

Assistant Practitioner Role

Rapid Assessment Unit

The Assistant Practitioner (AP) role refers to a band 4 or equivalent practitioner working within a health and social care setting who undertakes more advanced and complex skills and procedures beyond that of a traditional support worker.

The role can be developed to meet the needs of the service by working within agreed protocols to enable the AP to perform tasks previously only within the remit of registered practitioners.

The AP role is clearly identified within Agenda for Change and Skills for Health Career Framework which supports the development of building capacity and capability within the area.

The AP works alongside Advanced Practitioner as part of the Rapid Assessment Unit (RAU). The AP is the first point of contact for every patient admitted. The AP will perform the initial assessment of the patients including: baseline assessments, venous sampling, ECG, cannulation, catheterisation.

The AP may be involved in therapeutic interventions, contribution to risk assessments, care plans, liaison with other services. The AP will alert RAU colleagues to any deviations or emergencies relating to patient care. The AP will transfer patients to other wards/departments, prepare for examination and manage follow up appointments. The AP will liaise with colleagues and others outside the organisation to facilitate discharge planning.