




<p><i>Name</i></p>	<p>Richard Hall</p> 
<p><i>How long have you provided admin support to the physiotherapy and occupational therapy teams in Cambridge?</i></p>	<p>3 months</p>
<p><i>What inspired you to undertake this role part-time?</i></p>	<p>I took early retirement in 2020, but then realised I wasn't ready to completely stop working. I wanted a role within the NHS but without the long hours I previously worked.</p>
<p><i>What does your role involve?</i></p>	<p>My clinician colleagues assess whether specialist equipment is needed to improve the lives of our younger patients with complex needs. I then order the equipment and monitor its delivery.</p>
<p><i>How did you get into this career? What steps did it take since leaving school?</i></p>	<p>I left school at 16 – worked for Barclays bank, progressing to be a corporate manager specialising in agriculture. After many years, I decided I wanted a career change and became practice manager of a busy GP surgery which I did for 14 years. We then moved house, so I decided to take early retirement, which lasted 18 months. During that time, I worked as a steward at a local Covid vaccination centre and then decided I still had something to offer the NHS (but on a part-time basis) so applied for my current role.</p>
<p><i>Can you tell us a bit about the training you undertook for your role?</i></p>	<p>Although I work within the Cambridge team, I live on the outskirts of Norwich and work remotely via laptop. My excellent mentor Akira Morgan worked with me via MS Teams to train me in what was required to</p>



	allow me to carry out the role. I'm still learning new skills, and Akira is always available if I get stuck!
<i>What's been the highlight of your career so far?</i>	Anything involving coaching and mentoring colleagues. I've long been an advocate of encouraging colleagues to advance their careers through training. For example, my GP practice was the first in the area to take on an apprentice receptionist.
<i>What do you like most about your role/career?</i>	I love the flexibility that this role gives me, which also seems to work for my team!
<i>What's the most challenging part of your role?</i>	Working at a distance from the rest of my team. I'm a sociable person and miss those "water cooler" chats.
<i>What's a typical day like for you in your role?</i>	I tend to log on fairly early in the morning, to pick up the tasks allocated to me. I then work for 2-3 hours then the rest of the day is free for me!
<i>What are the main skills needed to do your role?</i>	Flexibility and attention to detail, together with an enquiring mind.
<i>Do you have any advice for someone considering your career?</i>	NOTE – do be careful of NHS pension implications if you drop from full time to part time without drawing your pension.