

Healthcare Support Worker Case Study

Healthcare Assistant and Assistant Practitioner questionnaire

Please tell us your name

Ian Charles White.

Tell us about your role, where you work and how long you have been in post

I currently work at Moorfields Eye Centre at Bedford Hospital as a Theatre Assistant. I have been in post for just over two years.

What qualifications and experience did you have prior to coming into the role?

I took my GCSE exams and then obtained a certificate in health and social care at my local college. I then joined Bedford Hospital as an X-ray porter before progressing to become a Health Care Assistant on an orthopaedic ward. From there I was offered the opportunity to work in theatres as a Theatre Assistant. I started as a band 2 and have progressed to become a band 3.

Describe a typical working day and how you make a difference

My day involves making sure that theatre is in working order for the upcoming day list. I undertake daily checks on equipment being used to ensure that it works as it should. I unload the instruments bin which contain the sterile clean instruments needed for the list ahead. I assist with bringing the patients into the operating theatre and talk with them to ensure they stay calm during the procedure and I answer any questions they might have. I assist with completing the World Health Organisation surgical safety checklist with the rest of the team and I help to get the required instruments ready for the scrub nurse and surgeon. After the procedure I accompany the patient to the reception area so that my colleagues can take their blood pressure. I make the patient a cup of tea or coffee and go through the aftercare eye treatment with them.

Tell us about the training, education and career opportunities you have

I recently completed the new ophthalmology course and instilling eye drops course at Moorfields. I am working between my theatre role and undertaking training in my clinical area.

Thinking about your team

- **Describe the support you are given**

I personally feel that I work with a very good team. I am more than happy and confident to work by myself within the boundaries of my professional ability. If I need advice or have any questions

I can ask any of my supportive team for help. My manager is always encouraging us as a team to develop further

- **Do you mentor or support colleagues?**

In my current role as a band 3 I am responsible for mentoring new staff and training them to the required standard for Moorfields.

What are your aspirations for the future?

I would like to progress to a band 4 Theatre Assistant and further my knowledge in the clinical setting.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your role?

I thoroughly enjoy my role as a Theatre Assistant. I have learnt a lot in a small space of time. I enjoy talking with my patients and the great feedback I receive from them.

Thank-you for your participation