

# The Development of a Multidisciplinary Rural Advanced Practice Education Pathway (Resource)

The Remote and Rural Healthcare Education Alliance (RRHEAL) and the Scottish Rural Medicine Collaborative (SRMC) have worked in partnership to develop a programme of work across Scottish Remote, Rural and Island Boards to develop and promote a new multidisciplinary Rural Advanced Practice (RAP) education pathway at SCQF level 11.

There is global recognition that Higher Education institutions need to ensure that educational programmes meet the needs of the population, delivering evidence based, socially accountable education.

A truly multi-disciplinary approach is essential for the improvement of health and social care services for remote and rural communities. The purpose of the pathway is to ensure that healthcare professionals are equipped with the right knowledge, skills and confidence to be able to deliver healthcare in the most remote and rural parts of the country competently and to experience 'joy' in their work.

This may be of interest to those in health and social care, AHPs, NMAHPs, pharmacists and multidisciplinary roles.

For further details see links to website and videos below.

## **Developing a Multidisciplinary Remote and Rural Advanced Practice Education Pathway:**

<https://learn.nes.nhs.scot/49891/rrheal/rural-teams/developing-a-multidisciplinary-remote-and-rural-advanced-practice-education-pathway>

## **Videos**

1. The Consultation work undertaken for the development of the Multidisciplinary Rural Advanced Practice Education Pathway  
(Trish Gray)  
<https://vimeo.com/700731228/6cb89d2472>
2. The Multidisciplinary Rural Advanced Practice Education Pathway and the Associated Competencies  
(Claire Savage)  
<https://vimeo.com/700748651/21c34f011b>
3. The next steps planned for the Multidisciplinary Rural Advanced Practice Education Pathway  
(Carrie Walton)  
<https://vimeo.com/700736428/effead7bef>

Please see over for video presenter biographies ...

**Trish Gray (Senior Project Lead, NHS Education for Scotland, RRHEAL)** has worked for NHS Education for Scotland (NES) since 2008 and has worked with the Remote and Rural Healthcare Educational Alliance (RRHEAL) since 2018, as a Senior Project Lead and more recently has split her role as a Senior Project Lead to 3 days per week, to enable her to take on the new challenge of Interim Head of Service for 2 days per week. A major programme of work has been the development of the Multidisciplinary Rural Advanced Practice Education Pathway, which has involved national and international consultation with stakeholders to ensure the relevant education competencies were identified and incorporated into the pathway.

Trish has been involved in various workstreams, such as the development of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) proposal for remote and rural multidisciplinary health and social care professionals. A key part of this work has been the facilitation of the Centre of Excellence Education and Training subgroup, which has involved leading in the planning and delivery of the Centre of Excellence Festival of Learning, taking place in Skye from 19 through to 30 September 2022.

**Claire Savage (Senior Project Lead, NHS Education for Scotland, RRHEAL)** works with NHS Highland in Scotland as a project officer/researcher and is currently seconded by the Scottish Rural Medicine Collaborative (SRMC) to work with the Remote and Rural Healthcare Education Alliance (RRHEAL) developing a Multidisciplinary Remote and Rural Advanced Practitioner Educational Pathway for Scotland.

Claire previously worked as a researcher on the international “Making it Work” programme. One of the key findings from this research identified that accessible affordable, high quality, rural focused education and continuous professional development are essential to deliver and sustain, safe effective healthcare within Remote and Rural communities.

Claire has worked on the Scottish Government funded "Being Here" programme to devise and test innovative ways to recruit and retain health and social care staff, creating sustainable primary care services in remote and rural islands of the west coast of Scotland. She worked as the Clinical Development Lead providing clinical leadership, project and educational management to develop and implement a new Remote and Rural Advanced Nurse/Paramedic Practitioner role. This is an “Advanced Generalist” role with experienced nurses/paramedics educated to be able to provide an effective Out of Hours service across Remote and Rural communities, GP surgeries, and Community Hospital settings.

**Carrie Walton (Specialist Lead, NHS Education for Scotland, RRHEAL)** is a relative newcomer to NES joining in January 2022 after working as a Learning Technology Specialist for an NHS Trust in England for four years. She brings with her a strong background in education, qualifying as a teacher of young people and adults in 2017 before completing further postgraduate qualifications in Educational Research and Technology Enhanced Learning, and she is now writing a PhD thesis on the continuing professional development of educators in the NHS.

Her role in NES as a Specialist Lead sees her working on a wide range of projects within the RRHEAL Team including the development of a Transdisciplinary Practice Supervision Hub for the Rural Advanced Practitioner (RAP) programme, and research for the development of the Scottish Centre of Excellence (SCoE), as well as designing online learning programmes within the team. Carrie has endless enthusiasm for all things education and hopes to raise the profile of educational research within RRHEAL and NHS Education for Scotland.