



Advanced practice roles in radiotherapy



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WP8 – ASSESSMENT OF ADVANCED PRACTICE FOR THERAPY RADIOGRAPHERS IN THE NATIONAL, EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

The aim of this work package is to identify the competencies required to practise advanced roles.

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Advanced Practice in modern Radiation Oncology has been directly linked with improvement of cancer patients' quality of life with less morbidity and increased disease free survival. The TR is the professional with direct responsibility for treatment planning and treatment delivery in a safe environment as well as patient care and follow-up.

The scope of practice within the field of competencies of the TR is described by EFRS EQF benchmark document as well as IAEA's handbook for education of Radiation Therapists TCS-58, which according to these European and International publications should be attained by the academic / formal education at the European Qualifications Framework for level 6.

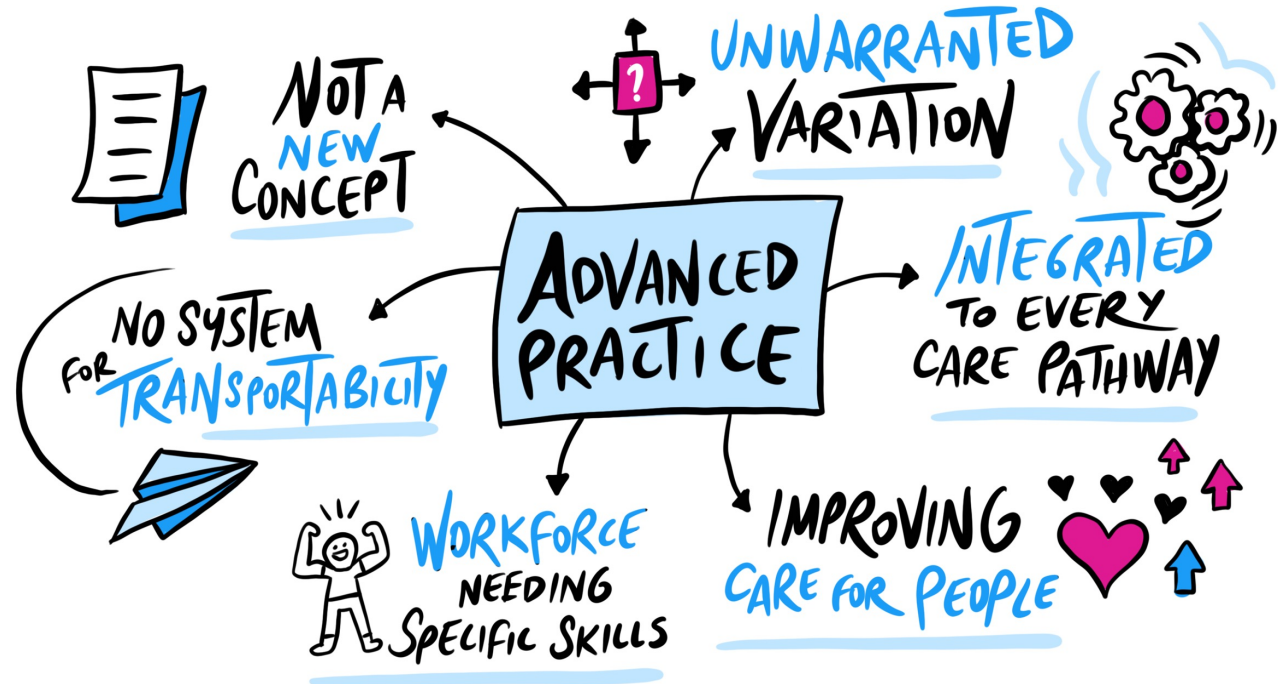
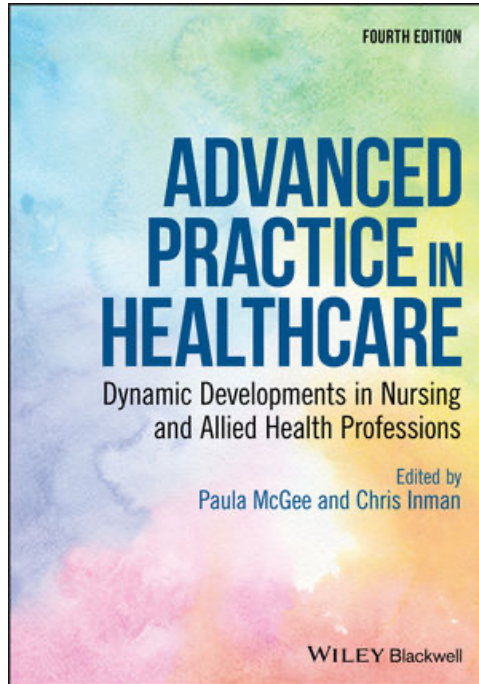
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EFRS
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF
RADIOGRAPHER SOCIETIES

