

Advanced nursing roles in Teenage and Young Adult care

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About me

- Teenage Cancer Trust Lead Nurse at The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust
- BSc Adult Nursing
- MSc Advanced Practice (Leadership)
- Previously worked in haematology and breast oncology as CNS at UCLH and The Royal Marsden
- <https://www.teenagecancertrust.org/get-help/how-we-can-help/nurses/lottie-weston-lead-nurse>



Teenage Cancer Trust Lead Nurse Teenage & Young Adults

- Individual specialist support for TYA patients, staff and families
- Service development - current projects
- Work with designated hospitals to improve TYA care
- Work at local and national level on development of services and TYA care



Introduction

- Advanced Nurse Practitioner Role - background and development
- Why look at new ways of working?
- What does this mean in TYA?
- Patient & staff experience of TYA ANP
- Current evaluation of role at RMH



Advanced Nurse Practitioner Roles

- Introduction of ANP roles at RMH
- Impact evaluated
- Patient experience
- Multidisciplinary team working
- Patient outcomes
- Patient safety



Why look at new ways of working?

- Pressures on National Health Service
- Funding vs need - pressure to be financially efficient
- Reduction in junior doctors working hours, changes in medical education
- Change in nursing education



Pressures on services can present opportunity



What is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner?

- Highly experienced & educated members of the MDT
- Clinical skills - independently assess, triage, diagnose, treat, refer, prescribe
- Education, research and management
- Safe and consistent care
- Work across boundaries
- Local, regional and national level services improvement



What does this mean in TYA?

- Multiple teams, ward rounds - autonomous daily management of TYA patients
- Communication
- Flexibility in working in age-appropriate environment
- Daycare and inpatient
- Large geographical area
- Recognition of the role



Objectives of the role

1. Coordinate care - inpatient/ outpatient/ shared care
2. Consistency
3. Timely patient care i.e. discharge times, chemotherapy times, LOS
4. Establish a model of care with the MDTs admitting patients to TCTU and daycare
5. Started focusing on haematology and paediatrics, to expand to urology and other teams



Challenges

- Steep learning curve - learning paediatric or adult
- Defining the role - new role nationally
- Working across multiple teams/ acceptance by medical teams eg when making referrals - varies by hospital
- Balance holistic care with advanced clinical skills
- Autonomous role/ can be isolating - not attached to one medical team
- Challenge of balancing service development/ teaching with clinical need on ward



Current evaluation of role at RMH

- Introduced at RMH approximately 18 months ago
- Few Advanced Nurse Practitioner roles nationally working specifically within with teenage and young adult cancer patients
- Impact of this role currently being evaluated



Professional Benefits

- New skills
- Autonomy
- Job satisfaction
- Getting to know a broad cross-section of hospital staff
- Positive impact on patients, team and families



Questions?

