

## Internship case study

### Neil Smith

#### Background

At the time of applying for the HEE/NIHR CAIP\* I was working as a clinical lead in musculoskeletal physiotherapy. I had previously undertaken Masters stand-alone clinical modules but had little experience of research methodology and approaches. I had unanswered questions in my clinical practice and wanted to start to get involved in the delivery of research and contribute to the evidence base. I felt that the CAIP would enable me to develop my research knowledge and understanding and be a stepping stone in developing a clinical academic research career along-side my current clinical role.



#### About the project

My study title was “An exploration of clinician experiences on the role of suprascapular nerve block injections in the non-surgical management of shoulder pain: a Focus Group Study”.

#### Benefits

Following the completion of the CAIP I was successful in gaining a place on a full time HEE/NIHR MRes programme at Coventry University. The MRes programme has further built upon the learning and knowledge I gained through the CAIP. My initial research question / idea from the CAIP has followed into my MRes programme where I have undertaken an independent research study.

#### What has it allowed me to achieve in my research career?

The ICA programme has enabled me to gain knowledge, skills and understanding in different research approaches and how they could be applied to answers questions in the clinical environment. This programme has provided me with the opportunity to develop as a clinical academic which in the future will benefit my patients, organisation and colleagues through sharing and implementing my knowledge and skills.

\* CAIP is the local internship scheme within the ICA Programme in the West Midlands