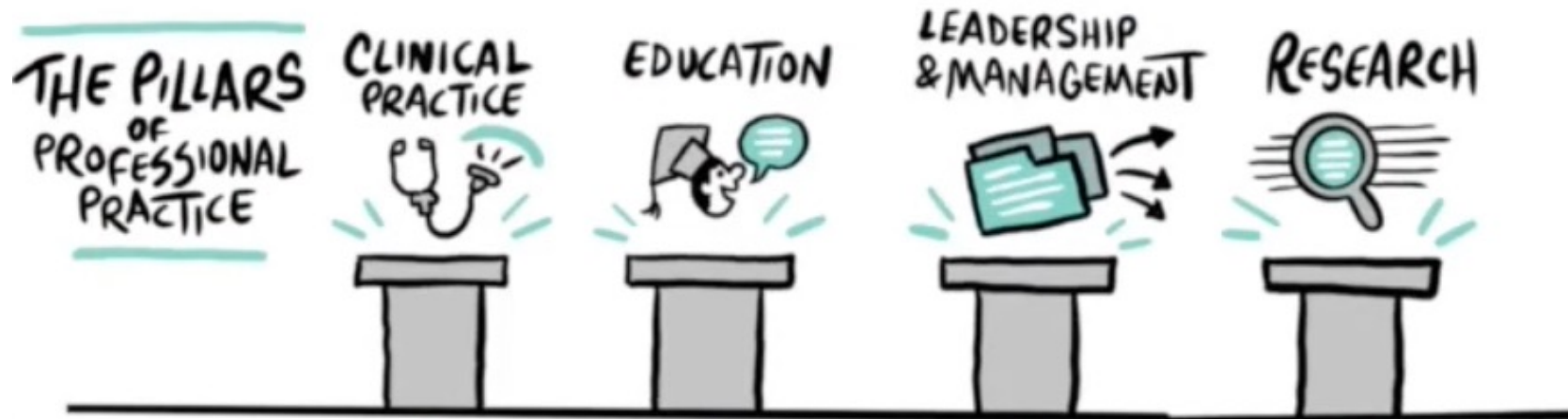


PhD research









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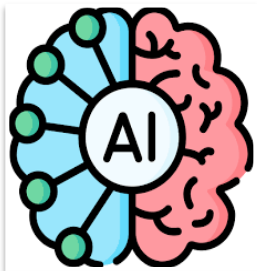
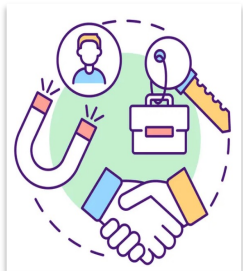
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**NEXT GENERATION
RADIOLOGY**

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Why AP in Radiotherapy?





