

Email: [foi.tsdft@nhs.net](mailto:foi.tsdft@nhs.net)  
Our Ref: TSD10501

8 October 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

## **Request for Information**

We are writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information you requested.

A copy of the information is below:

### **Governance and safety of Physician Associate/ Assistant Roles (or equivalent)**

1. a. **Please disclose your current Scope of Practice document for Physician Associate/ Assistant Roles (or equivalent) and any related governance document on Physician Associate/ Assistant Roles (or equivalent).**  
[We are currently developing a document in partnership with our PAs and Operational Managers.](#)
2. a. **Please disclose how Physician Associates/Assistants (or equivalent) are coded on the trust's electronic patient records?**  
[In Epic, the provider type should reflect the individual's role as a Physician Associate or Student Physician Associate, as applicable. Their licence title, which appears against entries in the patient record, should also clearly identify their role.](#)  
  
b. **Are they coded generically as "clinician" or specifically as "Physician Associate/ Assistant" (or equivalent)? If neither, please specify how they are coded.**  
[They are therefore identified specifically by role rather than generically as "clinician".](#)  
  
c. **Please also disclose the full list of ALL staff codes used on the trust's electronic patient records.**

|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| Nurse Associate               |
| External Referring Clinician  |
| Chaplain                      |
| Surgeon                       |
| Cardiologist                  |
| Theatre Clinician             |
| Psychiatry                    |
| BS                            |
| Medical Student               |
| Medical Technician            |
| Radiographer                  |
| Sonographer                   |
| AUD                           |
| CNM                           |
| Podiatrist                    |
| DC                            |
| Sleep Tech                    |
| Consultant                    |
| Anaesthesia Associate         |
| Consultant Anaesthetist       |
| Anaesthetist                  |
| Anaesthesia Associate Trainee |
| CRNP                          |
| DDS                           |
| DO                            |
| BA                            |
| BSN                           |
| LVN                           |
| Healthcare Assistant          |
| Doctor                        |
| MD PhD                        |
| MS                            |
| MS CCC-A                      |
| MSW                           |
| Nurse Practitioner            |
| Optometrist                   |
| Occupational Therapist        |
| OTA                           |
| PA                            |
| PhD                           |
| Physiotherapy                 |
| PTA                           |
| Dietitian                     |

|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| Registered Nurse              |
| RN MSN                        |
| Pharmacist                    |
| BSW                           |
| DMD                           |
| PharmD, RPh                   |
| MBA                           |
| AAS                           |
| ADN                           |
| AS                            |
| MHE                           |
| MN                            |
| MPA                           |
| MPH                           |
| MPT                           |
| MSN                           |
| PharmD                        |
| ARRT                          |
| CDA                           |
| CNMT                          |
| CRTT                          |
| CLS                           |
| CLT                           |
| EMT                           |
| FNP                           |
| LPN                           |
| Biomedical Scientist          |
| MT                            |
| OTR                           |
| RHIT                          |
| RRA                           |
| RRT                           |
| RT                            |
| CCC-A                         |
| Speech and Language Therapist |
| MS CCC-SLP                    |
| RN MPH                        |
| MD MPH                        |
| RN PhD                        |
| PharmD PhD                    |
| CRNP MPH                      |
| RN BSW                        |
| RN MSW                        |

|                                            |
|--------------------------------------------|
| Midwife                                    |
| RDH                                        |
| COA                                        |
| Ophthalmic Technician                      |
| COMT                                       |
| COTA                                       |
| LCSW                                       |
| CTRS                                       |
| CCLS                                       |
| SNRA                                       |
| ATC                                        |
| Orthoptist                                 |
| GP                                         |
| Gastroenterologist                         |
| Medicines Management Technician            |
| Neuro HCS                                  |
| Advanced Critical Care Practitioner (FICM) |
| Surgical Care Practitioner                 |
| Extended Scope Practitioner                |
| Exercise Therapist                         |
| Health and Wellbeing Coach                 |
| Urgent Community Response Support Worker   |
| Rehab Support Worker                       |
| Assistant Practitioner                     |
| Speech Therapy Assistant Practitioner      |
| OT - Assistant Practitioner                |
| PT - Assistant Practitioner                |
| Therapy Assistant                          |
| Dietetic Support Worker                    |
| Diet and Exercise Practitioner             |
| Prosthetic Counsellor                      |
| Orthotist                                  |
| Chartered Physiotherapist                  |
| Student Midwife                            |
| Student Nurse                              |
| Consultant Physiotherapist                 |
| Clinical Psychologist                      |
| Medical Physicist                          |
| Trainee Clinical Psychologist              |
| Physician Associate                        |
| Physician Associate Student                |
| Student Dietitian                          |
| Student Podiatrist                         |

