

## BUPA DENTAL CARE APPOINTS HEADS OF DENTAL NURSING AND DENTAL HYGIENE AND THERAPY

Bupa Dental Care has launched its new Clinical Advisory Team, designed to strengthen its clinical voice across the business. The team includes four specialist roles, each with a dedicated focus on defined areas of dentistry to ensure core dental knowledge and practicalities of each specialism are integrated across business decision-making.

The newly formed team comprises a Director of Dentistry, a Head of General Dentistry, a Head of Dental Nursing, and a Head of Dental Hygiene and Therapy, with each member appointed to represent and empower their respective clinical communities.

Dr Neil Sikka will lead the Clinical Advisory Team as the appointed Director of Dentistry, reporting to Mark Allan, General Manager for Bupa Dental Care, and taking an advisory position within the Dental Executive team to play a critical role in strategic direction and initiatives. Neil is a clinician with over 30 years of experience and brings a wealth of knowledge from his roles as Chief Dental Officer for Bupa UK Insurance and Chair of the Bupa Foundation Dental Community. All further appointments will report to Neil.

Dr Anni Seaborne will take the Head of General Dentistry role, focusing on clinical innovation and supporting the next generation of clinicians. With seven years of experience as a qualified dentist and a MSc in Sports Dentistry, Anni brings a wealth of expertise. Her background includes roles with England Rugby, Harlequins, and McLaren F1, emphasising her commitment to clinical excellence and innovation.

Amelia Hodgson has been appointed as the Head of Dental Nursing. Having started her career as an apprentice dental nurse, Amelia's journey at Bupa Dental Care since 2019 reflects her dedication, culminating in her role as area lead nurse. She will collaborate closely with the dental nursing community in her new capacity, focusing on attraction, retention, and development.

Caitlin Miller will join as the Head of Dental Hygiene and Therapy. With initial experience as a dental nurse and subsequent graduation as a hygienist and therapist, Caitlin brings a holistic perspective. She will represent dental hygienists and therapists, influencing industry agendas and providing valuable insights to the business.

Bupa Dental Care General Manager, Mark Allan, said, 'The creation of our Clinical Advisory Team reflects our commitment to investing in our people across our vast network of clinical communities, ensuring the voice of each of our dental specialists in our practice teams is heard and valued.'

'The appointments of Neil, Anni, Amelia, and Caitlin will further strengthen our senior team, bringing strong, dynamic leadership and oversight and keeping us in sync with what our people need and our patients want. These hires also demonstrate our commitment to investing in our internal talent, following several talent development, networking and collaboration events.'

The new team will complement the existing clinical teams within the business' Operations, People, Risk, and Compliance teams.



From left to right: Neil Sikka, Caitlin Miller, Anni Seaborne, Amelia Hodgson

## SAMANTHA EMBARKS ON CANOEING CHALLENGE FOR CANCER SURVIVORS

Samantha Snoad is embarking on an epic five-day challenge, canoeing the Harkan River in Sweden and wild camping, in support of the charity



Odyssey. Odyssey's mission is to help cancer survivors regain their confidence and rediscover joy in life through immersive outdoor experiences.

Samantha is Managing Director at Castle Street Dental Practice in Canterbury and also a registered dental nurse. She began an 18-month battle against breast cancer in July 2022 so understands firsthand the psychological and emotional toll cancer can take. By supporting Odyssey, Samantha seeks to provide fellow cancer survivors with the opportunity to participate in transformative experiences that foster resilience and empowerment.

Samantha said: 'In August 2024, I will embark on a five-day canoeing expedition to Sweden to raise funds for this incredible cause.'

'Why this charity I hear you say? Well... back in July 2022, I was diagnosed with Stage 3 Breast Cancer and underwent chemotherapy, surgery and radiotherapy and I'm now on the other side. Cancer survivors often experience decreased self-confidence which impacts negatively on their ability to self-manage the practical, social and emotional problems frequently faced as they emerge from the end of treatment.'

'All of the money I raise will go to Odyssey and will help the organisation to continue delivering life changing programmes for people with cancer.'

To support Sam's Odyssey Adventure – Life after Cancer visit <https://www.justgiving.com/page/samantha-snoad-1705494933924>.