

My personal experience of PBSGL

Laura Chenevert



My name is Laura Chenevert and I am a Physician Associate (PA) working in Dyce Medical Practice in Aberdeen. I trained as a PA in the United States with previous experience working in neurosurgery and emergency medicine. I was new to working in primary care when I joined the Dyce medical team almost four years ago. At that time, Dyce Medical Practice was a newly-established surgery with a new group of GPs. We had a unique setup of using

various advanced practitioners (PAs and ANPs) and a pharmacist to complement the GPs in providing patient care.

Physician Associates are relatively new in the UK but have been working in the USA for some years. As a PA I have been trained in the medical model to assess and manage undifferentiated patients. The PA course prepares us to assess all types of patients, including children, pregnant woman, and mental health patients. Some days I work closely with the on call doctor by assisting with telephone triage, providing telephone advice, and reviewing patients who need on the day appointments. Other days I may see patients for routine appointments, follow up, or complete general medication reviews on patients with multiple co-morbidities. A GP is always available to support the advanced practitioners (PAs and ANPs) whether it is for quick advice, in-depth case discussion, or prescriptions.

As an inter-professional team in the Dyce Medical Practice, we decided it would be beneficial to start a PBSGL group so that we could have a regular learning activity that involved all of us. We felt that PBSGL would enhance our clinical knowledge and help us to develop our practice's policies and procedures. We meet regularly at our practice in the evening, but also occasionally have met for dinner to discuss PBSGL cases. Our group has found this to be a fun and relaxed way to learn, as well as a good opportunity to socialise outside of working hours. I would add that for me, PBSGL has been a great way to acclimatise into primary care.