

ADVANCED PRACTICE

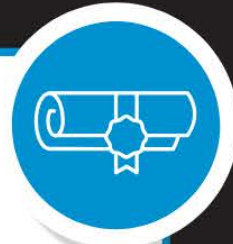


What is advanced practice?

Advanced practice is a level of professional practice which describes experienced, knowledgeable health and care professionals who are able to practise with a high degree of autonomy with responsibility for complex decision making.

Practitioners at this level will:

- have successfully completed a Master's degree in advanced practice that addresses all four pillars of practice ((clinical practice, leadership and management, education, and research)
- manage and take responsibility for whole episodes of care



Benefits of advanced practice

- Transformed services to better meet patient needs
- Improved job satisfaction and retention
- Improved access to high quality care



Advanced practice in prosthetics and orthotics is relatively new

Practitioners at this level:

- Handle complex patients from start to finish
- Have the ability and authority to make critical decisions in patient care
- Order investigations and create comprehensive management plans



Becoming an advanced practitioner

- Step 1: Trainee advanced practitioner role
- Step 2: Three year Master's degree in advanced practice
- Step 3: Advanced practitioner role
- Suitable for P&Os with substantial professional experience



Making the most of advanced practice

Employers

- Developing advanced practice roles to meet service needs
- Supporting P&Os to complete education and training
- Using available funding for education and training

Prosthetists and orthotists

- Being active in their own career development
- Advocating for advanced practice roles in their service

