

Physician Associate

Overview of the role

Indictive Salary AfC 7
AfC PA Preceptorship 6

Max reimbursable amount over
12 months (with on cost) -
£53724

Physician Associates (PAs) are healthcare professionals with a generalist medical education who work alongside doctors providing medical care as an integral part of the multidisciplinary team. Physician Associates are dependent practitioners who work under the supervision of a fully trained and experienced doctor. They bring new talent and add to the skill mix within teams, providing a stable, generalist section of the workforce which can help ease the workforce pressures that the NHS currently faces.

Funding

From April 2020, this role will be reimbursed at 100% of actual salary plus defined on costs, up to the maximum reimbursable amount of £53724 over 12 months via Primary Care Networks.

Training/Development

Physician Associate students already have an undergraduate degree in a life science and/or a significant background in healthcare. To become a Physician Associate, students take a 2-year, full-time, intensive postgraduate course at Diploma or Masters level in Physician Associate studies. A list of courses can be found here:

<https://www.fparcp.co.uk/becoming-a-pa>.

It includes over 1,400 hours of clinical placement experience in both acute and community settings. A new route via a 4-year Undergraduate Masters programme will run subject to approval. Once qualified, physician associates must maintain 50 hours of CPD per year and sit a recertification examination every 6 years.

Activities Undertaken

- Taking medical histories from patients
- Performing physical examinations
- Seeing patients with undifferentiated diagnoses

Skills and Competencies

The FPA lists a number of template PA person specifications on their website under the useful resources section:

<https://www.fparcp.co.uk/employers/pas-in-general-practice>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeing patients with long-term chronic conditions • Formulating differential diagnoses and management plans • Performing diagnostic and therapeutic procedures • Developing and delivering appropriate treatment and management plans • Requesting and interpreting diagnostic studies • Providing health promotion and disease prevention advice • Peak flow examination • Urine dip stick 	<p>MSc - Pass 2-year PA university course at Diploma or MSc level, after a 3-year healthcare related degree.</p>
<p>Supervision</p> <p>The FPA website provides a dedicated session for GP supervisor and Physician Associate guide under the useful resource tab on their website.</p> <p>https://www.fparcp.co.uk/employers/pas-in-general-practice</p>	<p>Education Providers</p> <p>There are around 32 Physician Associate education providers across England.</p> <p>A list of course providers can be found here:</p> <p>https://www.fparcp.co.uk/becoming-a-pa</p>
<p>Job Description</p> <p>NHSE/I National have developed JDs and recruitment packs - Awaiting approval via BMA and Gateway process.</p> <p>A template job description for PAs in general practice can also be found under useful resources here:</p> <p>https://www.fparcp.co.uk/employers/pas-in-general-practice</p>	<p>Case Studies</p> <p>https://www.fparcp.co.uk/employers/pas-in-general-practice</p>
<p>Additional Resources</p> <p>https://www.fparcp.co.uk/employers/pas-in-general-practice</p> <p>https://www.fparcp.co.uk/employers/guidance</p> <p>https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/primary-care/physician-associates-primary-care</p>	

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/medical-associate-professions/roles-medical-associate-professions/physician-associate/physician-associates-general-practice>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhF4Rj5SGeM&index=1&list=PLrVQaAxyJE3f0bJP7K7T81Ew27EecVVb4>