

National Apprenticeship Week 2021

Nursing Apprenticeship Pathway



1. What is your name?

Sarah Brownlie

2. Where do you work?

Nutrition Specialist Nurse within the Nutrition and Dietetics department at Yeovil District Hospital.

3. Which apprenticeship are you doing and what does the study involve?

I am currently studying the Advanced Clinical Practice (ACP) apprenticeship at University of the West of England.

I have never completed an Apprenticeship before, but I do have a Degree in Adult Nursing.

Advance Clinical Practice provides you with an individualised pathway to obtain your Masters. There is a wide variety of modules to choose from and so I have picked ones which will be relevant to me and my job role. I also have a mentor within the clinical setting to learn from and discuss studies. The apprenticeship is a great link between the hospital and further education.

The ACP has a foundation of 4 pillars: Clinical Practice, Leadership & Management, Education and Research, by the end of this course I will be able to evidence that I have successfully achieved a high standard of learning & clinical practice within these areas.

4. What does your job role involve?

As a Nutrition Specialist Nurse my role is mainly around supporting Artificial Nutrition. This involves working closely with the Dietetics Team and Gastroenterologist consultants to give excellent care to anyone receiving Artificial Nutrition. I am also a link to the community Nutricia Nurses helping keep patients at home where possible.

I insert a variety of Enteral Feeding devices including Nasogastric Tube and Balloon Gastrostomy tubes. I also insert PICC lines for Parental Nutrition (PN). I am responsible for the training in using these devices to all staff but often families, carers and patients themselves too. I help facilitate daily care of all artificially fed patients this may involve prescriptions of PN, assessing blood results, assessment of stoma sites & troubleshooting problems with staff members.

5. Why did you want to do an apprenticeship?

I always like to challenge myself to be the best I can be. The apprenticeship allows me the opportunity to develop clinically and academically in relation to my role, without a financial burden and with time to study.

6. What do you want to do once you qualify?

I would like to one day become a Nutrition Nurse Consultant and having completed the ACP apprenticeship it will put me a step forward to completing this. As the ACP pathway is relatively new, I hope following qualification the ACP role will be further recognised and understood.

