

**Preconference Nursing and Allied Health Professions Education Day
2026**

organized by the WG on Nursing and Allied Professionals

Themes:

**Current Practices – Palliative care what do we do and how can we improve this
across the ages?**

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Innovation in Action – AI, VR and the Human Touch in Congenital Heart Disease Care

Wednesday, May 13th, 2026

Session 1: What do we need to know about Palliative Care?

Chairs: Lynda Shaughnessy, UK & Chantal Etter, Switzerland

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| 09:00 - 09:10 | Welcome and Opening Remarks | |
| 09:10 - 09:30 | The importance of early involvement of paediatric palliative care for patients with severe congenital heart disease | <i>Diana Freitas, UK</i> |
| 09:30 - 09:50 | Advanced Care Planning in Adolescence / ACHD care | <i>Corina Thomet, Switzerland</i> |
| 09:50 - 10:10 | Risky Behaviours | <i>Sheena Vernon, UK</i> |
| 10:10 - 10:30 | Panel and Audience Discussion | <i>All Speakers & Audience</i> |
| 10:30 - 11:00 | Coffee Break | |

Session 2: The role of the MDT in Palliative Care

Chairs: Amanda Potterton, UK & Michele De Hosson, Belgium

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| 11:00 - 11:15 | Nurse | <i>Eva Goossens, Belgium</i> |
| 11:15 - 11:30 | Psychologist | <i>Louise Clegg, UK</i> |
| 11:30 - 11:45 | Speech & Language Therapist | <i>Noemie Berger, Belgium</i> |
| 11:45 - 12:00 | Cardiologist - Paediatric & Adolescence | <i>Angela Oxenius, Switzerland</i> |

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| 12:00 – 12:15 | Cardiologist - ACHD | Markus Schwerzman, Canada |
| 12:15 -12:30 | Panel Discussion Q&A | All Speakers |
| 12:30 - 13:30 | Lunch | |
| Session 3: Enhancing Holistic Care with AI and VR | | |
| Chairs: Ewa-Lena Bratt, Sweden & Amanda Potterton, UK | | |
| 13:30 - 13:50 | What's the role of the nurse/therapist in supporting digital self-management? | Elin Hjorth Johansen, Norway |
| 13:50 - 14:10 | Smart monitoring and AI | Kerry Gaskin, UK |
| 14:10 - 14:30 | Inclusivity – will AI and Digital Technology enable or be a barrier to better care for all? | Philip Moons, Belgium |
| 14:30 - 14:50 | Building a digitally empowered workforce – what skills do we need? | Adrienne Cottam, UK |
| 14:50 – 15:00 | Close and Final Remarks | Ewa-Lena Bratt, Sweden |