

Our South West nursing and midwifery people

Amanda Clements

Interim Hepatology Nurse Consultant / advanced clinical practitioner
South West Liver Unit, University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust.

On a typical day

My day starts at 7.30am when I arrive in our Hepatology nursing team office.

My first role will be ensuring that the patients well enough to go home have everything ready for their discharge and making plans for the patients that need to be admitted today.

I then review with the rest of the team as they begin arriving, their clinical activity.

Nursing people with liver disease is a unique and rewarding role and we have developed a nursing service that reflects the broad and complex needs of our patient group.

Our team offers specialist and expert nursing care to patients for every aspect of liver disease including primary liver cancer, liver transplantation, alcohol liaison, decompensated cirrhosis, viral hepatitis and end of life care.

We have recognised the need to focus on patient centred care and also take our “hospital services” into our community within our local prison, drug and alcohol services, GP practices and community hospitals.

One of the ways I've made a difference as a nurse or midwife

I have been privileged to work with people affected by liver disease.

I have learnt so much from all of them, many of them have told me that I have made a difference as they have felt cared for and accepted for who they were rather than why they had liver disease.

I have seen what the impact of care and compassion can have particularly for people who have experienced various traumas in their lives in supporting them to engage in health care.



What would you say to someone considering a career in nursing & midwifery?

I still remember my first day as a student nurse, with no idea what an amazing career and life that nursing would give me.

Nursing has opened so many doors for me and given me financial independence. I have had many varied and fascinating nursing roles.

Nursing has enabled me to develop my academic knowledge and qualifications. Never did I think when I struggled at school that I would, not only achieve a first class degree but a Master's degree and Post Graduate certificate in Education.

I am also a qualified non-medical prescriber. Professional development opportunities enabled this for me.

I can't imagine being anything other than a nurse.

There are so many amazing nursing roles to choose from and working with the amazing multi-disciplinary teams.

Yet at the heart of this, I know and have seen that as a nurse you really can make a difference in another person's life and this is the biggest reward anyone can achieve.

Every day is different and can be filled with the full range of human emotions, but I can guarantee you that you will never be bored.

**Find out more about our nursing and midwifery people stories by
Tweeting us @NHSEnglandSW or emailing england.swcomms@nhs.net**