Assess AP amongst TR/RTTs across Europe



Investigate education and training gaps for this level of practice



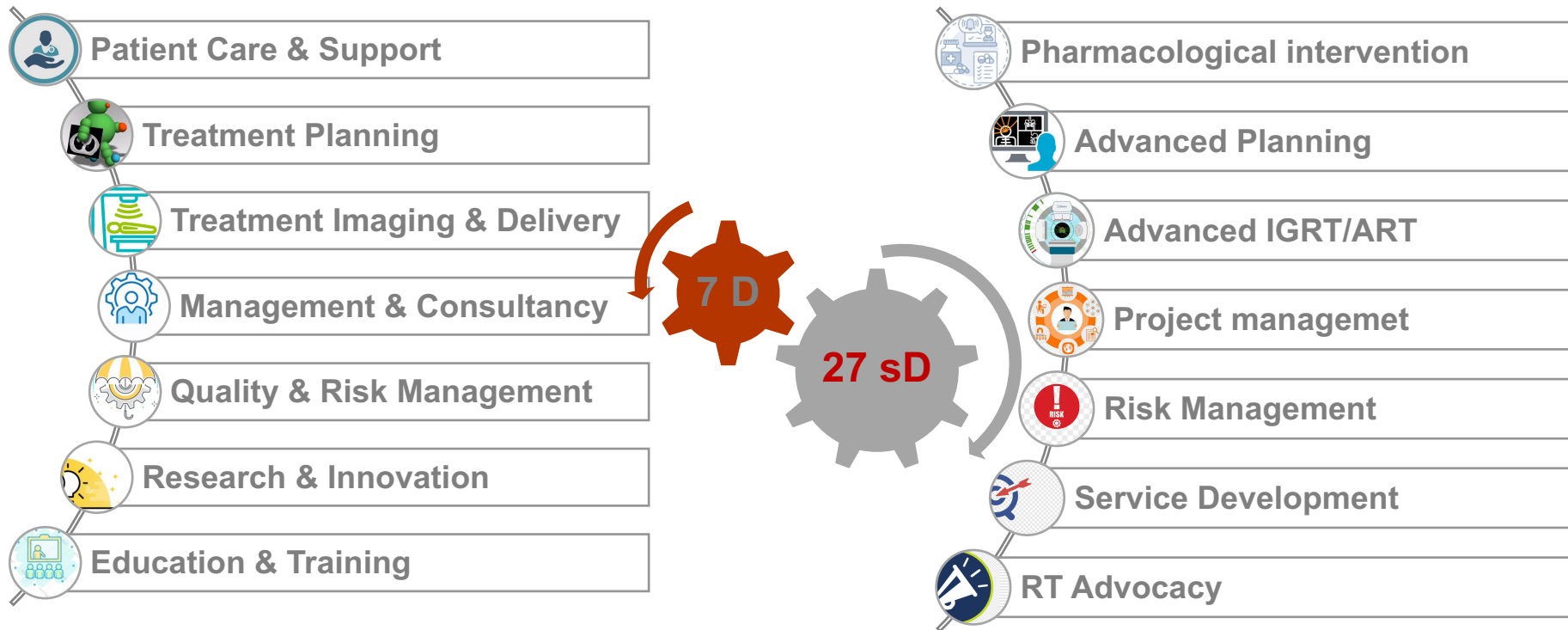
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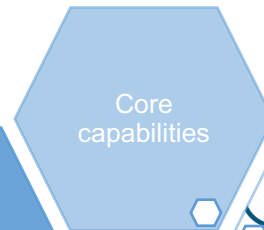
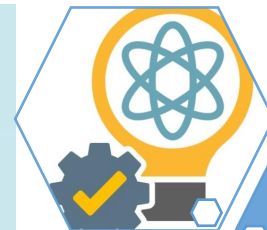


**NEXT GENERATION
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Advanced activities





Clinical



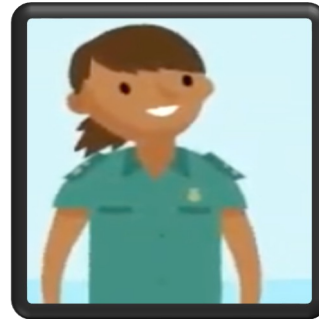
Education



Research



Leadership & Management



Clinical area

Site-specific

Palliative

Brachytherapy

Paediatric

Breast

Prostate/Urology

Head & Neck

Lung



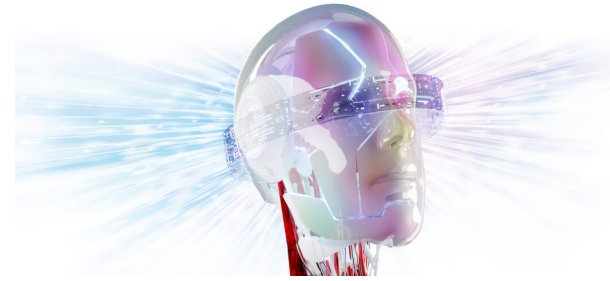
Scope of practice

Advanced Practice

Image review
On-treatment review
Pre-treatment
Drugs prescribing
Information & support

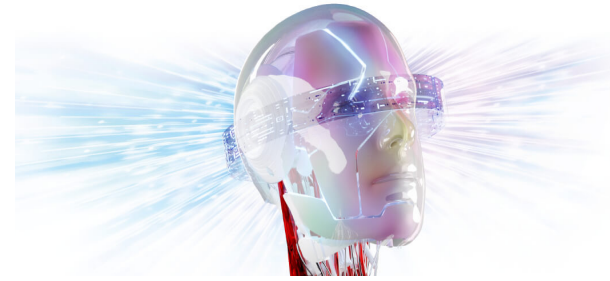
Clinical education
Practice development
Clinical research
Follow-up & survivorship

