

# NES HEALTHCARE SCIENCE NOTICEBOARD



## CLINICAL PHYSIOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME AT GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY

Historically Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) has delivered a BSc (Hons) in Clinical Physiology on alternate years. They are not planning an intake in the academic session 2025/26 and intend on closing the programme in its current form. Existing trainees (intakes 2021 and 2023) will be supported towards completion with no change to the course structure. Following the retirement of Dr Elaine Gribben, the Programme Lead is now Dr Niall MacQuaide who will be supported by 4 members of the departmental team and secondees from Service. We are grateful to the university for supporting the clinical physiology programme for over a decade and to all those colleagues in service who have given their time and expertise to assist with it. We acknowledge and thank Elaine Gribben and Les Wood at GCU, without whom the programme could not have been instigated and sustained.

We asked services for opinion of the impact the closure will have and suggested ways forward. The 32 responses highlighted that the loss of this training pathway poses a serious challenge for some physiology services, adding to recruitment challenges. Of note was the comments surrounding geographical barriers and an appetite for more flexible online learning and new structured training programmes.

The findings from the physiology survey reflect those from the Scottish Government Healthcare Science (HCS) education review that has recently been concluded. The Strategic Governance Group (SGG) set up to oversee the further development of the HCS strategic approach will consider how best to take forward the findings of the education review.

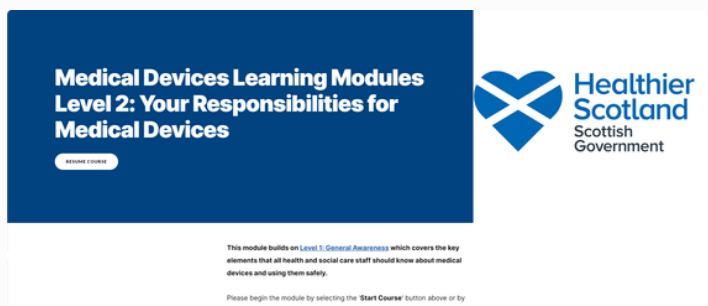
## CLINICAL SCIENTIST TRAINEES 2024 INTAKE



We are excited to announce that 25 new NES-funded Clinical Scientist trainees are due to start their training as part of the 2024 intake. Most trainees have already taken up their posts across various centres in Scotland. The NES Healthcare Science team is actively collaborating with these training centres to gather the necessary information for financial processing and to maintain rigorous quality assurance throughout the training period. These new appointments will continue to enhance the capacity and expertise within the NHS, ensuring that we meet the growing demands of the healthcare system

# HCS ON TURAS LEARN

## NEW CPD MODULES NOW AVAILABLE ON TURAS



New Medical Devices and IRIC e-learning modules available on Turas Learn. The Medical Devices Level 2 e-learning module has now been published on our [Medical Devices area within Turas Learn](#).

To support the awareness and understanding of the safe use of medical devices and Medical Device Regulations (MDR) for Health and Social Care staff, learning modules have been created by the Scottish Government Medical Devices and Legislation Unit (MDLU), in partnership with:

- the Incident and alerts Safety Officers Network (ISON)
- clinical and operational representation from NHSScotland Territorial Boards
- Health and Social Care Partnership
- SG Social Care
- NHS Education for Scotland
- InnoScot Health
- the Incident Reporting and Investigation Centre (IRIC)

The content is tailored for specific audiences and follows the [Guidance on Safe Management of Medical Devices and Equipment in Scotland's Health and Social Care Services \(SHTN 00-04\)](#).



The [Incident and Reporting Investigation Centre \(IRIC\) e-learning module](#) has also been published, which highlights the importance of reporting adverse incidents involving medical devices, estates, facilities, social care equipment and PPE to IRIC.

# CPD COURSES

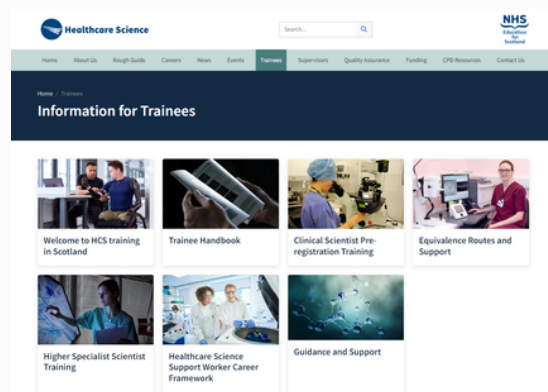
Participate in one of our upcoming workshops after you have completed the online elements of the respective learning programme. All programmes can be accessed from our [CPD and e-learning catalogue](#) on Turas Learn.

