

Personal characteristics and skills required (general practice nursing)

This page has information on the personal characteristics and skills needed for general practice nursing.

You'll be responsible for people with a range of needs so being highly organised, flexible and able to prioritise effectively will be vital. You'll also be highly observant, able to assess patients and take responsibility for determining the best course of action.



You'll need to demonstrate critical thinking and decision making, and be able to manage patients.

On a daily basis you'll need to use a broad range of skills, including

- listening and communication
- problem solving
- good judgement
- offering advice

As you'll be the nurse responsible for the care delivered in the practice, you'll need to demonstrate critical thinking and decision making, and be able to manage patients. The overall scope of your role will depend on the needs of the employer and the training and education needed will reflect this. For example, an employer may need a senior practice nurse with independent prescribing rights to support areas such as contraception and long term conditions such as asthma and diabetes.

Values and behaviours

If you're applying for a role either directly in the NHS or in an organisation that provides NHS services, you'll be asked to show how you think the NHS values apply in your everyday work. The same will be true if you are applying for a university course funded by the NHS.

Find out more about the NHS values ^[1].

Want to learn more?

- Health Education England's Education and Career Framework for general practice and district nursing ^[2] offers more detailed information on the core skills and education needed for a career in general practice nursing.

Partner logos

Royal College of Nursing

Image not found ^[3]

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Links

[1] <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/working-health/working-nhs/nhs-constitution>

[2] <https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/developing-our-workforce/nursing/transforming-nursing-community-primary-care>

[3] <https://www.rcn.org.uk/>