

CAREER JOURNEY

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Physician Associate (PA-R)

Physician associates are medically trained, generalist healthcare professionals

Introduced to the UK in 2003

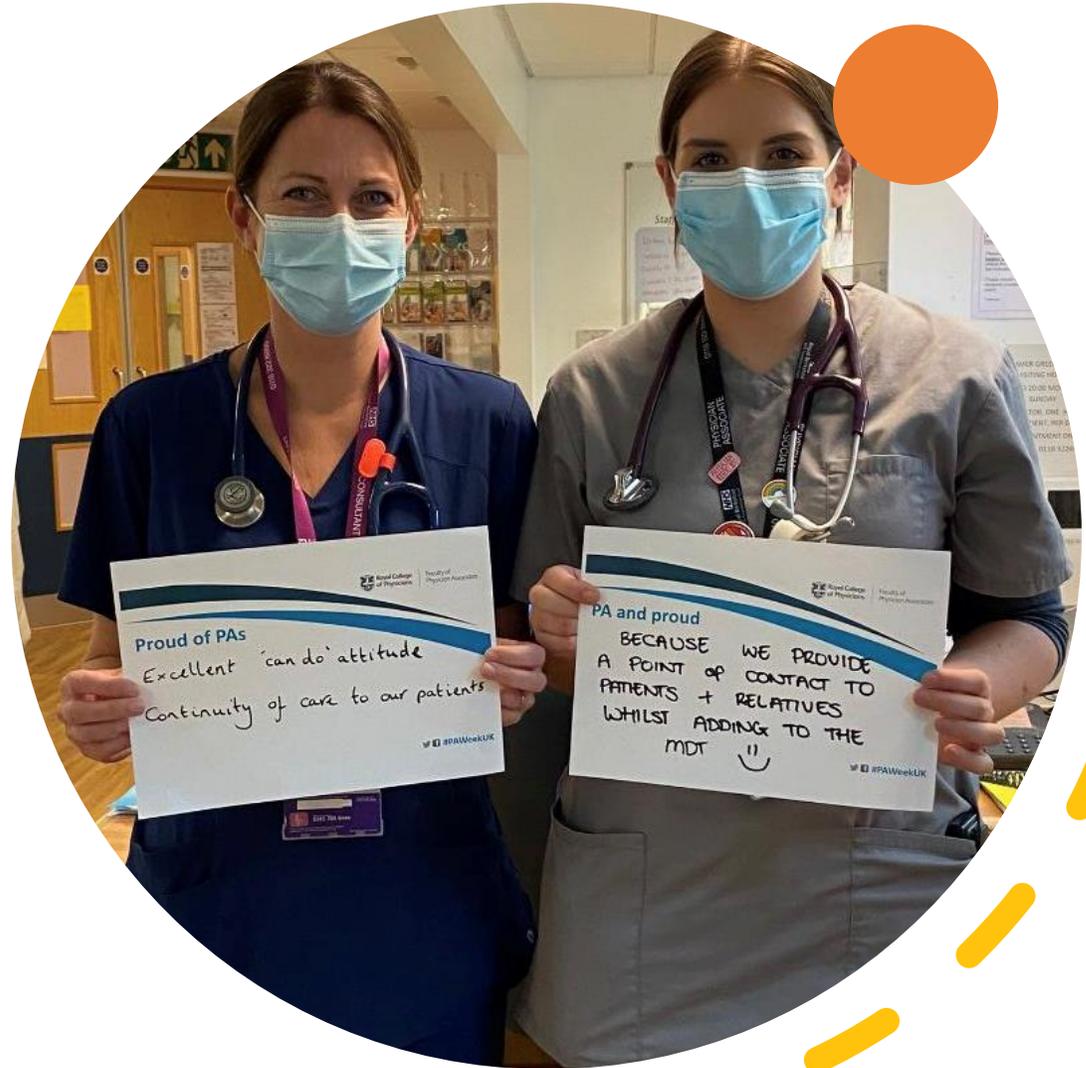
Work under the supervision of a consultant

Specialty areas- including secondary care and GP

Soon to be GMC regulated

What can a Physician Associate do?

- Take medical histories from patients
- Carry out physical examinations
- See patients with undifferentiated diagnoses
- See patients with long-term chronic conditions
- Formulate differential diagnoses and management plans
- Perform diagnostic and therapeutic procedures
- Develop and deliver appropriate treatment and management plans
- Request and interpret diagnostic studies
- Provide health promotion and disease prevention advice for patients.





