**Expression of Interest (EOI): GP with Extended Role (GPwER) in Gastroenterology Training Programme**

**National Outpatient Recovery & Transformation Programme – July 2025**

1. **Gastroenterology Funded Training Programme**

NHS England is providing funding for ICBs to identify interested GPs to join a 2-year GP with Extended Role (GPwER) in Gastroenterology training programme, and secondary care gastroenterology teams interested in supporting the training and onward role of the GPwER within their departments. This programme aims to equip the GP with the knowledge and skills required to work at the interface between primary and secondary care providing clinical services and support in the community. The programme has been successfully piloted in the Southwest of England since 2023.

The 2-year programme will include both clinical and educational components, with the GP working alongside a nominated gastroenterologist at their local hospital in outpatient clinic as well as completing an online educational programme designed to support and enhance the GP’s clinical training. The GP will demonstrate attainment of competencies through the completion of an online portfolio and educational assessments during their training.

The overall aim of the programme is to strengthen the link between primary and secondary care and create more responsive pathways for patients with gastrointestinal conditions by developing community-based roles for the GPwERs trained through the programme.

Watch this short video for [more information on the training programme](https://www.pcsg.org.uk/what-is-a-gpwer-in-gastroenterology/).

Please use this EOI form to register your interest **by Friday 25 July.**

1. **Overview**

We are inviting Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) to submit Expressions of Interest to participate in the pilot phase of the GP with Extended Role (GPwER) in Gastroenterology training programme.

This initiative supports outpatient and elective care transformation by embedding skilled GPs into gastroenterology pathways to strengthen primary care, improve referral management, and expand community-based specialist capacity.

Funding has been secured to support a cohort of GPs across England to develop extended skills in gastroenterology, supported by clinical supervision and integration into local care models.

1. **Aims of the EOI**

This EOI will:

* Identify ICBs and providers with clinical readiness and appetite to trial the model.
* Establish whether systems have GPs, clinical supervisors, and financial mechanisms in place to support the pilot.
* Inform the allocation of training places based on a clear evaluation framework.

1. **What Successful Applicants Will Receive**

ICBs and providers selected through this EOI will receive:

* Funded training places for identified GPs, including:
  + Session time for learning and development
  + Supervision costs
  + Access to a national curriculum and peer learning programme
* Implementation support to help integrate the GPwER into local gastroenterology teams
* Opportunity to shape the wider rollout and influence future workforce models

1. **What are the expectations from participating ICBs?**

ICBs are asked to:

* Ideally identify 1 or more GPs with a strong interest in developing an extended role in gastroenterology (not mandatory at this stage but helpful for assessing readiness)
* Confirm provider buy-in, particularly:
  + Named gastroenterology consultants willing to supervise the GP(s).

Please note: It is important to have this in place as it forms a key part of the training programme.

* + Clinic settings (e.g. A&G triage, community clinics, virtual follow-up) where GPwERs could contribute
  + Capacity and readiness to embed GPwERs into local MDTs
* Describe post-training sustainability plans, including:
  + How the GPwER role would be maintained/commissioned post-training
  + Any alignment with existing workforce or transformation strategies
* Confirm available funding or provide a plan to secure funding for the role’s ongoing delivery
* Successful ICBs will be expected to provide data and participate in an evaluation of this initiative (further information will be shared on this in due course).

1. **Timeline**

* Notification of outcomes: **end of July**
* Funding release: **August 2025** (to ICBs for onward transfer to providers)

1. **Assessment Criteria**

EOI submissions will be assessed across three domains:

I System Need

* **Advice & Guidance (A&G) utilisation**: Current use and effectiveness of A&G for gastro referrals
* **RTT performance**: Evidence of pressures, e.g. GI outpatient waits, 2WW volumes, endoscopy backlogs

II Readiness

* GPs confirmed: Named or identified GPs willing to undertake training (desirable but not essential for EOI submission)
* **Consultant supervision**: Named supervisors with available capacity
* **Integration into service model**: Description of how the GPwER would operate within local services

III Finance

* **Sustainability**: Clear commitment to commission/fund the role post-training
* **Delivery support**: Confirmation of funding (or pathway to funding) during training

1. **What We Offer**

Selected systems will receive:

* Funded training places for GPs (including supervision costs)
* Access to a structured learning programme and national support
* A peer network of sites trialling and evaluating the model

**EOI Submission Template**

Please complete the form below and return by [Insert Deadline] to [Insert Contact Email].

**Section A – System Details**

| Field | Response |
| --- | --- |
| Region |  |
| ICB Name |  |
| Provider Organisation(s) |  |

**Section B – System Need**

| Question | Response |
| --- | --- |
| Current A&G utilisation for gastroenterology: |  |
| RTT performance:  GI outpatient wait times,  2WW pressures, etc. |  |
| Describe which aspect of gastroenterology RTT performance you would want to solve through GPwER(s) development, for example, hepatology, luminal gastroenterology etc? |  |

**Section C – Readiness**

| Question | Response |
| --- | --- |
| Name(s) of GP(s) interested in training (if known): |  |
| Named supervising consultant(s) and provider site(s): |  |
| Outline of supervision arrangement and capacity: |  |
| Proposed service model for GPwER integration (e.g. triage, A&G, clinics): |  |

**Section D – Finance & Sustainability**

| Question | Response |
| --- | --- |
| Is there a commitment to sustain and commission the GPwER service post-training? (Y/N) Please elaborate: |  |
| Has funding been identified for delivery of the GPwER service (post training phase)? |  |
| If not, what is the proposed route to secure this? |  |
| Please state the vision for how the GPwER(s) will work as part of a neighbourhood team (in due course, providing an interface between primary and secondary care)? |  |

**Section E – Additional Comments**

| Field | Response |
| --- | --- |
| Any known risks or barriers to delivery |  |
| Any additional information to support your application |  |

**Next Steps**

EOI responses will be reviewed by NHS England and clinical leads, using a weighted scoring framework aligned to the domains above. Systems will be notified of the outcome by [Insert Date].

For queries, please contact:  
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