

Assistant Practitioner Role

Social Services

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.

Reablement:

The AP conducts an initial visit assessment (IVA) to gain a picture of the service user's current level of ability. The AP will discuss the service user's own aims for recovery and draw up a plan. A package of personal care is then put in place. The AP then reviews progress as necessary. Reablement can last from a few days to 6 weeks. The AP provides personal care, support with meal preparation and various forms of therapy with the aim to reduce the package of care as and when appropriate.

The AP also organises any aids or adaptations that will assist the client to be independent. The AP will refer the client to third sector organisations for support e.g. a befriending service, shopping help or financial assistance.

Intermediate Care

The APs also provide intermediate care for clients following a discharge from hospital. Providing therapy and care as part of a multidisciplinary team. The AP will follow a holistic care plan devised by the intermediate care clinical team.