

## Career Journey as a General Practice Nurse

*We caught up with a General Practice Nurse from Midlands Medical Partnership (MMP). Here's what she had to say about her career journey.*

### About me

My nursing career started almost 20 years ago as I joined University of Central England in 2004 (now Birmingham City University) as a very shy, very young 18 year old, straight after A-levels and college.

My main aim was actually to train as a midwife, however my grades depicted otherwise and I was thrown into confusion as to what to do next. The careers advisor recommended Nursing as a leading career for me, as I could then easily top up my degree after this with midwifery training.

***I completed my Nurse training, and haven't looked back!***

### Tell us about your journey

My first journey was in secondary care where I spent eight amazing years working in various surgical ward settings, gaining tremendous amounts of experience, knowledge, and skills.

After a lot of thought and consideration, my time in secondary care came to end as I felt I wasn't gaining the development as I wanted without becoming less patient facing – also working shifts is hard!

### Tell us about your move to primary care nursing

Through careful thought and deliberation I looked into the field of practice nursing – which at the time I felt was an 'end of career/wind down' type job – **was I in for a surprise!**

I completed so many applications, and attended several interviews, however was unsuccessful due to no primary care experience at that time – then luck came my way and I was employed by a large teaching practice in Birmingham City Centre.

On commencement of my post I almost felt regretful in the first month or so as I felt the position was too slow paced for me. I discussed this with the practice manager as I did not want to be unhappy in my role, and she introduced the idea of practice nursing academic education to me; a new university course which was introduced at the time; **Fundamentals of General Practice Nursing**. I agreed to enrol, even though I felt anxious about it as I hadn't done any significant education since my degree – but I wanted the challenge.

### **What happened next?**

I completed the 12 month course and I loved it, and since then I have gone on to complete more university based courses and even masters level nurse independent prescribing.

My initial ideology of general practice nursing has changed so significantly; it is a very rewarding and valuable role for a nurse to be in as it is so varied in knowledge and skills.

My passion for the role and responsibilities of practice nursing has bought me into a senior lead nurse position where I cover several practices.

**Anonymous  
Practice Nurse at MMP**

**Interested in finding out more about the Fundamentals of General Practice Nursing or about working in Primary Care as a Practice Nurse**

Contact the BSol Training Hub.

Please email:

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