The following workshops currently scheduled are:

- Train-the-Trainer interactive workshop  
5th November @11:00-12:00
- Training-in-Difficulty interactive workshop, 6th December @13:00-14:00

You can find all details of our upcoming events and workshops on our [Upcoming Events / What's On](#) page on Turas Learn.

## Updated Information for Trainees area available on our training website



We have recently refreshed our [Information for Trainees area](#) on our Healthcare Science training website. In addition to the information hosted previously, you can now find the following pages:

- Welcome to Healthcare Science training in Scotland
- Updated Trainee Handbook
- Healthcare Science Support Worker Career Framework
- Guidance and Support



# HEALTHCARE SCIENCE SUPPORT WORKER CAREER FRAMEWORK

## New resources on our HCS training website



We have updated our HCS Support workers career framework information, guidance, career case studies and tools on a dedicated page at our [www.hcstraining.nhs.scot - Trainees page](http://www.hcstraining.nhs.scot - Trainees page)

## Four pillars of practice toolkit

The four pillars of practice toolkit is a resource to provide you with an overview to support your knowledge and understanding of how the HCSW 4 pillars of practice can be used to support your ongoing professional and career development. Available [here](#)

## HCSW Education and Development Career Framework webinar



We hosted a webinar on Friday 30th August which provided an overview of how the HCSW Education and Development Career Framework Levels 2-4 is structured around the 4 pillars of practice. It explained the pillars of practice, gave an overview of available resources which can support learning, development and career progression. You can access video recordings of all of the presentations from the webinar on our [Past Webinars page on Turas Learn](#).

## INTERACTIVE CPD RESOURCE TOOL TO SUPPORT THE PILLARS OF PRACTICE

You can find various CPD resources for each of the four pillars of practice with learning activities that can support your personal development. Why not try these out, you can dip in and out and there is no need to complete all the activities, just choose the ones which best suit you.

Please use the [interactive tool](#) on our website to identify appropriate CPD resources by firstly selecting what Development Framework Level (2-4) you currently are and then what Pillar of Practice you want to develop.

You should then be presented with an appropriate list of relevant courses for you to choose. We have chosen the resources which are appropriate for all support worker staff who work within Healthcare Science, and this tool can also be used by managers, team/service leads, educators and anyone involved in supporting the learning and development of support workforce staff.

## Learning activities to support each pillar of practice

The learning activities available on Turas Learn covering the 4 pillars of practice are designed to support your learning through self-study, reflection or taught sessions. You will be introduced to the key principles and concepts of learning and explore the learning opportunities in your workplace.

You can access on the following links:

- [Using the 4 pillars of practice to support your learning](#)
- [Learning activities to support each pillar of practice](#)

## 2025 Healthcare Science Education and Training Event



We are hosting our 2025 Healthcare Science Education and Training Event, in collaboration with the Scottish Government Healthcare Science team, online on MS Teams. The event will comprise themed sessions taking place during February and March.

Although there are clear benefits of an in-person event, we don't feel it would be appropriate in the current financial climate. Previous online sessions have highlighted increased flexibility and accessibility, particularly for our colleagues in remote and rural locations. An online event is a more financially viable and sustainable option. Further details including confirmed dates and how to register will be circulated in due course.

## The Professional Health and Social Care Regulatory Event

Registration is now open for The Professional Health and Social Care Regulatory Event taking place on Wednesday 6 November 2024 at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Glasgow. Check out the programme and register at the link:

<https://eventsforce.net/nhsscotlandevents/8/home...#RegulationConf24>

## Upcoming HCS Career Engagement

Dates of interest to promote HCS careers coming up are:

- [National Pathology Week](#) 4-10th Nov 2024
- [Scottish Careers Week](#) 11th - 15th Nov 2024

For careers information and how to get involved visit our [careers page](#).

## Upcoming HCS Events

[Healthcare Science: Spotlight your work - Register our next event on the 29th November](#)

Communicating science is an important skill and our "Spotlight your work!" webinars are all about the art of presenting: you're passionate about your work and believe in it, but can you enthuse others? Being able to do this is increasingly necessary as we progress into senior roles, and it is never too early to start!

Whatever the stages of your training and your project - we extend an opportunity to practice explaining your work to a wider audience. It is a safe space to gain experience, get feedback and get recognition. They are an excellent opportunity to highlight the contribution Healthcare Scientists make, improving healthcare across NHS Scotland.

We are pleased to announce our Spotlight Your Work! webinar is scheduled on **Friday 29th November** and will feature talks from colleagues working in Nuclear Medicine, Maxillofacial Prosthetics and Reproductive Sciences.

