

NHSE Fellowship Report

Emma Humfrey, Advanced Paramedic, Isle of Wight Primary Care Training Hub (Quality and Roadmap Supervision) Fellowship

I applied for this fellowship to develop my leadership skills, learn from others, and increase education within my area. After completing my Advanced Clinical Practice Masters, I was keen to see how I could help those in a similar position or transitioning into Primary Care.

This opportunity has given me the space to research, implement and get involved with projects I did not realise were available to me, and in turn open further doors of opportunity and pathways for the future.

Project 1: AHP Leadership Course

When discussing with my mentor what projects I could possibly do, it was clear leadership was a pillar of advanced practice not routinely focused on compared to pillars such as clinical. I was excited about this project from the beginning, to see where it would go and how it could be implemented.

The first step was to research the need. There are many great leadership courses available, however many are focused on the nursing profession and there are limited courses available for Allied Health Professionals. Therefore, my mentor and I worked on two separate questionnaires that were distributed to practices as well as Allied Health Professionals. These questionnaires included queries regarding the appetite and need for leadership within the AHP roles.

Unfortunately, we only received one reply from one practice which was disappointing. However, we received more replies from AHP's themselves, most coming from either paramedics or physiotherapists. This showed leadership was important to them and something either discussed or highlighted in appraisals and they would consider a further course if supported by practice.

At this moment in time, the research and background work for this course has been done, however unfortunately due to constraints within NHS England the course is unable to run at this time. It would be something I would be interested in running in the future if funding becomes available.

Project 2: Paramedic Education in Primary Care

One member of my fellowship group was working on a pilot project implementing monthly education sessions for paramedics within primary care. I have been lucky enough to help with this project alongside my own which has been informative and has allowed me to gain insight into the education side of paramedics in practice. These sessions are held on Microsoft Teams, with a guest speaker each month alongside breakout groups with case studies and discussions around different topics such as cancer, ENT, and heart failure. These have been interesting for me and the first facilitation I had done therefore it allowed me to see into the world of education from a different side. Unfortunately, due to constraints within NHS England this project is also unable to run any further at present. However, I would again be interested in being involved in this in the future if funding becomes available.

Throughout this process I have been fortunate enough to be involved in projects I have an interest in and improve my own teaching, research, and education skills. Even though they have not been able to continue at the moment I am hopeful for the future, and I am grateful for the opportunity.