



## Case Study for Advanced Practice Role

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### What is your role as an Advanced Practitioner?

My role involves me reviewing complex neuro-ophthalmology patients, ordering MRI and diagnostics and liaising within neurology specialities. Within this clinical my role is more medical than therapeutic but is a holistic role and managing outside influences affecting individuals, such as weight management or headaches.

### What have been the key benefits to patient care of your Advanced Practitioner/Advanced Clinical Practitioner role?

Patients who are under regular neurological assessment see the same person and continuity for these patients is key as well as positive support for these patients. This has also had a positive impact on waits with me being able to take the less medically complex news but also manage independently the follow ups.

**Orthoptics from graduate level have a high standard of neurological training and enhanced at Masters level meant regular clinician to refer patients to within speciality to support and manage caseload.**



### Any background as to why your organisation/ department developed the role of an Advanced Practitioner/Advanced Clinical Practitioner.

Within ophthalmology the need for regular support within neuro-ophthalmology as main support to consultant was rotating junior doctor who often had not had any neuro background. Orthoptics from graduate level have a high standard of neurological training and enhanced at Masters level meant regular clinician to refer patients to within speciality to support and manage caseload.

### Describe your work as an Advanced Practitioner/Advanced Clinical Practitioner – include how you include the 4 pillars of advanced practice?

#### Clinical –

This role required enhanced level of clinical skills this has included undertaking Masters level programmes in neurology and stroke and rehabilitation clinical skills.

#### Leadership –

I am the recognised lead within the trust and the representation within the regional neuro multi-disciplinary team, as well as the clinical lead for orthoptic services as a whole.

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#### Education –

I undertook Masters level degree (MSc) and I am currently looking at PhD fellowship in area of Parkinson's. I lecture at both undergraduate and post graduate level in the area of my speciality.

#### Research –

I have undertaken my own research in area of falls prevention and the vision element as part of own MSc. I have also been the Principal Investigator for three studies with neurological links and I am preparing own research proposal for a PhD for vision assessment in Parkinson's.

#### Which other health professions or other key groups/bodies you work with as part of your Advanced Practitioner role?

I sit as my Trust's rep on the Cheshire and Mersey AHP Faculty as well as being my Trusts rep in falls for the region in vision. I also co-chair the BIOS neuro clinical advisory group in neuro-ophthalmology. Alongside this I link into Cheshire and Mersey Rehab groups and Walton IiH MDT.

I work with a variety of other health professionals, including; Occupational Therapists, physiotherapists, Geriatricians, Stroke Consults, Neurologists; Neuro-Rehab Consultants and Neuropsychology. I'm also linked to weight management services.

#### What future challenges/opportunities and/or innovations do you see as an Advanced Clinical Practitioner?

I see further development of role into other neurological conditions and their management. I also think there will be a development of screening tools within Parkinson's.