You can register for the webinar, hosted on MS Teams, using the following link: [Healthcare Science: Spotlight your work! registration](#)





# ROBERT FARLEY

## Retirement of our NES Healthcare Science Associate Director



Dr Robert Farley's retirement marks the end of an impressive and impactful career. His contributions to NHS Education for Scotland (NES) and the broader healthcare science community have been substantial. Leading the Healthcare Science Directorate, he played a pivotal role in postgraduate training, quality assurance, and continuing professional development (CPD) resources. His journey from policy roles in the Scottish Government to significant positions in Bioengineering and Medical Physics across Glasgow, Inverness, and Edinburgh showcases his dedication and expertise.

As a chartered engineer and HCPC-registered Clinical Scientist, Dr Rob Farley's influence extended to the Academy for Healthcare Science, where he earned Higher Specialist Scientist Equivalence and was honoured as one of the first Honorary Fellows. His legacy in healthcare science is profound, and his colleagues at NES and beyond will undoubtedly feel his absence



The NES Healthcare Science team and many colleagues would like to wish Dr Rob Farley a fulfilling and rewarding retirement, filled with new adventures and continued success in all his future endeavours. His professional achievements have left a lasting impact, and his contributions will be remembered fondly.



## New associate director appointment - Sarah Smith



Sarah Smith has been appointed to be the next Associate Director for Healthcare Science at NES from 18 November, succeeding Dr Rob Farley. Sarah has wide experience in healthcare science education and most recently has been the Healthcare Science Professional Advisor leading on the healthcare science education review within Scottish Government. An HCPC registered Biomedical Scientist and Fellow Institute of Biomedical Science, Sarah is passionate about providing career opportunities for the scientific workforce and engaging with young people about science.

The NES Healthcare Science team are delighted to welcome Sarah to our team and we are looking forward to working with Sarah as our new Associate Director. With an impressive background in healthcare science and a wealth of experience, Sarah is set to make significant contributions to our ongoing projects and initiatives.

As we embark on this new chapter together, we are excited about the fresh perspectives and innovative ideas that Sarah will bring.

## New HCS Team Member for Genomics Secondment

We are pleased to welcome Jenna Jenkinson, who joined the Healthcare Science (HCS) team on the 17th of September in a Senior Educator role. Jenna will be seconded for 1.5 days per week to support the review of Genomics Education and Training, in line with the objectives set by the Scottish Strategic Network for Genomic Medicine. Her first task will be to assess current genomics training programmes, identifying those suitable for Healthcare Science specialisms as well as public engagement. Jenna will also establish connections with key stakeholders to ensure a collaborative approach to training development. Updates on this important work will be shared with the HCS community at key milestones.



# QUALITY ASSURANCE OF TRAINING



The quality assurance elements below form part of our role in assuring high-quality training programmes across Scotland, which is essential in order to maintain standards of training across all disciplines to ensure patient safety. See the following link for details of our Quality Assurance of training on our [Healthcare Science Training website](#)

As we approach a particularly busy period for Quality Assurance (QA) activities, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all supervisors and training centres for their ongoing contributions. While QA is a continuous process, this time of year sees an increase in formal reviews, and training planning. We encourage all stakeholders to stay informed through our [website](#), where you can find additional information about the QA process. If your participation is required and has not yet been requested, the Healthcare Science team will be in touch directly in the coming weeks.

## NES HEALTHCARE SCIENCE ANNUAL REPORT 23-24 ANNOUNCEMENT

We will no longer be publishing an individual NES Healthcare Science Annual report. NES are moving forward with a once-for-NES Publication to highlight all the fantastic work of the organisation instead of having individual Directorate annual reports. The NES Corporate Communications will be sharing some of this work as a “Year in Review” with Healthcare Science to be included as one of the first highlights.



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



IBMS Degree Assessment Bursary Fee applications are still open. We have the funding opportunity open to support existing NHS Scotland Healthcare Science support staff at career framework levels 2-4 for recognition of their learning and experience (non-accredited degree assessment) by the Institute of Biomedical Science. Further details are available on our website at our [‘Funding’](#) page.

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## NES Healthcare Science Core Team

Sarah Smith – Healthcare Science Associate Director  
Lorna Crawford – Head of Programme QA  
Andy Dunne – Head of Programme CPD  
Claire Cameron – Principal Lead  
Bianca Brownlee – Principal Lead  
Jenna Jenkinson – Senior Educator  
Simon Petrie – Business Support  
Charlie Brownlee – Management Accountant

## Contact us

Contact the team via email at  
[HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk)

## Join our mailing list

Following the GDPR implementation, we would encourage recent trainees and NHS recruits in healthcare science to join our Mail Chimp mailing list. Or subscribe with [LINK](#)

Please email [HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:HCS@nes.scot.nhs.uk) to be included or for comments on what you have read here. Our list is used occasionally for NES Healthcare Science alerts like this HCS Notice Board; it is not shared with third parties.