

Demystifying consultant nurse roles in gastrointestinal nursing: what they do and how to become one

Watson, H; Taylor, C & Hibberts, F (2021) 'Demystifying consultant nurse roles in gastrointestinal nursing: what they do and how to become one' **Gastrointestinal Nursing** 19(8):20-27

Abstract

In this descriptive article, three consultant nurses share their journeys into and experiences of working in consultant nurse roles in different areas of gastrointestinal (GI) practice. These narrative discussions detail what is rewarding but also challenging about being a 'super nurse', as the role was characterised by Prime Minister Tony Blair on its introduction in 1998. The stories aim to offer practical advice to aspiring consultant nurses and dispel any misconceptions among those considering this career path. They also provide some political context for the consultant nurse and demonstrate the diversity and flexibility of these roles.

Areas for reflection

- The article explains the difference between consultant nurses and advanced clinical practitioners. How do you see these differences play out in clinical practice?
- How can we communicate the value of consultant nurse roles to those we work with?
- What opportunities exist for this role within your clinical service?
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For more information about demonstrating your work in specialist nursing practice, have a look at the [Apollo Nursing Resource](#).

