

Assistant Practitioner Role

Theatre Recovery

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 compliments the work of the recovery team working with surgeons, anaesthetists and registered practitioners. The AP assists in patient care after surgery by supporting the multidisciplinary team in the care of the patient. The AP will provide skilled assistance to the registered practitioner (RN) in the recovery area of theatre.

Other duties include:

- Cannulation and venepuncture
- Airway management and removal
- Observations
- Observe patients pain and refer to RN for pain relief
- Observe nausea and refer to RN for antiemetic
- Handover to ward staff for return to the ward
- Wound observation
- Assist with Fluid maintenance