|                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Student SLT                                                                           |
| Student Physiotherapist                                                               |
| Cancer Nurse Specialist                                                               |
| Breast CNS                                                                            |
| Stroke Practitioner                                                                   |
| Trainee Advanced Clinical Practitioner                                                |
| Stop Smoking Specialist                                                               |
| Student Occupational Therapist                                                        |
| Learning Disability Nurse                                                             |
| Senior Clinical Physiologist                                                          |
| Chief Clinical Physiologist                                                           |
| Diabetes Assistant Practitioner                                                       |
| Paramedic Practitioner                                                                |
| Advanced Nurse Specialist Infection Surveillance, Infection Prevention & Control Team |
| Resuscitation Officer                                                                 |
| Discharge Co-ordinator                                                                |
| Allied HealthCare Professional                                                        |
| Stoma Care Nurse Specialist                                                           |
| Play Specialist                                                                       |
| Renal Supportive care nurse                                                           |
| AKI specialist nurse                                                                  |
| Speech and Language Assistant                                                         |
| Breast Cancer Support Worker                                                          |
| Breast Care Assistant Practitioner                                                    |
| ANNP (advanced neonatal nurse practitioner)                                           |
| Parkinsons Nurse Specialist                                                           |
| Epilepsy Nurse specialist                                                             |
| Complex hospital discharge team                                                       |
| Moving & Handling Trainer                                                             |
| Moving & Handling Advisor                                                             |
| Radiographic Assistant                                                                |
| Cancer Support Worker                                                                 |
| Clinical Nurse Specialist                                                             |
| Trainee Clinical Scientist                                                            |
| Nuclear Medicine Nurse                                                                |
| Multiple Sclerosis Specialist nurse                                                   |
| Multiple Sclerosis Nurse                                                              |
| Specialist Heart Failure Nurse                                                        |
| Dementia and Delirium Nurse Specialist                                                |
| Clinical Scientist                                                                    |
| Physio Technical Instructor                                                           |
| Safeguarding Specialist                                                               |

|                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Nurse Specialist Infection Prevention and Control          |
| Advanced Nurse Specialist Infection Prevention and Control |
| Clinical Matron Infection Prevention and Control           |
| Admiral Nurse Lead - Dementia Clinical Nurse Specialist    |
| Admiral Nurse - Dementia Specialist                        |
| Senior Healthcare - Assistant Dementia Support             |
| Admiral Nursing Team - Delirium Clinical Nurse Specialist  |
| Audiologist                                                |
| MCA / LPS Administrator                                    |
| Alcohol Liaison Nurse                                      |
| MCA/LPS Practitioner                                       |
| Deterioration & Resuscitation Officer                      |
| Arrhythmia Care Coordinator                                |
| Podiatry Assistant                                         |
| Research Fellow                                            |
| Patient Flow Coordinator                                   |
| Trainee Biomedical Scientist                               |
| Rheumatology Specialist Nurse                              |
| Advanced Clinical Practitioner                             |
| Renal Assistant Wellbeing Practitioner                     |
| Palliative/EoL Nurse                                       |
| Research Practitioner                                      |
| Assistant Research Practitioner                            |
| Nurse Endoscopist                                          |
| Administrator                                              |
| Clinical Matron for safety and patient experience          |
| Community Matron                                           |
| Clinical Matron                                            |
| Humankind Inreach Worker                                   |
| Consultant Nurse                                           |
| Drug & Alcohol Support Worker                              |
| Consultant Radiographer                                    |
| Social Prescriber                                          |
| Microbiology Service Manager                               |
| Microbiology Deputy Service Manager                        |
| Senior Biomedical Scientist                                |
| Specialist Biomedical Scientist                            |
| Biomedical Support Worker Manager                          |
| Associate Practitioner                                     |
| Biomedical Support Worker                                  |
| Cardiac Physiologist                                       |
| Senior Information Officer                                 |
| Delirium Clinical Nurse Specialist                         |

|                                          |
|------------------------------------------|
| Newborn Hearing Screener                 |
| Associate Specialist                     |
| Learning Disability Student Nurse        |
| Health Visitor                           |
| Registered Genetic Counsellor            |
| Dietetic Assistant Practitioner          |
| Failsafe Officer                         |
| Marie Curie Nurse                        |
| Specialist Community Public Health Nurse |
| Community Nursery Nurse                  |
| Support Worker                           |
| Psychological Practitioner               |
| Assistant Psychologist                   |
| Psychological Practitioner Trainee       |
| Dispensing Optician                      |

3. a. Please disclose how Physician Associates/Assistants (or equivalent) are coded on the trust's Datix system, or whether they are coded at all  
Physician Associates are not coded within the Datix system.

b. If they are NOT coded on Datix, please explain why this is so.  
They are not coded as no request has been received to include this staff subtype.

