

Dr Emily McWhirter, PhD, BSc (Hons), Registered Nurse, Midwife

**Royal College of Nursing
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I am a motivated and dedicated senior healthcare practitioner, consultant, leader and nurse, with a PhD in nursing, and strategic healthcare management education at Harvard Business School. I have worked internationally at the World Health Organization, in the UK National Health Service and the independent and charity sector for over 35 years.

CAREER HISTORY

May 2024 - current

**Associate Director for Leadership,
Royal College of Nursing, London, UK**

My role is to establish a global Leadership Academy at the Royal College of Nursing to support and strengthen global nursing leadership. It involves extensive collaborative work, building strong global relationships and creating resources and tools to support nurses to be strong global leaders of healthcare.

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/About-us/The-RCN-Institute-of-Nursing-Excellence>

Sept 2021- current

**Consultant, global leadership c
competency framework development**

Through global consultation, developed a global leadership competency framework, supporting leadership development from novice nurse to expert.

<https://www.sigmanursing.org/global-nursing-leadership-competency-framework>

Jan 2024 - Current

**Consultant,
Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland**

Leading the development of a European global leadership programme for early career nurses and students. This is a collaboration with WHO, ICN, ENSA, EFNNMA, and the WHO Collaborating Center for leadership and governance, Israel.

Oct 2020 - May 2024

**Senior Consultant,
World Health Organization HQ,
Geneva, Switzerland**

Working directly with the WHO Chief Nurse, as senior consultant, my work centred around developing nursing leadership, strengthening health systems to provide high quality nursing care, focusing on the patient as central to the healthcare system.

Jan 2017 – Sept 2020

**Executive Director of Nursing &
Director for Infection Control, Royal
Hospital for Neuro-Disability, London**

As Executive Director of Nursing, I was a member of the Board and held professional responsibility for nurses, healthcare assistants, patient and family experience and education. I was the lead for Safeguarding and the Director of Infection, Prevention and Control, volunteers and family services, student nurses and paramedics and supervised PhD and MRes research students.

1990 - 2017

Since qualifying as a nurse in 1990 (Nightingale School of Nursing) and a midwife (Kings College University 1994) I have held a range of nursing and midwifery roles across the National Health Services, Independent and Charity sector in the UK. Key clinical nursing specialist areas are in emergency care nursing, including pre hospital care and neuro-rehabilitation.

Recent Key Publications

Global Health and Nursing - A New Narrative for the 21st Century. Author: Barbara Stilwell, August 2024

Nurses finding a global voice by becoming influential leaders through advocacy. Elizabeth A Madigan, Emily McWhirter, Greta Westwood, Ruth Oshikanlu, Zipporah M Ireji, Munashe Nyika, Jonathan Bayuo: Clinics in Integrated Care, October 2023

Global Nursing Leadership Competency Framework. <https://www.sigmanursing.org/global-nursing-leadership-competency-framework>

Critical Appraisal from Papers to Patients: A Practical Guide (2023 Edition) Text book
Authors: Duncan Bootland, Evan Coughlan, Robert Galloway, Emily McWhirter

The vital role of nurses and midwives in the management of AMR. Media Planet supplement. Q4 Nov 2021: New Scientist

RCNi Nursing Standard podcast: how newly qualified nurses can have the best start: Posted 27 May 2021

When is the right time to apply for a Band 6 role? 1st April 2021: Nursing Standard online. RCNi

First time in charge of a ward: the support every newly qualified nurse needs. 19th Jan 2021: Nursing Standard. RCNi

Visiting in Care Homes: using Infection Control as an enabler to solutions, 9th Dec 2020: *Nursing Standard, RCNi*

COVID-19 and nurse well-being: how to ensure staff aren't afraid to come to work: 5 Nov 2020: Nursing Standard. RCNi

McWhirter E, Scholes J. The besieged ward manager: can we afford to continue to ignore the role? Nursing in Critical Care Volume 14, Issue 2 March and April 2009, pages 47–50