



Funding Update: Advanced Practice Apprenticeships



Earlier this year, the government removed Level 7 (L7) apprenticeships from the Apprenticeship Levy - now known as the Growth and Skills Levy.

Following extensive lobbying, a new mitigation fund has been introduced to support the L7 Advanced Practice Apprenticeship for the next three years.

Employers will receive £4,000 per year (totalling £12,000) over the three-year apprenticeship to help cover the cost of training with the Higher Education Institution (HEI) provider, in addition to the regional NHSE support funding of £8,600 per year up to 3 years. Application details are still being finalised, but we'll share more information as soon as it becomes available.

If your practice is considering upskilling staff to Advanced Practice level, please contact the [Training Hub](#) or reach out directly to [Kevin Foreman](#) (TH Lead for Advanced Practice) to express your interest.

Calling Male GPs – Support Men's Health at The Harbour Project!

The Harbour Project, a Swindon-based charity supporting people seeking asylum and refugees, is running a series of health-focused activities throughout October. These events aim to improve understanding of the NHS and raise awareness of cancer symptoms and screening.

We're looking for male GPs to join us for informal conversations (not consultations) around men's health and male-specific cancer symptoms. Your presence could make a real difference in helping male visitors feel comfortable discussing sensitive health topics.

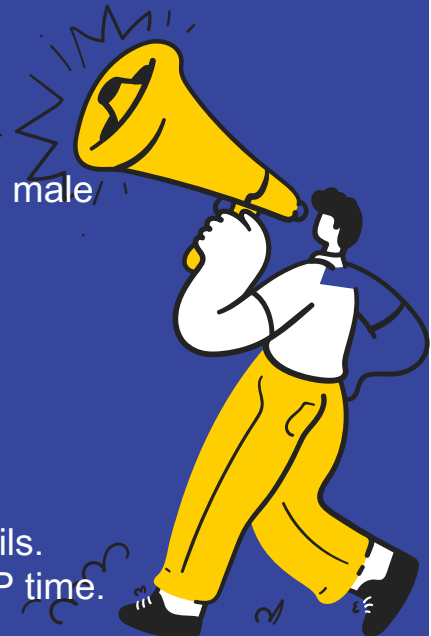
Men's Health Drop-In Sessions

Dates: Tuesday 14th & Thursday 16th October | 10am–2pm

Location: The Harbour Project Café, Swindon

Interested?

Please contact Dr Ros Petrie at ros.petrie@nhs.net for more details. A small remuneration is available, or NQGs may use their NQGP time.



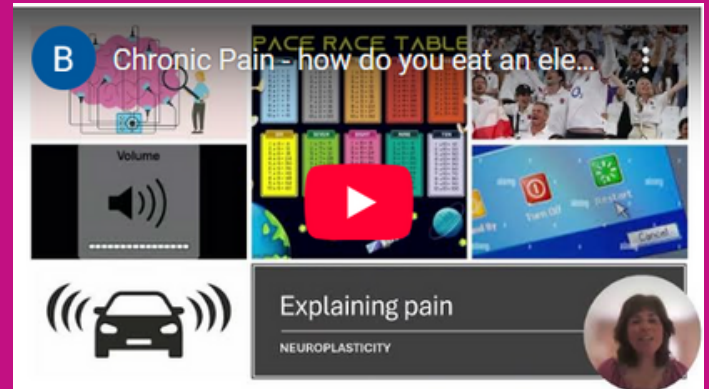
What's included in this issue: (*and more...!*)

- ✓ Chronic Pain - how do you eat an elephant? - [page 2](#)
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Chronic Pain - how do you eat an elephant?

Welcome to this recording by Rachel Dolman, Senior GP Clinical Pharmacist in BSW.

In this session, Rachel shares some of the key approaches she uses in chronic pain consultations, along with a wide range of practical and supportive resources.



The following reflections are Rachel's own words, offering insight into her personal approach:

“Working with people experiencing chronic pain is a true privilege - patients often allow us into their world, sharing their deepest fears and concerns. My hope is that this resource encourages other clinicians to focus on the areas that truly support behaviour change.

And remember - this work takes time. Progress comes step by step... one bite at a time.”

To access the presentation slides containing all resource links, please click [here](#).

Thinking About the Advanced Practice Digital Badge?

If you're a Senior Practice Nurse or Nurse Manager, the ePortfolio (supported) Route remains a credible and fully funded option to gain your Advanced Practice Digital Badge.

- ◆ The NMC is reviewing future regulation for advanced practice, but changes aren't expected until 2028.
- ◆ No transitional arrangements are in place yet - so don't wait!
- ◆ Demand is high and places are limited - submit your Expression of Interest ASAP.
- ◆ Already on the Route? Stay on track - extensions won't be granted due to NMC updates.
- ◆ If you leave the Route, you'll need to reapply and rejoin the waiting list.

