



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Addysg a Gwella Iechyd  
Cymru (AaGIC)  
Health Education and  
Improvement Wales (HEIW)

# Education and Training in Primary and Community Care

*Establishing a structure and framework for  
multi-disciplinary and interprofessional learning in Wales*

## Primary Care Academy, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

### The vision

Physician Associates in Primary Care in North Wales.

### The training focus

This is a programme design specifically for newly qualified physician associates in primary care.

### The professional focus

Physician associates

### Multidisciplinary and interprofessional aspect

This programme has been specifically developed to introduce the role of the physician associate in primary care with the aim of providing a funded structured programme that the physician associate and the practice will benefit from. The model for Primary Care 2018 calls for a multi-disciplinary team in primary care which provides seamless working on a 24/7 basis with integrated care for people with multiple care needs. The need to bring new professionals to primary care is evident. The physician associate programmes include an element of external education to the placement which is provided by the Clinical and Education Lead for the programme. The sessions are specifically for the physician associates (PAs) but does extend to all the PAs in the Health Board. The PAs are placed within practices that MDT focused which enables the exposure of our PAs to the MDT in primary care. The programme also ensures that there is dedicated time for the PA to explore other specialities/services through locally arranged placements to better understand the local landscape.

### The key takeaway from this development

The Physician Associate in Primary Care internship has supported the newly qualified PAs to consolidate their learning in a supervised and supported environment preparing them for a career in primary care, it has also enabled primary care colleagues to gain a better understanding of the PA role and skills that the PA can bring to primary care.

### Name and role

Gemma Nosworthy, Primary and Community Care Academy Manager

### Organisation

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board