Clinical practice



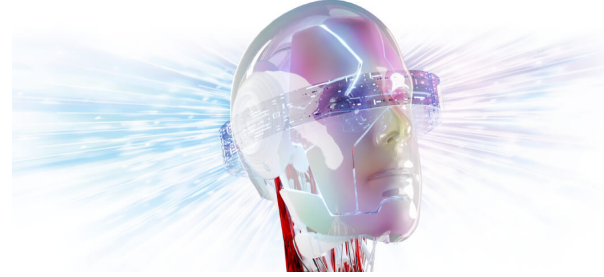
- **Site-specific/technique-specific roles**
- **Pre-planning/pre-treatment lead**
- **Advanced dosimetrist**
- **Brachytherapy lead**
- **Clinic reviewer**
- **Wound care lead**
- **Paediatrics lead**
- **Palliative care lead**

Leadership and management



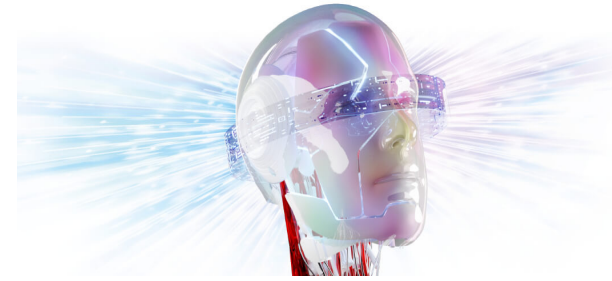
- Care manager
- Local risk manager
- Quality manager
- Project manager
- Chair of working group
- Recruitment lead
- RTT sub-chief manager

Education



- **Supervisor/ clinical demonstrator**
- **(Post)graduation lecturer**
- **Education manager RTT**
- **Trainer in IGRT**
- **Patient educator**
- **CPD programmes lead**

Research

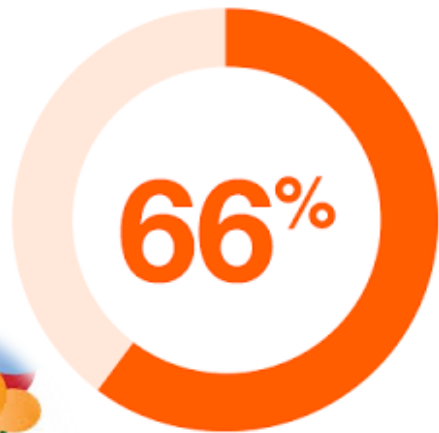


- **Research officer**
- **Clinical trials investigator**
- **Service development lead**
- **Research and development lead**

