

Introductory podcast script for Introducing Practical Healthcare

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Welcome to the Introducing Practical Healthcare course. By studying this course you will be taking your first steps into developing a better future for yourself within the healthcare sector. If you complete the short assessment at the end of each section you will be able to collect badges. These virtual badges provide a form of recognition for your learning and you can display them on your social media profiles, for example, LinkedIn and Facebook.

Introducing Practical Healthcare is made up of four sections. The subjects you will be studying are based upon the fifteen standards of care listed within the Care Certificate which was developed as part of the Cavendish review, aimed at improving services across the health and social care sectors.

- In Section 1 you will be given an overview of the healthcare assistant role and some of the tasks involved in providing frontline care;
- Section 2 will cover how to support patients using a person-centred approach;
- Section 3 outlines the essential elements of healthcare practice (such as maintaining patient privacy and dignity, and some aspects of health and safety);
- And lastly Section 4 covers the duty of care required as a healthcare assistant.
- At the end of the four sections you will find information on **'Next Steps'** which will signpost you to relevant websites and resources relating to further development of your learning, in relation to working within the health and social care sector.

You can study each of the four sections separately and in any order, and you will be given the opportunity to receive a badge for each completed section. The course is flexible and there's no time limit for completion. You can take it in small chunks, working whenever you like. We recommend you try to engage with all of the sections in order to receive a Statement of Participation at the end which recognises the learning outcomes you have met. You can then show this to your employer as evidence of your learning if you wish.

There are guided activities throughout the course which will help you to reflect upon your own practice, and a range of interactive quizzes at the end of each section which give you the opportunity to earn your badge for that section.

There may be many reasons why you have chosen to study this course. It might be to support your professional development by improving your basic skills, or simply for personal interest and to develop your confidence as a learner.

This course will be most relevant to those of you who are already working in healthcare support roles, especially if you have direct contact with patients. The skills and

knowledge you will develop by studying this course make it particularly relevant to those working in healthcare assistant or healthcare support worker roles, but it might also be helpful to those of you working within the wider healthcare team such as porters, receptionists or volunteers. You can gain valuable insights into what knowledge and skills are required to do the job.

So, it is not essential that you are employed as a healthcare assistant in order to study this course: you may have an interest in healthcare, or may be considering moving into a caring role. The course is designed to help you to understand what the role entails and perhaps whether this is the next career step for you.

I do hope you will enjoy the course and I wish you luck for your future career development.