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| Key responsibilities / role descriptionLEVEL 7 Physician Associate |
| Physician associates (PAs) are healthcare professionals trained in the medical model and are qualified to see a range of patients from infants to elderly people. They are trained to work within a defined scope of practice, and work alongside General Practitioners providing medical care as an integral part of the multidisciplinary team. PAs work under the supervision of a doctor but can work autonomously with appropriate support. The PA will work collaboratively with other members of the Primary Care Team within the policies and procedures of the practice, and responsibilities may include: Telephone triage; taking medical histories from patients; carrying out physical examinations; seeing patients with undifferentiated diagnoses; seeing patients with long-term chronic conditions; formulating differential diagnoses and management plans; carrying out diagnostic and therapeutic procedures; developing and delivering appropriate treatment and management plans; requesting and interpreting diagnostic studies; residential, nursing and home visits; providing health promotion / disease prevention advice for patients. They can supervise medical technicians and nurses, examine patients, administer drugs, order medical and diagnostic tests, diagnose illnesses, counsel patients and their families; Co-ordination of research activity. PAs in the UK are unable to prescribe medication by virtue of working as a physician associates. However, a registered nurse with prescribing rights working as a physician associate is able to prescribe medication by relying on their nursing knowledge, skills or experience in that role.* Bioscience-related first degree / registered healthcare professional such as a nurse, allied health professional or midwife.
* PA national exam. The FPA currently runs the Physician Associate Managed Voluntary Register (PAMVR), which allows employers to check whether an applicant or employee is a fully qualified and approved PA.

More detailed training and education guidance is included in the [Physician Associate Education and Training Support Pack](https://www.cmthub.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Physician-Associate-Education-and-Training-Support-PackSub.docx) |