

# Advanced Practitioner

Tess Roberts – Advanced Clinical Practitioner



## Tess Roberts is an Advanced Clinical Practitioner in Emergency Medicine at Liverpool University Hospitals Foundation Trust

Tess qualified as a Diagnostic Radiographer in 2010 and spent a few years in general and interventional radiology. In 2016 she took on a lead role in a new prison to set up and run an on-site radiology service. The prison healthcare service saw the value in ACP roles to improve the patient journey by supporting the minor injuries service delivery, and also her GP colleagues. Because of this Tess began her ACP training and went on to become a highly valued ACP.

Tess had a great opportunity to embark on an ACP role within ED at Aintree hospital and she believes a multi-professional Advanced Practice workforce benefits the service. The department has ACP staff specifically working on improving and developing the care of oncology patients, which has had recent successes with treatment compliance.

Being permanent members of the team, Tess and her ACP colleagues can offer consistency and familiarity for the team and service delivery.

Tess's ACP Lead Emergency Medicine Consultant highlighted the benefits of having a Radiographer background ACP:

- First in the UK - pioneering work being undertaken
- Works as a link in with Radiology - 2 specialities which are intertwined to ensure emergency care and urgent care investigations are easily accessible
- Brings in a valuable member to the team
- Teaching opportunities for Junior doctors regarding radiological nuances

Tess Roberts is an Advanced Clinical Practitioner (ACP) with a background in Diagnostic Radiography who works in Emergency Medicine (ED) at Aintree Hospital. The patient is at the centre of everything she does and how she approaches her duties.

Tess believes that ACPs bring experienced and knowledgeable professionals with good understanding of their service area, and local policies and patient pathways to their departments. ACP posts increase capacity and capability of departments, as they are dedicated to providing high level patient care. It also offers career progression opportunities which benefit recruitment and retention of staff.

“A truly multidisciplinary team, consisting of variety of backgrounds and experiences. Which means we have incredible learning opportunities from one another, as we each bring something unique to the team.”

Colleague Feedback

## North west

1. Lancashire and South Cumbria
2. Greater Manchester
3. Cheshire and Merseyside



Aintree



# Health Education England

Tess integrates the 4 pillars of ACP into her daily duties. She works in all areas of the emergency department (ED). She sees the full acuity of patients, and aids patients clinically by guiding them through the entirety of their patient journey, from initial assessment to referral to the appropriate team, or discharge. From an education perspective, she teaches on imaging and image interpretation. She has done research on potential benefits of radiographer independent prescribing and the impact of not being able to prescribe on the effectiveness of diagnostic radiographers in ACP roles. Finally, Tess performs as a leader every day. She leads on developing the Trust's relationship with local prisons, improving transfer of care for prisoner patients and the possibility of looking to introduce radiographer led discharge.

## Colleague Feedback

“ As a radiographer, Tess brings incredible value to the team in the form of image interpretation, an area many of us are not so confident in. She has also enabled a new level of connection with our radiology colleagues, as a common asset who can empathise with both ends of the referral process.”

Tess is proud and feels privileged to be an ACP and to share her journey, she encourages other radiographers to consider this pathway for career progression. The ACP role can be further developed and ACPs utilised further, presenting some exciting opportunities; this is something Tess is keen to progress in the future.



### JOB ROLES FOR CLINICAL PILLAR

- Initial assessments
- Referral & discharge
- Review investigations regarding bloods, ECGs, imaging, etc.
- Make clinical decisions about care
- Delivers treatment

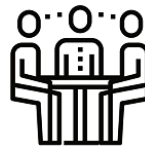
CLINICAL



### JOB ROLES FOR LEADERSHIP PILLAR

- Relationship development between organisations
- Looking to introduce Radiographer led discharge
- Trainee doctor inductions

LEADERSHIP



### JOB ROLES FOR EDUCATION PILLAR

- Teaching imaging & image interpretation
- Mental health education
- Supporting trainee colleagues
- Visiting lecturer on ACP Masters Programme

EDUCATION



### JOB ROLES FOR RESEARCH PILLAR

- Service improvements
- Research on benefits of radiographer independent prescribing
- Audit and service reviews

RESEARCH

## Tess works across the four pillars of Advanced Practice