

Practice Assessor (PA) Frequently Asked Questions

Who can be a Practice Assessor?

Currently it is any registered nurse, midwife, or nursing associate who has completed a recognised preparation programme, this can be ENB997, SLiP, MIP, PAPP or an equivalent.

Existing mentors will automatically become both a practice supervisor (PS) and practice assessor (PA), however they are not able to act as both a PA and PS to the same student.

Currently it is a requirement for practice assessors to complete an annual PA update which can be booked through ESR.

LTHT are currently running an inhouse Practice Assessor Preparation Programme (PAPP). Please contact the Practice Learning Facilitator Team for more information.

What are the latest NMC Standards for Education and Training?

The latest standards for education and training comprises of three elements; part 1: The standards framework for nursing and midwifery education, Part 2: standards for student supervision and assessment (SSSA), Part 3: standards for pre-registration nursing, midwifery and nursing associate programmes.

What Documentation and Assessment needs to be undertaken by the Practice Assessor?

Can complete

- Can conduct/ confirm initial interview per placement (**can be undertaken by the PS, however must be discussed with the PA**)
- Mid-point and final interview
- Assessment and confirmation of proficiencies
- Final professional values
- Episode (s) of care – 2 assessments per year – formal process whereby PA observes student and ensures standards of proficiency are met
- Medicines Management
- Completes OAR at the end of each placement & progression point
- Students reflective accounts
- Provide constructive feedback to the student
- Raise concerns about the students performance and behaviour
- Verify overall practice hours for the placement

Where can I access support?

- E-Learning via the training interface
- Access to a range of suitable resources on MYEPLG webpage/NMC.org
- For Pebblepad Access/issues- please contact ePAD (LBU), Practice placements (UOL)
- Practice Placement Unit (PPU) webpage
- PARE webpage
- SSSA Padlet:
<https://padlet.com/leedsthtrcorporatenursingeducation/SSSA>

• There is available support to both PA's and PS's: PLF team, clinical education team, education lead for the ward/department, link lecturer, academic assessor and person academic tutor

What is my role in supporting and assessing the learner(s)?

As a practice assessor (PA) you are responsible for the assessment and confirmation of the learners conduct, achievement of proficiencies and programme outcomes for practice learning. Assessment decisions will be informed by feedback sought and received from practice supervisors.

Practice assessors must be familiar with the standards in student supervision and assessment (SSSA), NMC Standards framework for nursing and midwifery education and Health Education England (HEE) Quality Framework 2019-2020.

All PA's are required to complete the mandatory Practice Assessor annual update and maintain current knowledge and expertise relevant for the proficiencies and programme outcomes they are assessing.

There is no longer a specified amount of contact time, hence it is the PAs discretion how much contact they would like with the learner. Remember, the student is spending time with other members of the team, so the majority of feedback you require for assessment should come from them.

What is Practice Assessment Record and Evaluation (PARE)?

PARE is an online practice assessment record and evaluation tool used by clinical educators/learner/HEIs and trust organisations. PARE provides an up to date professional practice capacity, multi-professional/cross organisational practice assessor, practice supervisor and practice educator register, placement profiles, educational audit, learner evaluation, placement action plans and training videos.

Once your profile is created ensure you activate your account and make a self-declaration to record the training you have undertaken in order to support learners.

<https://padlet.com/leedsthtrcorporatenursingeducation/PARElaunch>

What is my responsibility when a learner(s) performance causes concern?

Concerns should be addressed promptly with the learner and records of any relevant meetings/conversations should be documented accurately and promptly. To allow the learner time to improve, an action plan should be initiated.

You should liaise with the learner's academic assessor and the trust's education team for support.

**For more information please contact your education team:
Email: leedsth-tr.practicelarningfacilitator@nhs.net**