

Recruitment Briefing Sheet Physician Associate Pilot ProgrammeBackground

The role of **Physician Associate** is an innovative new health care professional who while not a doctor works to the medical model with the attitudes, skills and knowledge base to deliver holistic care under defined levels of supervision. The North West are piloting a 2 year training programme for Physician Associates across the region in response primarily to the shortage of doctors in a number of specialities e.g. emergency medicine, elderly care/rehabilitation and general practice.

Once qualified working as part of a multidisciplinary team it is seen that **Physicians Associates** will support the patient's journey.

The Programme

The two year Postgraduate Diploma in **Physician Associate** Studies is open to candidates with an existing first degree, minimum 2:2, or equivalent in a related discipline.

Suitable 1<sup>st</sup> degrees include (but are not limited to) the life sciences (biomedical science, biochemistry, physiology and healthcare science) or allied health professions (pharmacy, audiology, nursing or physiotherapy).

A post graduate qualification (at merit or distinction) may be considered for admission in cases where the applicant's first degree is lower than 2<sup>nd</sup> class award.

Successful applicants will need to meet the academic qualifications above plus be successful at interview; meeting the requirements of both the universities and the sector - including the ability to demonstrate the right values and behaviours.

University's in the area who are delivering the pilot programme are

- Manchester School of Medicine
- University of Liverpool School of Medicine
- UCLAN

**The programme will start at all of the above on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016**

Recruitment will be centralised through NHS Jobs - [www.jobs.nhs.uk](http://www.jobs.nhs.uk) with the opportunity going live on the **26<sup>th</sup> October 2015** and closing at midnight **8<sup>th</sup> November 2015**. *NB - HENW reserve the right to close the opportunity early if sufficient numbers have been reached and applications will only be accepted through NHS Jobs*

Interviews, for all 3 programmes/universities, will take place at

**Haydock Racecourse,**

**Newton-le-Willows,**

**Merseyside**

**WA12 0HQ**

And will be held on

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2015,  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015 and,  
Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015

In the pilot phase the student **Physician Associates** will be employed, 2 year fixed term contract, by St Helens and Knowsley NHS Foundation Trust as one of the regions Lead Employers.

Successful applicants will receive an annual salary of

- circa £14,500 in the 1<sup>st</sup> year and
- circa £15,500 in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year
- University fees will be met for both years.
- Uniforms will be provided.
- The offer of an employment contract and a place on the programme will be subject to Pre-employment and Occupation Health checks.

In order to meet the requirements of the national **Physician Associate** framework all students will need to rotate through placements in acute, primary and specialist care and potential applicants need to be aware **that travel across the region will be necessary**.

Posts across the North West, in both acute and primary care, will come on line at the end of year 2 of the programme, January 2018, and as a qualified **Physician Associate** applicants, having passed the national exam and having met all the required competences, will be made aware of and be eligible to apply for these posts.

**More information can be found on**

Website [www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/physician\\_associate](http://www.nwpgmd.nhs.uk/physician_associate)

**Further enquiries should be directed to**

E mail [physician.associates@nw.hee.nhs.uk](mailto:physician.associates@nw.hee.nhs.uk)

Or Rebecca Marland **Physician Associate** Project Support on 0161 625 7637

Or Judith McGregor **Physician Associate** Programme Lead on 0161 625 7638

Thank you

Judith