Back to the beginning

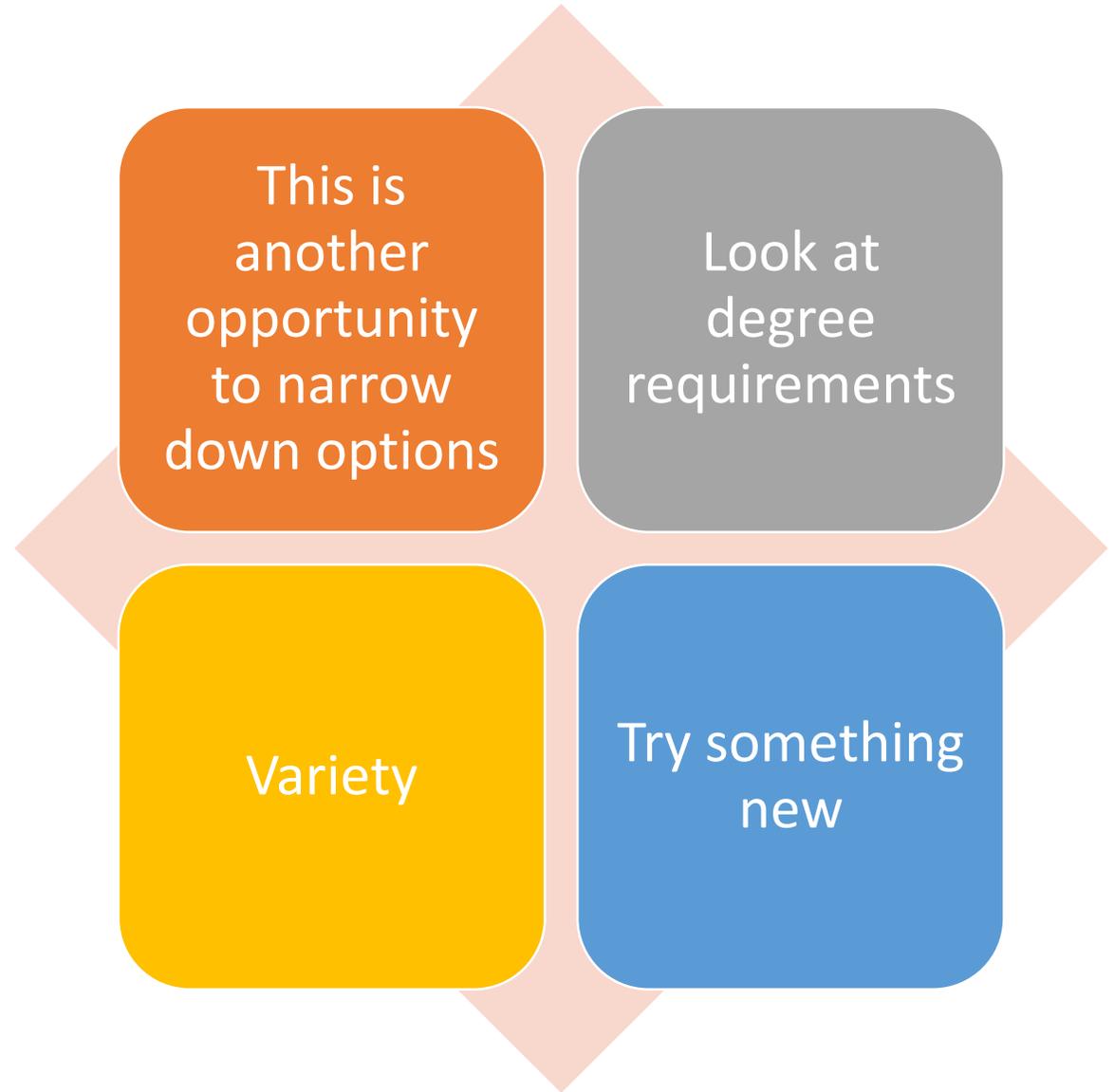
Primary school ✓

Secondary school- Edgbarrow school

- Start to think about things that interest you and you may want to study going forward
- GCSE options
 - Biology, Chemistry, Physics
 - Maths
 - English- literature and language
 - History
 - Business studies
 - RE
 - German



A Levels:





If you decide to go to university...



Choose a subject that
INTERESTS you



Visit universities... I ended
up in Bristol by accident



Explore subjects... I studied
Biomedical Science



Within the course look at
the modules- can you alter
it to suit your interests



Further education- MSc

- When I went to university, I never thought I'd end up doing a masters degree
- My university tutor recommended the Physician associate course
- Enabled me to qualify
- Tough! New way of working/ studying
- 2 years- 45 out of 52 weeks per year
- Included placements-
 - Community medicine: 510 hours
 - General hospital medicine: 350 hours
 - Front door medicine: 180 hours
 - Mental health: 90 hours
 - General surgery: 90 hours
 - Obstetrics and gynaecology: 90 hours
 - Paediatrics (acute setting): 90 hours



National examinations...

