

# AP Ambassador

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| Name:   | Heather Robinson  |
| Job Title:                                      | Advanced Practitioner (mammography) & former course lead of Assistant practitioner foundation degree at UCLan. Currently also an Assessor of Assistant Practitioners for the Society of Radiographers   |
| Profession:                                     | Radiographer  |
| Service area                                    | Breast Screening  |
| Location  | Lancaster   |
| Email:  | heather.robinson13@nhs.net  |
| AP Job description Available on request – Y/N   | Yes   |
| AP scope of practice available on request – Y/N | Yes   |
| Role and Impact of AP within service area:      | <p>The employment of assistant practitioners assists in delivering timely care to patients/clients and releases registered practitioners to utilise higher level clinical skills more appropriate to the practitioner role and for the greater benefit of patients.</p> <p>Assistant practitioners in mammography undertake specific tasks related to professional services such as specific images on selected patients and clients, under the supervision of a radiographer, in accordance with agreed protocols and for which they have been specifically trained.</p> |

## Good Practice:

### Suggestions /Tips when developing the AP role

Assistant practitioners are now widely employed in many radiology departments, in the breast units facilitated by University hospitals of Morecambe Bay NHS Trust there are six assistant practitioners performing standard mammographic imaging; some for screening clients, some for both screening and symptomatic patients. A training plan is currently being developed that will allow all six to perform both screening and symptomatic mammography.

Have a robust clinical training plan in place and ensure that Radiographers understand the differences between their role as practitioners and the AP role as operators under IR(Me)R.

Ensure reliable committed mentors are in place to support the work based learning.