

Advanced Clinical Practice, An International perspective Mauritius



My name is Allan Davasgaium, and I am currently working as a lead research Nurse in the study of diabetes, endocrinology and metabolism in a tertiary centre. Prior to joining this fascinating speciality I worked as a charge nurse in Accident and Emergency, with a view to become an Advanced clinical practitioner. Before working as a nurse, I had the opportunity to work in pathology as a trainee biomedical scientist in Birmingham Woman's Hospital.

A comparison of nursing practise in England vs abroad.

My transition as an experienced Nurse from Mauritius to the United Kingdom was relatively straight forward. This is due to the high clinical standard expected of Mauritian nurses, with students being required to gain experience on most of the wards in a general hospital. There is also the requirement to do work in community placements, and hospital specialities including ENT, ophthalmology, the injury and burns unit, and psychiatric hospital. The Mauritian nursing course comprises of two main exams; intermediate and final, plus continuous internal assessment exams and the satisfactory completion of a logbook competencies after 3 yrs. Both the intermediate and final exams comprise of oral and written examinations, based on clinical medicine and surgery. The third year and first year post-registration moulds the student nurse for clinical practice in the healthcare arena.

How studying for health assessment / other MSc nursing modules contribute to benefiting practice at home

I feel the MSc modules naturally follow on from the theory I learnt as a student of nursing in Mauritius. Obviously, there is greater focus on independent practice and enhancing nursing skills and abilities with advanced clinical practice. There are many areas where Mauritian nursing could be improved such as information governance, audit and service improvement, mandatory training post qualification, and a greater focus on continuous professional development. In daily practice there needs to be more guidelines in place, that are in keeping with evidence based medicine, and enable a standardisation of medicine across all healthcare settings.

Your views on studying Nursing in the UK

Studying advanced nursing in the UK has allowed me to develop my critical reasoning skills, with reflection improving my current practice to a more sophisticated holistic and patient centred approach. Working in accordance with current local and national guidelines, I am able to provide a high standard of patient care. There are also numerous opportunities to interact, learn from and work with allied healthcare professionals, again building on my clinical knowledge and providing holistic care for patients.

What is Advancing Clinical Practice in your context / country

In recent years there has been a trial of private Mauritian hospitals offering nurses post- graduate courses such as advanced practice, through affiliation with certain UK universities.