Informal practice



189 participants



21 countries



33

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VS



Governance &
role development



Workforce &
organization



Education &
training



Practice across
4 pillars

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Job description & job plan

Clinical Practice



60%

**Leadership and
Management**



15%

Education



10%

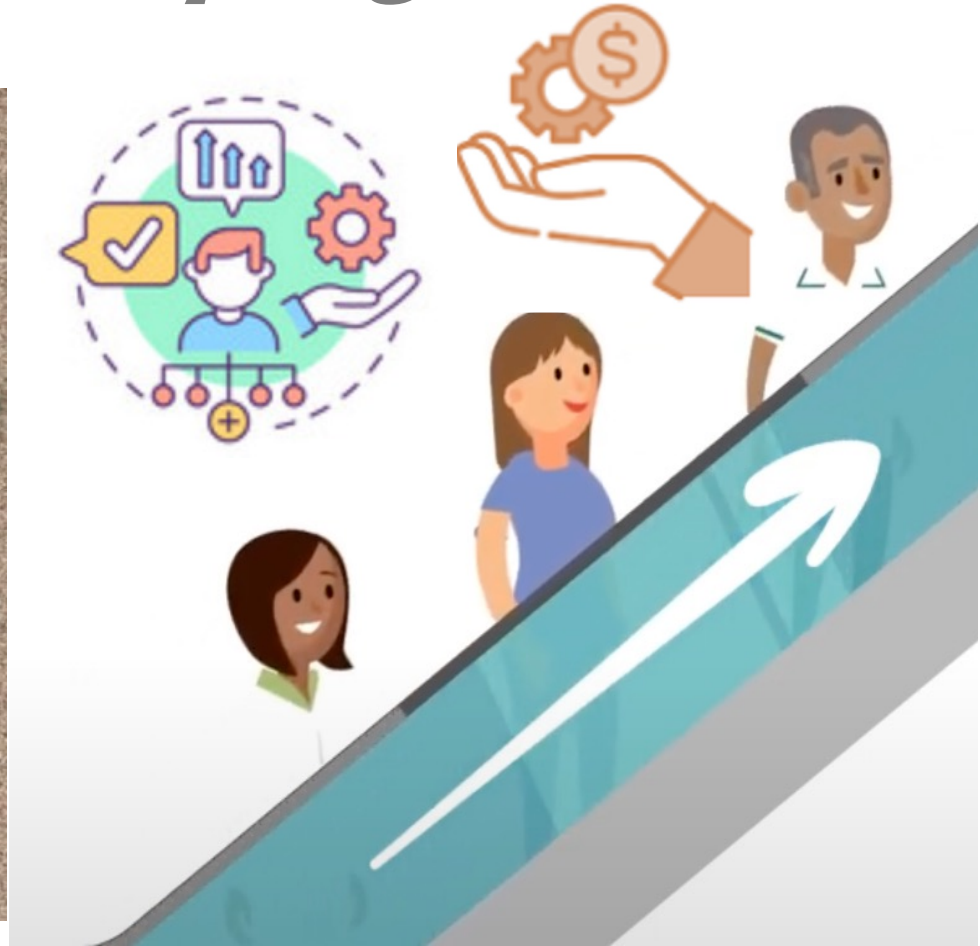
Research



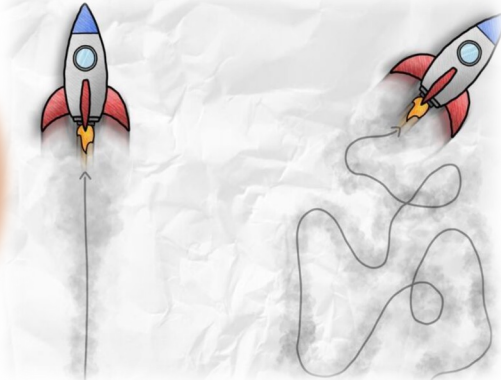
5%



Appraisal & career progression



AP framework



Workforce



Education & training



Practice across 4 pillars



Practice across AP pillars: challenges



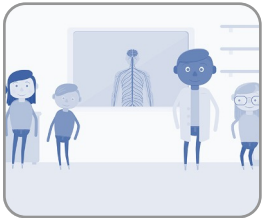
Prioritization of clinical demands

- No understanding of AP pillars' importance
- No time allocation for other pillars



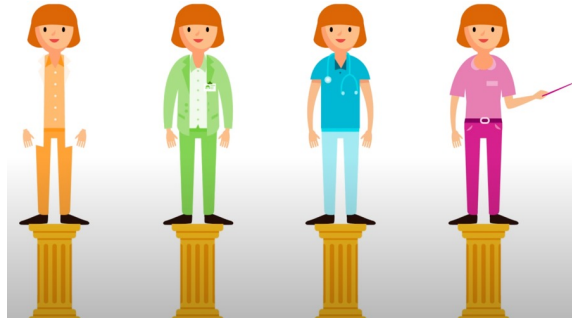
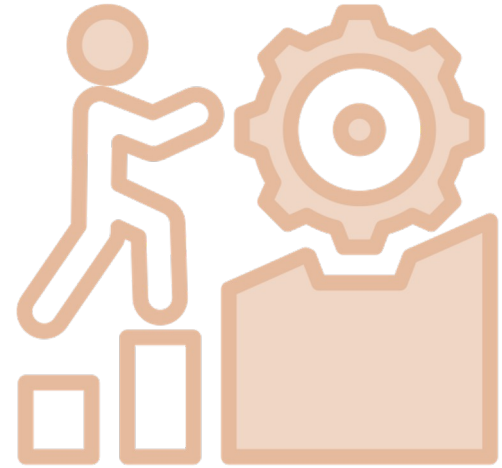
Research barriers

- No departmental culture
- Limited research skills & lack of confidence



Education & Leadership

- Lack of management support
- Workload pressures & stressful work
- No content in MSc AP/RT programmes



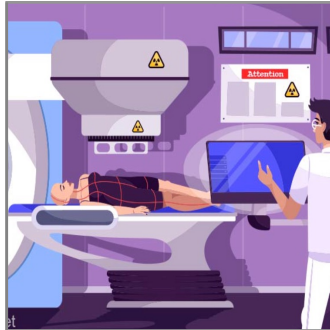


*The biggest challenge...
to prioritize the various
pillars...build time for
yourself...having a flexible
job plan. P4 ENG*



