

Career Profile

General Practice Nurse

Is General Nursing The Right Career For Me?

To become a general practice nurse you will need to be a registered adult, children's, learning disability or mental health nurse.

As the nurse responsible for the care delivered in the practice, general practice nurses need to demonstrate critical thinking, decision making and be able to manage patients. The overall scope of their role will depend on the needs of the employer and the training and education required will reflect this.

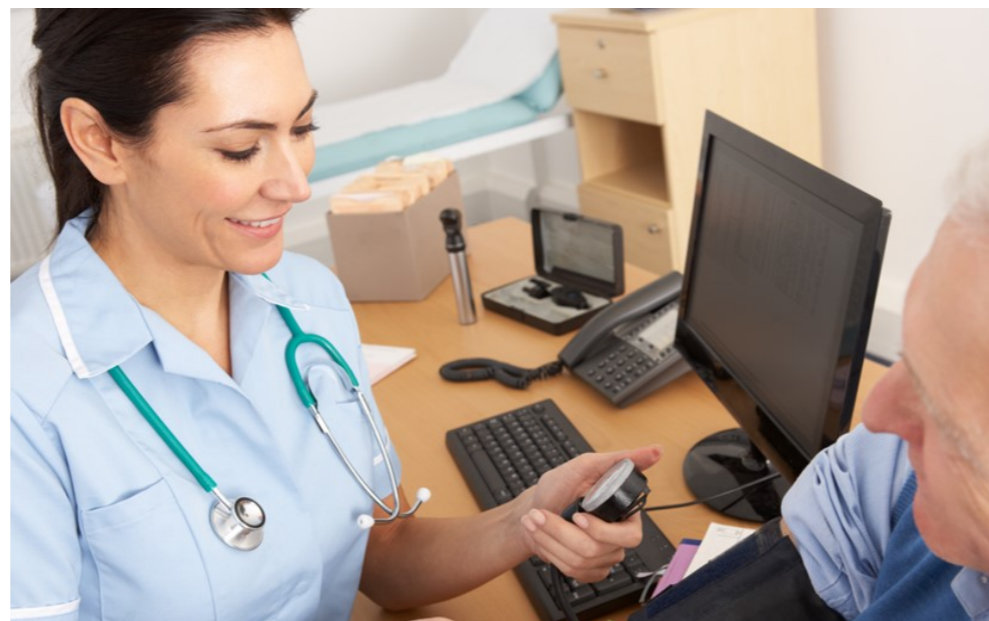
What Do General Practice Nurses Do?

The role is quite diverse:

- ♦ A junior practice nurse (band 5) may undertake treatment room duties (wound care, venepuncture, ear irrigation, blood pressure monitoring) and will gain skills in child and travel immunisations and cervical cytology.
- ♦ A band 6 nurse will incorporate all the previous skills but will undertake shared care clinics with the support of the GP; i.e. chronic disease management such as diabetes, respiratory care and epilepsy. Some nurses may then enhance their skill set by undertaking diploma modules in chronic disease management or minor illness.
- ♦ A band 7 nurse will undertake nurse-led clinics and will be expected to be at or working towards a BSc qualification. These may include chronic disease management, INR monitoring, minor illness and have the added qualification of independent prescribing.
- ♦ A band 8 nurse working within general practice will have to undertake the Advanced Nurse Practitioner MSc qualification and will work as an autonomous practitioner.

Skills Required:

- ♦ Listening and communication
- ♦ Good judgement
- ♦ Problem solving
- ♦ Good at offering advice



Useful Links

- ♦ [Nursing : Study With Us , Aberystwyth University](#)
- ♦ [Bangor University](#)
- ♦ [Cardiff University](#)
- ♦ [Nursing and Midwifery Council \(NMC\)](#)
- ♦ [Royal College of Nursing \(RCN\)](#)
- ♦ [Swansea University](#)
- ♦ [University of South Wales](#)
- ♦ [Wrexham Glyndŵr University](#)