

Working in Partnership Programme

General Practice Nursing Project

Online toolkit for general practice nursing

- Best practice toolkit for general practice nursing
- Developed by Working in Partnership Programme with Government funding
- Covers career development, employment and governance issues.

As the role of general practice nurses continues to evolve and expand, the Working in Partnership Programme (WiPP) has produced a comprehensive online toolkit to provide guidance about best practice.

The growth in general practice nursing (GPN) has revolutionised the way services are delivered in primary care. Innovation has flourished and new roles have developed to meet the needs of the public and practices.

There are nurse partners, nurse consultants, specialist nurses and first contact nurses, and entrants are now trained and developed direct from qualification.

These developments have been achieved in a relatively short time and through much individual commitment. Recognising this when negotiating the new general medical services (GMS) contract, the Department of Health set aside £1 million to support GPN.

The WiPP GPN project is taking this initiative forward. Steered by a group of practice nurses and representatives from professional bodies, the project's aim is to promote new ways of working and to ensure best use is made of nurses' skills.

Part of this work involves the production of the new web-based toolkit, which covers career development, governance and employment issues as well as tips on designing a service. It is a useful tool not only for nurses but also for GPs, practice managers and PCTs.

Dr John Chisholm, Chair of the BMA's GPs Committee and member of the project steering group, described it as "an immensely valuable resource that should help the development of current and future nurses and the delivery of high quality, responsive care to patients".

Access this and other projects within WiPP online www.wipp.nhs.uk

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