



Yorkshire & Humber Primary Care Workforce & Training Hubs

Primary Care Networks Reimbursable

Rotational Paramedics

FAQ

How does the rotational Paramedic scheme work?

Your Primary Care Networks (PCN) will receive a WTE paramedic this will consist of two paramedics who work on rotation between your PCN and Yorkshire Ambulance Service (YAS).

The paramedics will each have a 12 week block (24 weeks in total) at your Practice/PCN completing their training module. Then each one will work alternate 6 week blocks in your PCN and with YAS

What is the 12 week training module?

Each paramedic's first 12 weeks with your Practice/PCN will be to complete their "Specialist Paramedic in Urgent Care" training which culminates in them taking The College of Paramedics' Diploma in Primary and Urgent Care (Dip PUC). During training and beyond while they will still be further developing skills and experience; they will be an immediately productive member of the Primary Care Team. These will be experienced paramedics with an ambulance service foundation in which they will continue to have an exposure to an environment that hones and develops their acute decision making skills.

The module will give them skills managing acute care, an understanding of some aspects of long term condition management, an understanding of Primary Care and how it works and the importance of strong working relationships with a multidisciplinary primary care team.

During the 12 week training where will the Paramedic work?

The Paramedic will work at your PCN, this can either be across your PCN or just in one of your practices in your PCN, which ever works best for your PCN and gives the Paramedic the most support.

Who can be the Paramedics Clinical Supervisor?

The Clinical Supervisor needs to be either:

- A GP Trainer
- Or a FCP/ACP/GP who has attended the roadmap supervision course.

What will the Clinical Supervisor requirements be?

The Clinical Supervisor during the 12 week training will need to discuss and review the paramedics' case based discussions, clinical examination & procedural skills, consultation observation tool and Personal Development Plan. The Clinical supervisor will also need to complete a Clinical Supervisor's Report (all forms along with guidance are provided in the Primary Care Paramedic Preceptorship Programme document)

Will the weekly peer group learning sessions just be during their training period or ongoing?

The weekly learning sessions are during the training period only and will run on the same day and time every week during the 12 week training period (Tuesdays).

Where will the Paramedic need to be based after the 12 week training?

The Paramedics will rotate between your PCN and YAS every 6 weeks meaning you will never be without a paramedic unless they are on annual leave or sick.

When working at your PCN you can decide to have them based at one of your practices or across the whole of your PCN.

Who employs the Paramedics?

The paramedics remain fully employed with YAS throughout.

The cost to the PCN of the paramedic salaries and on costs will be set at the maximum Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) claimable amount which you will need to claim from NHSE&I/CCG and YAS will invoice your PCN for reimbursement.

Who agrees the Paramedics annual leave, YAS or the PCN?

YAS will agree their annual leave and will provide advanced notification to the PCN of any leave that falls within their time with the PCN. YAS will do their best to manage this so it is an equal split between YAS and PCN time.

How many hours a week does the WTE Paramedic work and do they have strict protocols over breaks and start and finish times?

The Paramedics will work 37.5hrs. The Paramedics do have strict protocols for breaks when on a 10-12hr shift at YAS but these wouldn't apply when working shorter shifts across a 5 day week with your PCN.

If your PCN wanted the Paramedic to work longer shifts but less days this is something YAS would need to agree in advance to cover off any break requirements.

Do the PCN in agreement with the Paramedic have control over the type of work they do or will YAS have any input into this?

The PCN will have full control on what type of work the paramedic picks up while on rotation with them.

When will my PCN get their Paramedic?

Following a successful first cohort starting in September 2021, a second cohort is planned for April 2022. This will take 24 weeks of training (2 paramedics have to do 12 weeks of training each) before the 6 week working rotation between the PCN and YAS can start. The aim is then to start another cohort soon after the second cohort have finished their 12 week training (funding and YAS dependant) to meet further demand, until we have covered all the PCN's who are interested in having a paramedic.

PCNs are free to recruit their own paramedics if they wish but we would ask PCNs not to do this for two reasons. Firstly there is a real risk, of us causing serious destabilisation of the ambulance service if the PCNs cherry pick some of their best paramedics. Secondly we passionately believe that this model is the right one for our system. The paramedics will be more effective in their primary care work in your PCN for participating in this rotational model. There is evidence that shows where Primary Care trained paramedics return to work on ambulances in the same area where they do primary care then there is a significant reduction in their conveyance rates. This means a significant to the local health economy.

Is there a fee to join the rotational scheme?

Originally it was thought that there may be some additional administration charge from YAS towards their costs of employing and managing the paramedics and their additional costs (if the scheme numbers grow) of rostering the paramedics between duties. However the benefit of this model to wider system has now been acknowledged and YAS have been supported with these costs. Should these costs ever need to be factored in the future they will be capped at 5% of employment costs. Currently, if required, this fee would have to be paid from your PCN administration funds or other source (it is not a reimbursable cost).

Will we receive any funding?

For the initial 12 week training preceptorship period PCNs will receive a bursary payment of £1,000 to cover the associated mentoring and supervision cost.

Who can I contact with queries?

For any questions, please contact your local ICS area training hub:

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