To work as a Physician Associate, it is recommended you join an employment register

To do this everyone has to sit national exams – 1 day of written, 1 day of practical

Written paper- 200 single best answer questions

Practical- 14 OSCE (objective structured clinical examinations)



Physician Associate (PA-R)

Royal Berkshire
Hospital
Elderly care- hip
fracture unit

Attend ward rounds,
take blood and
review results,
cannulate

On call- Clerking
shifts, emergency/
crash calls

Continuity of care

Continuing career
development

MDT:
Physiotherapist, OT,
Nurses, Consultants,
Doctors



We made it!

The future for Physician Associate's

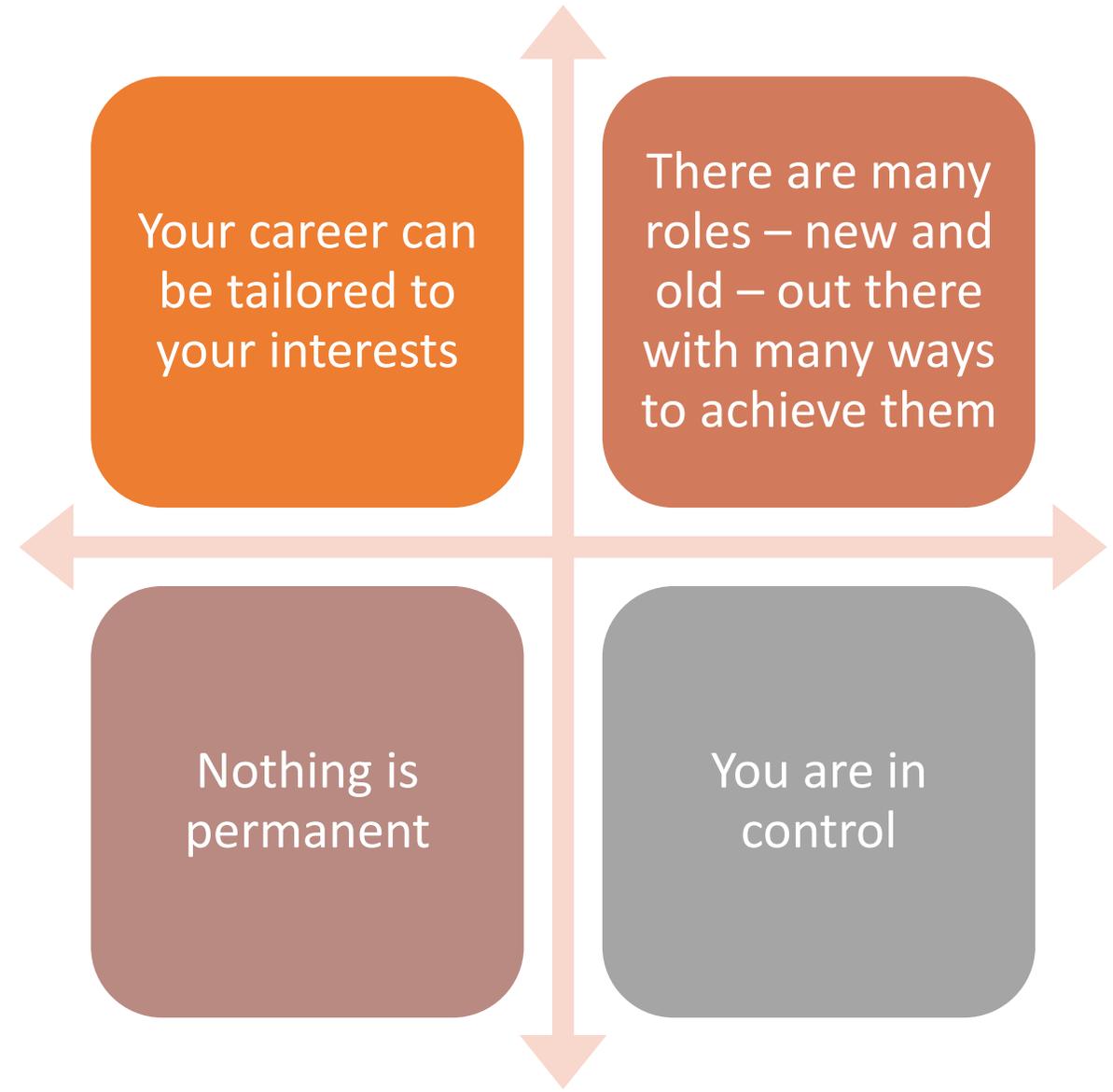
2500 Physician Associates working in the UK and counting

“PAs are seen by the UK government as one of the ways in which workforce pressures in the NHS can be alleviated”

Currently, physician associates are not subject to any form of statutory regulation however are now scheduled for statutory regulation by the GMC.

- ensure effective public protection
- trained to the medical model and work closely with medical practitioners
- GMC will have responsibility and oversight of the professions allowing them to take a holistic approach to the education, training and standards of the roles

Final thoughts





Thank you!

Any questions?

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