

I had the opportunity to attend the International Myeloma Conference for the first time ever this year, and it was an extremely valuable experience. The conference provided fresh perspectives on the future of community-based treatment delivery, an area central to my current role.

I particularly enjoyed the nursing symposiums, where in-depth discussions focused on treatment pathways, patient experience and the evolving role of nursing within myeloma care. One topic that resonated with me was the importance of comprehensive patient assessment prior to treatment, including the growing recognition of frailty assessment in guiding treatment decisions and supporting personalised care. Service development in this area has been a longstanding focus of my practice, and it was encouraging to see both assessment and frailty recognised as key factors influencing patient outcomes, treatment tolerability and quality of life.

The opportunity to meet nursing and medical colleagues from across Europe was another highlight. Our discussions around self-administration of treatments were especially thought-provoking and have given me ideas that I hope to explore further within my own cancer care service.

Overall, the conference was an inspiring and rewarding experience, for which I am extremely grateful. I would highly recommend attendance to colleagues in the future. Events such as this encourage important conversations about treatment pathways, quality of life, and how we best support patients living with a diagnosis that, whilst increasingly treatable, remains incurable.