

Advanced Practitioner Radiographer

Gavin Cain – Reporting Radiographer

Gavin is a qualified Diagnostic Radiographer, currently working as a Reporting Radiographer



Since qualifying as a Diagnostic Radiographer in 2008, Gavin has dedicated himself to a career in clinical reporting at the local NHS general hospital in Colchester. He achieved his first postgraduate reporting qualification in 2011 and has since worked hard to develop his knowledge, skills and attributes in projection radiography and clinical reporting to a point where he consistently and competently practices across all four pillars of advanced practice.

In 2017, Gavin sought accreditation as an advanced practitioner from the College of Radiographers, a commitment he has maintained to provide assurance of his proficiency to colleagues, patients, and his employer. He enrolled in the research and dissertation modules at Canterbury Christ Church University to complete a full Master's degree in Clinical Reporting in 2021.

More recently, Gavin has sought recognition of his advanced practice via The Centre for Advancing Practice ePortfolio (supported) route. With the supervision of Professor Beverly Snaith at Bradford University, Gavin developed a portfolio of evidence derived from his previous learning and experience. Gavin's application with The Centre was successful and he has been issued a 'digital badge' (pictured left) as a verified indicator of his educational and experiential equivalence in advanced practice training. Gavin was in the first multi-professional cohort and the first radiographer in England to achieve NHSE advance practice recognition.

For Gavin, gaining recognition with The Centre was a significant and rewarding endeavour, prompting critical self-appraisal of his practice and identification of areas for improvement, such as formal leadership training and his role in health promotion.

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When querying a request form and a plain film image, Gavin always takes the time to explain his decision making and this allows me to develop my decision making.” (Practitioner Radiographer - 360-degree feedback)

Gavin is responsible for the delivery of all elements of care within projection radiography, including justification of examination requests, radiation protection, image acquisition, interpretation and reporting of imaging findings, and patient management. Daily, Gavin makes decisions that directly influence patient management working under conditions of complexity, risk, uncertainty and often with incomplete information. Gavin is a point of contact for referring clinicians and colleagues wishing to discuss imaging findings and patient management.

By being involved in practice development and quality improvement initiatives at service and strategic levels; Gavin recently led an initiative to expand reporting radiographer scope of practice beyond musculoskeletal radiograph reporting, in line with service need, NHS strategy and empirical research.

Gavin use’s research evidence to inform practice and service innovation, from literature searching, critically appraising and synthesising data from primary research studies, to leading clinical audit and empirical service evaluation. Gavin has had several articles published in the peer reviewed journal Radiography and professional magazines Imaging & Therapy Practice, Insight and Synergy. Gavin has also contributed to scientific peer review in his area of expertise as a reviewer.

As a mentor, Gavin oversees the supervision and training of radiology specialty trainees and trainee reporting radiographers. He finds joy in the teaching aspect of his role, regularly delivering expert lectures on radiography and image interpretation, including 'service improvement in clinical reporting' at Canterbury Christ Church University.

Gavin reflects on his role with immense satisfaction, having expanded it beyond musculoskeletal X-ray reporting to encompass all four pillars of advanced practice. His experiential and educational journey has instilled the confidence to consider doctoral-level study for further progression to consultant-level practice.



Gavin works across the four pillars of Advanced Practice