

Ten Questions about being an advanced practice physiotherapist

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1. Please describe briefly your job role and responsibilities

- Orthopaedic Knee assessment, imaging and surgical listing
- Triage of orthopaedic knee referrals
- Specialist physio caseload of rehab patients.
Research role
- Service planning, redevelopment and audit of the orthopaedic soft tissue knee service

2. Please describe briefly your career pathway so far

- Junior Physio July 2001 – March 2004: Elderly Medicine, MSK Outpatients, Stroke Rehab
- Senior II Physio March 2004 – July 2006: MSK Outpatients, Trauma Ortho, Elective Ortho, Ortho Outpatients.
- Senior I / Band 6 Physio July 2006 – August 2014: MSk Outpatients
- ESP/APP Knee Clinic Orthopaedic: August 2014 - present

3. Have you completed any postgraduate education courses relevant to your role?

- PgDip Orthopaedic Medicine
- Relevant courses in Imaging and Interpretation, Blood Result Analysis
- Injection therapy
- Knee specific rehab courses of interest to my preferred clinical specialty

4. What have been the challenges in achieving advanced level practice?

Practical recognition of our roles and expertise.

5. What advice would you give to a new graduate keen to develop as an advanced practice level physiotherapist?

Identify your learning needs early. There are many facets of advanced practice and they may not all be of appeal.

6. What personal qualities/characteristics are important to have for your role as an advanced practice physiotherapist?

- Confidence
- Diplomacy
- Drive and enthusiasm
- Self-starter
- Professionalism
- Realistic

7. How to do measure your effectiveness as an advanced practice level physio?

- Peer review
- Appraisal with orthopaedic service manager

8. Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

Same role. Maybe more research based.

9. What type of CPD activities do you do at this level?

- Peer review
- Clinical with consultant
- Audit and research
- Case reflections
- Service developments
- Ad hoc learning
- Occasional formal course

10. What would be your 3 top tips to an experienced Physiotherapist keen to develop as an advanced practice physio?

- Identify firmly what your interest and goal is.
- Gain practical experience in your interest as I feel this is vital in such roles rather than a list of courses.
- Push boundaries to get what you want.