care for children and young people have developed cancer modules for

children as part of CYPCA. This ensures that the materials are written for nurses across Europe and the UK.

During my membership of EONS, I have successfully secured two leadership scholarships and PhD writing retreats. I also serve on the Advisory Board for ESO and regularly meet with them to discuss and promote cancer education for nurses and other healthcare professionals. From 2019 to 2024, I represented EONS on the Accreditation Council of Oncology in Europe. In addition, I am one of the European Journal of Oncology Nursing representatives and part of the Editorial Board.

I frequently chair and participate in EONS board meetings and work to ensure effective decision-making and compliance with accepted governance standards. I fully understand that it is not always possible for the Board to unanimously agree on challenging strategic and operational decisions. Still, maintaining cohesion, collaboration and communication within the Board team is paramount.

The President-Elect role would be an ideal match for my skill set. I have accomplished interpersonal skills, such as integrity and the ability to communicate, interact, and work effectively with others. I understand the cancer nursing landscape well, including the strategic challenges facing the EONS Board. I am confident that I would make a substantial contribution to the role.

For more information about me, please click [here](#).

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## 5. EXPERIENCE & SKILLS

A short bio (one-page A4 maximum) with passport size photograph must be included with this application to consider it complete. Please include your present professional role and *titles* (RN, PhD, MSc, other, if applicable). **If the bio and photograph are not provided, the nomination will be ineligible and will not be considered.**



Name:

Dr Wendy McNally (PhD, SFHEA, MSc, BSc (Hons), RSCN)

Present appointment:

Associate Head of School Research and Scholarship, Senior Lecturer  
in Children and Young People's Nursing

Over the past 30 years, I have established an internationally recognised career and professional portfolio around children and young people with cancer, focusing on the development of nursing practice, education, and research. During this time, I have driven the development and implementation of many best practice initiatives. I fully understand the ongoing need for professional education and training to support the continuing development of evidence-based care delivery.

In supporting healthcare professionals who care for young people living with and beyond cancer, I aim to promote innovative education, research, scholarship, knowledge exchange, and best practice initiatives.

My research interests focus primarily on cancer in children and young people, palliative care, and pedagogy. Since 2017, I have conducted several research projects exploring the lived experiences and impacts of melanoma on teenagers, young adults, and their significant others. My research is interdisciplinary in nature. Recently, I led a work package for an Interact EU project aimed at developing core competencies for healthcare professionals caring for individuals affected by cancer. In 2021, I was the first UK nurse to secure a Teenage and Young Adult Cancer (TYAC) research grant. I also joined the Society of International Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) Europe, having been a long-standing member of SIOP.

I have been a member of the European Oncology Nursing Society (EONS) since 2013. In November 2018, I joined the Education Working Group (EWG), and I became the EWG Co-Chair in December 2019. By January 2020, I had taken on the roles of EWG Chair and Executive Board Member. During my tenure, I have been actively involved in developing and reviewing the pilot stage of the European College for Cancer Nurses.

Since 2018, I have successfully led the e-sessions for nurses organized by the European School of Oncology (ESO) and serve on their advisory board. Additionally, I was a member of the Accredited Council Oncology in Europe (ACOE) for three years.