

Physician Associates

Description of role/core responsibilities
Indicative Agenda for Change Band 7

A physician associate is a trained healthcare professional who works directly under the supervision of a doctor as part of the medical team. They are usually generalists with broad medical knowledge, but can develop expertise/specialisms in a particular field. The responsibilities of the role include direct patient contact through assessment, examination, investigation, diagnosis and treatment. Physician Associates will have a key role in supporting delivery of the new Network Contract DES Service specifications.

The following sets out the key role responsibilities for a physicians' associate:

- a. They provide first point of contact for patients presenting with undifferentiated, undiagnosed problems
- b. Taking comprehensive patient histories and providing physical examinations, they will establish a working diagnosis and management plan (in partnership with the patient).
- c. They will deliver integrated patient centred-care through appropriate working with the wider primary care and social care networks.
- d. They will undertake home visits and clinical audits.