👉 Learn more and apply: [ePortfolio \(supported\) Route - Advanced Practice](#)



Lunch & Learn: Diagnosing Lower GI Conditions in Primary Care

 17 Monday 6 October 2025 |  12:00–2:00 PM |  Live Online

Funded for Members & Non-Members | Limited Spaces – [Book Now](#)

Join Equip’s half-day session in partnership with Crohn’s & Colitis UK, Bowel Cancer UK, Guts UK, and Coeliac UK. Learn to identify key symptoms, use diagnostic tools like qFIT and Faecal Calprotectin, and improve outcomes for patients with bowel conditions.

Open to: GPs, ANPs, Nurses, Clinical Pharmacists, ACPs, GP Assistants, HCAs, All Registered Clinical Staff

 [Login to book your place](#)

Event Partners

CROHN'S & COLITIS UK



coeliacuk



Motivational Interviewing Taster Session (Delivered by Etal Training - Funded)

YOU'VE GOT THIS

“Why and when do we need to use Motivational Interviewing”

Tuesday 14 October – 18:00-19:30

For further details click [here](#).

To book email: bswicb.traininghub@nhs.net

Mental Health First Aid – Funded Online Training

Dates: 14th, 15th, 20th & 21st October 2025 (all four half-day sessions must be completed to achieve certification).

Times: All sessions 09:00-13:30.

Format: Live online sessions via MHFA England Learning Hub.

Gain practical skills to support mental wellbeing, spot signs of mental health issues, and guide others to appropriate help. Includes self-learning activities and a structured action plan. This course receives excellent feedback!

Limited places (16 per course) – apply early to secure your spot.

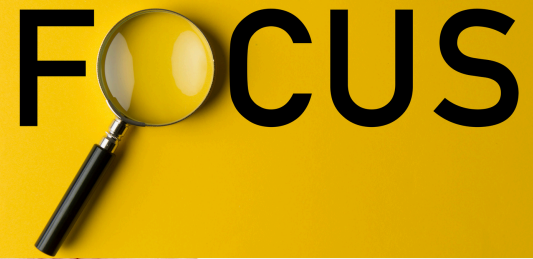
To apply: Email bswicb.traininghub@nhs.net



This Month's Wellbeing Feature: September Wellbeing Tips

Week 37 – A Focus on Focus

Multitasking drains productivity and increases stress. Try scheduling dedicated “focus time” each day - silence notifications, block distractions, and see how much more you get done.



Week 38 – The 80/20 Rule

Focus on the 20% of wellbeing habits that give you 80% of the benefit. Identify what works best for you and make it non-negotiable - small changes, big ripple effects.



Week 39 – Time Management

You get 1,440 minutes every day - use them wisely. Be intentional with your time, just like you would with money. Say yes to what matters, and no to what doesn't.



Week 40 – Little & Often

Wellbeing is built step by step. Small, consistent actions compound over time. Start now - smart choices made regularly lead to lasting change.



Exciting Opportunity: Become a GPwER in Gastroenterology!

Are you a GP with a passion for expanding your clinical horizons?

The Gastroenterology Department at Salisbury District Hospital is thrilled to announce a funded opportunity for a General Practitioner with an Extended Role (GPwER) in Gastroenterology.

This unique role offers:

- ⌚ One session per week commitment
- 📅 Two-year national training programme
- 🚫 No prior gastroenterology experience required!

Interested? For more information or to express your interest, please contact: Dr Hazel Woodland (Consultant Gastroenterologist)

✉ hazel.woodland@nhs.net



Training Hub Team



Liz Alden
Clinical Lead
(Portfolio with GP Education)



Milly Ballentyne
Nurse Fellowship
2025 - 2026



Rachel Cooke
Projects and
Governance Lead



Hannah Cornish
GP Fellow (Education)



Helen Edwards
Admin Lead



Tina Fear
Nursing Lead



Kevin Foreman
Lead for Apprenticeships,
AHPs + Advanced Practice



Amy Gwyther
GP Training Hub Fellow
2025 - 2026



Veronica Kuperman
Personalised Care Lead



Jim Petter
Paramedic Lead,
GPIP Facilitator &
Prescribing Lead



Jo Sinclair
GP NQF & GP
Retention Lead



Jacqui Simmonds
Legacy Nurse &
GPN Support



Roger Stead
Senior Project
Manager (BEMS)



Oliver Thomas
GP Inequalities Fellow
2025 - 2026



Will Wallage
Clinical Lead
(Portfolio with GP Quality)



Di Walsh
Training Hub
Programme Lead &
Wellbeing Lead



Website: www.bswtraininghub.nhs.uk



Email: bswicb.traininghub@nhs.net



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