**Self-Directed Learning During Your GP Placement**

A series of Canvas modules have been created to support your GP placement. They can be found in the “Patient & Doctor 2” Course at: <https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/115677>.

All our Primary Care Modules are pre-fixed with “GP Placement...”. The full titles are as follows:

* GP Placement (1) – Introduction
* GP Placement (2) – The Relationship Between Primary and Secondary Care
* GP Placement (3) – Clinical Skills in Primary Care
* GP Placement (4) – The Primary Healthcare Team
* GP Placement (5) – The Primary Care Team in Action and the Extended Patient Contact Report
* GP Placement (6) – Further Resources

**Before your placement starts you should complete Module 1 – Introduction.** It contains important information about the logistics of your GP attachment.

You may find it helpful to start working through the other modules in advance of your placement, so you are more prepared for your encounters with both healthcare professionals and patients. You can also complete the modules in "self-directed study" time, when you do not have timetabled sessions in the GP Practice. This can be undertaken at home – you are not required to be in the surgery at these times.

You will find that some of the module pages (particularly those relating to history, examination skills and the Extended Patient Contact Report) will be helpful for reference whilst seeing and discussing patients.

The modules cover:

* Logistical details of your placement
* How to get the most out of your placements, including filmed interviews with current medical students
* Reflections on the impact of Covid-19 on clinical practice
* An introduction to clinical skills in Primary Care (history-taking and examination)
* A summary of the relationship between Primary and Secondary care
* An overview of the Primary Healthcare Team (including video interviews with Oxfordshire Primary Healthcare Team members)
* Community team members discussing complex cases, as a background to the *Extended Patient Contact Report*
* Details on how to approach your *Extended Patient Contact Report* and write in a reflective way

**Please make sure you have completed all modules by the end of your two-week attachment. Overall, the modules will take about 6 hours to work through and we advise doing this in stages, so you have time to think and reflect on the content.**

**Reading List**

Please see below for a suggested reading list. Biographies and well-researched novels can give a real insight into the experiences of both patients and doctors.  Books are often an opportunity to see things from the patient's perspective, or put yourself "in their shoes".

We encourage you to explore this way of finding out more about medicine - see if it's for you. Your tutors may have suggestions of other titles they have found particularly helpful or inspiring.

**Novels looking at life as a doctor (both now and in the past)**

* *A Country Doctor’s Notebo*ok, Bulgakov (working as a junior doctor in early twentieth Century Russia).
* *The Citadel,* AJ Cronin (about a GP in rural Wales in the 1930s. The novel is thought to have been very influential in the setting up of the NHS)
* *Trust Me, I’m a (Junior) Doctor,* Max Pemberton (junior doctoring in the noughties)
* *When Breath Becomes Air,* Paul Kalanithi (an account of illness and mortality, from the perspective of a young brain surgeon who developed metastatic cancer).

**Novels about particular medical issues**

**Mental Health/ Learning Disability**

The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath

The Shock of the Fall, Nathan Filer

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, Mark Haddon

**Dementia**

Elizabeth is Missing, Emma Healey

**Death and Dying**

The Death of Ivan Ilych, Tolstoy

**Domestic Violence**

The Woman Who Walked into Doors, Roddy Doyle

**Addiction**

Trainspotting, Irvine Welsh