

National Vision for Support Networks 2011 Conference

What does a national support network look like to you? The purpose?

- a bridge - supportive
- reliable
- consistent
- longevity
- welcoming, warm and friendly
- accepting
- informative
- spread awareness and 'first do no harm'
- provide all sorts of support
- remove feelings of loneliness
- positive
- normalise 'got endo'
- interactive
- trustworthy
- open communication
- accepting
- educational
- awareness
- quality information
- dispelling myths
- diversity
- ethnicity
- guidance
- supportive
- a voice, advocate
- relate to wide range
- relaxed and fun
- dynamic
- non judgemental
- reliable info
- encouragement
- awareness
- safe and confidential environment

What are the challenges?

- the isolation – geographical, social, mental
- lack of awareness
- stigmas
- GP lack of knowledge
- lack of interest
- post diagnosis – what next
- getting it out there
- simplifying the process
- more team members
- funding
- geography
- surgical facilities
- employer attitude/understanding
- attendance at meetings
- educating
- build up membership database
- ignorance
- suitable venue
- reaching people

How does each network share their ideas going forward?

- skype
- facebook group
- e-news
- quality of information
- social networking
- bimonthly team meetings
- online forums
- keeping open communication
- flexible
- debriefs
- keeping everyone informed
- sharing ideas
- quality newsletters from ENZ
- emails
- sharing ideas
- annual conference

What does 2012 look like in your region? What would your group like to achieve?

- more exposure at schools
- more funding
- womens expo
- local media
- awareness of GP/medical centres
- launching networks
- surveying members
- on-line chat room
- speakers
- expos
- displays
- gp/medical centres drop
- increase membership
- evolving more
- interactive/modern