Registered nursing associate blended learning programme launched

This blended learning programme has been developed by experienced primary care nurses and it is specifically designed for registered nursing associates (RNAs) new to working within the general practice setting.

The programme is supported by a competency document which is completed in practice, providing evidence of competence for both employers and RNAs.

The 11 modules of the programme provide the building blocks of an educational pathway to support a career in general practice nursing. The course delivery includes three online taught days across the eight-month programme with tutors available for support and guidance. Participants can complete the online modules flexibly around other commitments, while the taught days are run live on specific dates.

The course has been academically accredited by Middlesex University at 30 credits level 6. These credits allow students to have direct progression to Middlesex University Grad Cert of BSc Professional Practice.

In 2017 NHS England and HEE announced the creation of the RNA role designed to assist in addressing the changing health and care needs of the population, the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) became the regulator of the role in July 2018.

The role is described as a bridge between a healthcare assistant/healthcare support worker and a registered nurse; whilst this is true it is important to remember that it is a stand-alone role which can also provide a route to becoming a registered nurse.

RNAs are trained to work with people of all ages and across all four fields of nursing: adult, child, mental health and learning disability making them a skilled and valuable member of the clinical team in general practice.

For further information and to register your interest please contact Kayleigh Taylor on kayleigh.taylor@lmc.org.uk. More details of the training programme can be found on our dedicated blended learning site.