c. Please also disclose the full list of ALL staff codes currently used within the Datix system

| Code | Description                      |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 785  | Agency Staff                     |
| 752  | Administrative Staff             |
| DPT  | Devon Partnership NHS Trust      |
| 947  | Security                         |
| 455  | Porter                           |
| 849  | Clinical Engineer                |
| 850  | Assistant Practitioner (nursing) |
| 851  | Assistant Practitioner (other)   |
| 853  | Medical laboratory assistant     |
| 854  | Doctor's assistant               |
| 860  | EPRR Team                        |
| 859  | Manager                          |
| 858  | Waste Team                       |
| 857  | Hotel Services Team              |
| 856  | Catering Team                    |
| 855  | Facilities Team                  |
| 870  | Medical Student                  |

|     |                                         |
|-----|-----------------------------------------|
| 871 | Student Nurse                           |
| 786 | Allied Health Professional              |
| 787 | Bank Staff                              |
| 788 | Call Centre Staff                       |
| 789 | Chiropodist/Podiatrist                  |
| 790 | Claimant's Solicitor                    |
| 791 | Clinical Governance Professional        |
| 792 | Community Nurse                         |
| 793 | Consultant                              |
| 794 | Defence Solicitor                       |
| 795 | Dental Nurse                            |
| 796 | Dental Technician                       |
| 797 | Dentist                                 |
| 798 | Deputy Director                         |
| 799 | Dietician                               |
| 800 | Director                                |
| 801 | Domestics                               |
| 802 | Emergency Care Assistant                |
| 803 | Emergency Care Practitioner             |
| 804 | Emergency Nurse Practitioner            |
| 805 | Estates Worker                          |
| 806 | Expert Witness                          |
| 807 | Fire Service Officer                    |
| 808 | General Practitioner (GP) (Locum)       |
| 809 | General Practitioner (GP) (Substantive) |
| 810 | Health Care Assistant                   |
| 811 | Health Care Support Worker              |
| 812 | Health Visitor                          |
| 813 | Junior Doctor                           |
| 814 | Matron                                  |
| 815 | Medical Doctor (Locum)                  |
| 816 | Medical Doctor (Substantive)            |
| 817 | Midwife                                 |
| 818 | Nursery Nurse                           |
| 819 | Nursing Associate                       |
| 820 | Occupational Therapist                  |
| 821 | Paramedic                               |
| 822 | Patient Transport Crew / Ambulance Crew |
| 823 | Pharmacist                              |
| 824 | Pharmacy Assistant                      |
| 825 | Pharmacy Technician                     |
| 826 | Phlebotomist                            |
| 827 | Physiotherapist                         |
| 828 | Police Officer                          |
| 829 | Practice Manager                        |

|      |                                   |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| 830  | Practice Nurse                    |
| 831  | Psychologist / Psychotherapist    |
| 832  | Radiographer                      |
| 833  | Receptionist / Ward Clerk         |
| 834  | Registered Nurse (Agency)         |
| 835  | Registered Nurse (Bank)           |
| 836  | Registered Nurse (Substantive)    |
| 837  | Rehabilitation Support Worker     |
| 838  | Senior Sister                     |
| 839  | Sister                            |
| 840  | Social Work Practitioner          |
| 841  | Social Worker                     |
| 842  | Specialist Nurse                  |
| 843  | Speech and Language Therapist     |
| 844  | Surgeon                           |
| 845  | Trainee Assistant Practitioner    |
| 846  | Visitor (on official business)    |
| 847  | Volunteer                         |
| 848  | Ward Manager                      |
| TECH | Technician                        |
| 946  | Patient                           |
| 55   | Charge Nurse                      |
| 852  | Biomedical Scientist (registered) |

4. a. Please disclose when the trust first introduced Physician Associate/ Assistant Roles (or equivalent) roles and the current number of FTE of such roles at the trust.

2017. The current establishment is 7.63 FTE.

5. a. Please disclose if and how the trust has evaluated the safety of Physician Associate/ Assistant Roles (or equivalent) roles since they were first introduced at the trust

The Trust has not undertaken a formal Trust-wide assessment of the safety of Physician Associate/Assistant roles since their introduction

- b. Please disclose specifically if and how the trust has tracked and evaluated any patient safety incidents associated with or arising from these Physician Associate/ Assistant Roles (or equivalent) roles since they were first introduced.

The Trust does not monitor incident trends by staff sub-type

- c. For example, does the trust hold central data on the number of serious incidents and Never Events associated with Physician Associate/ Assistant Roles (or equivalent) roles since their introduction?

No. The Trust does not monitor incident trends by staff sub-type

**d. Has the trust produced any formal analyses or reports on the safety of Physician Associate/ Assistant Roles (or equivalent) roles at the trust? If so, please share these.**

No

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting.

If you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact us, quoting the FOI reference number above.

If you are unhappy with the way in which we have handled your request, please contact the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Lead in the first instance. If you wish to make a formal complaint, you should write to our Complaints Manager at Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust, First Floor Bowyer Building, Torbay Hospital, Torquay TQ2 7AA or by email to [tsdft.feedback@nhs.net](mailto:tsdft.feedback@nhs.net)

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner will only make a decision once you have exhausted the complaints and/or internal review process provided by us. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through this link <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

Yours sincerely,

Freedom of Information Team