*I worked many
years like
dosimetrist, but I
wasn't
recognized, and I
wasn't
evaluated. PB4 IT*

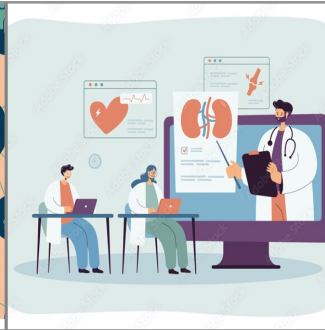
Future AP roles & challenges



- “Adapters”
- Holistic care & community



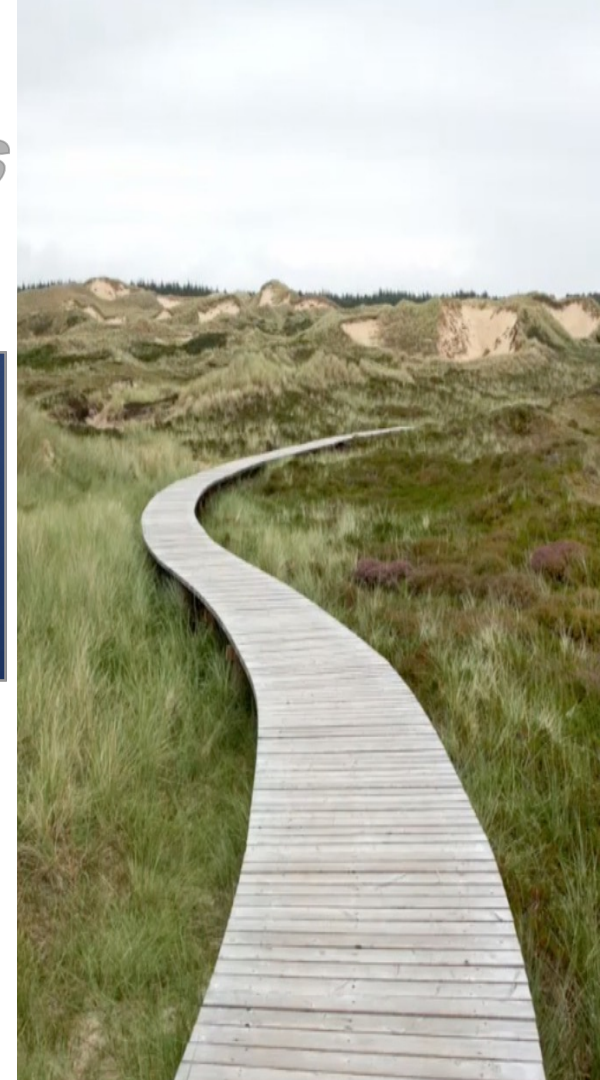
- Case/care manager



- Clinical academic

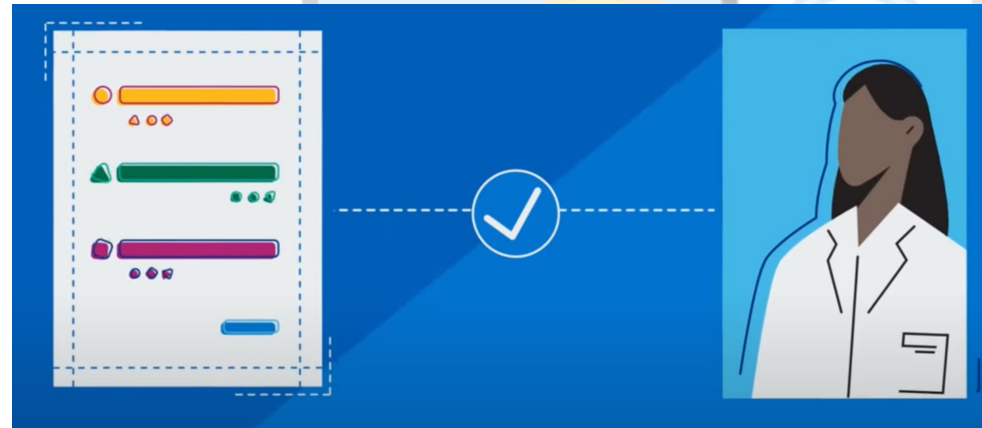


- AI expert



Take home message

- AP requirements: MSc & experience
- Updated job descriptions & job plan (4 pillars)
- Annual appraisal & objectives
- Options for career progression
- Financial compensation
- Support for education & training
- Accredited AP pathways





All participants!!!

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