

# Primary care



## Primary care

- **Community midwife** — Provide care and support to women and their families while pregnant, throughout labour and during the period after a baby's birth.
- **Dental hygienist** — Help to prevent dental problems from arising.
- **Dental nurse** — Supports the dentist in all aspects of patients' dental care.
- **Dental technician** — Make dentures, crowns, bridges, and dental braces that improve patients' appearance, speech, and ability to chew.
- **Dentist** — Work with patients to prevent and treat dental and oral disease, correcting dental irregularities and treating dental and facial injuries.
- **District nurse** — Visit people in their own homes or in residential care homes, providing increasingly complex care for patients and supporting family members.
- **Foundation year doctor** — The foundation programme aims to give doctors in training competence in basic clinical skills and management of acutely ill patients as well as developing other softer skill sets such as team working and communication. It is the doctor's first job after completing medical school.
- **General practitioner (GP)** — Doctors who treat all common medical conditions and refer patients to hospitals and other medical services for urgent and specialist treatment. They focus on the health of the whole person combining physical, psychological and social aspects of care.
- **Health visitors** — Nurses or midwives who promote healthy lifestyles as a way to prevent illness. They work with families to give pre-school-age children the best possible start in life.
- **Nurse practitioner** — Specialist nurses with additional medical training. They can prescribe medication, and provide treatments.
- **Pharmacist** — Experts in medicines and their use. They also offer health advice to patients on issues such as sexual health and giving up smoking.
- **Pharmacy assistant** — Help pharmacists order, prepare and dispense medicines.
- **Pharmacy technician** — Manage the supply of medicines in a community pharmacy and assist pharmacists with advisory services.
- **Physiotherapist** — Work with people to help with a range of problems which affect movement using exercise, massage and other techniques.
- **Practice manager** — Manage the overall running of GP surgeries.
- **Practice nurse** — Involved in most aspects of patient care. Roles may include obtaining blood samples, electrocardiograms, wound management, travel health advice and vaccinations, and child immunisations and advice.
- **Receptionist** — Use customer service and admin skills to welcome people.