

Speciality Interface GP in Paediatrics: Northampton GP Retention Programme

Programme Director: Dr Cathryn Appleton

Base: Northampton General Hospital (NGH) Paediatric Assessment Unit, Cliftonville, Northampton, NN1 5BD

Day of work: Tuesday morning: 1 session per week of 4 hours

Salary: (£13,500 to £17,500 per annum) Depending on experience. Reimbursement to practice to cover associated employment costs including NHS Pension for one session a week.

Initial time frame: One year

Main Duties & Responsibilities

The role of the Interface GP is to improve communication and relationships between primary and secondary care. With this achieved then the timeliness and quality of communication with patients with clinicians responsible for their care should also improve. The role is face to face and will therefore be based on site rather than remotely.

Reference is made to the following [guidance from the RCGP](#) regarding the primary secondary care interface, [BMA guidance](#) and local guidelines presently being drafted by the Primary Secondary Care Working Group.

Job details

The main aims of the role are:

- To promote more “joined up” working between primary and secondary care systems.
- To promote a greater understanding of the work situation and knowledge of colleagues across the interface.
- To facilitate education of GPs or Secondary Care Colleagues where it would be beneficial
- To improve patient care via the above.

Deliverables of the role are to:

1. Record, review and audit the number and quality of written communications between primary and secondary care. This should include:
 - a. Outpatient letters to GP
 - b. Referral letters from GP to Secondary Care
2. Assess all communications to identify any specific or general educational issues causing unnecessary or rejected referrals
3. Assess all communications to identify any inappropriate transfer of work to, or from, primary or secondary care.

- a. This will include uncontracted work highlighted by the LMC such as requests for Fit notes, inappropriate prescribing requests, onward referrals, incorrect or incomplete discharge summaries, management of DNAs, patient queries, investigation responsibility call and recall and unnecessary baseline investigations.
4. Assist in developing a baseline questionnaire to primary and secondary care colleagues which can be repeated once changes have taken effect

Governance and Supervision

- Raising with assigned consultant Dr Imogen Norton any GP concerns forms / emails that have been received
- Protected time for at least fortnightly 30-minute session with lead consultant to discuss specific cases and ongoing action plan
- Monthly Teams call with fellow interface GPs and lead GP Dr Cathy Appleton

Role may be extended if mutually agreed to include:

- Development or review of any referral guidelines and pathways
- Improving education of fellow GPs by facilitating education by consultants to fellow GPs or delivering that education themselves
- Facilitating Secondary Care visits to experience general practice environment
- Develop a joint project involving primary and secondary care colleagues working to improve patient care

About you

Behaviours and Values

- Highly motivated, proactive and with strong interpersonal skills and able to work autonomously
- Openness when approaching challenges and receptive to others' ideas
- Ability to develop trusted professional relationships
- Present experience in General Practice but no specialist knowledge or qualifications required
- Qualified GP on the UK Medical Performer's List Working in primary care within Northamptonshire
- Applications accepted from Partners or Sessional GPs working regularly in a practice where the practice agrees to release them for a session a week on a Tuesday morning.
- No specialist knowledge in Paediatrics required.

Skills and Abilities

- Good interpersonal skills with an understanding of NHS processes and culture, understanding of personalities and getting the best out of people
- Ability to influence and change practice in response to agenda, development reviews, feedback

- Ability to manage conflict, persuade, motivate and facilitate others
- Exercises a wide spectrum of excellent communication skills, which includes electronic communication systems, verbal and non-verbal and in writing

To Apply

You're also welcome to contact Dr Cathy Appleton via cathrynappleton@nhs.net if you have any further questions.

If you wish to apply for the role, please send us your CV with a brief covering letter that sets out why you think you'd be suitable for this role