



Carole Kerton-Church

Regional Clinical Lead – London & Essex

Meet Carole, your Regional Clinical Lead for London and Essex

About me

“I’m the Regional Clinical Lead for London and Essex. I am proud to have 20 years’ experience in care and nursing and can’t imagine that there is anything else that I would want to do more. I am passionate about proactive care and health education and I have been lucky enough not only to look after, but also work alongside so many different people – I’ve heard so many amazing and often inspiring stories. Working for Helping Hands enables me and my colleagues to support people in their own home – the place where most people want to stay for as long as they can. It’s so important and extremely rewarding.”

Career Pathway and Professional Development

Carole started her care and nursing career as a Healthcare Assistant in a nursing home in 1998. By 2002, she was managing a large residential care home, and then in 2004 she started a Nursing Diploma at Anglia Ruskin University. Carole joined the [Nursing and Midwifery Council register](#) in 2007 and have since held posts as a Staff Nurse in an Acute Hospital Trust, Community Nursing Team Leader and [Senior GP Nurse](#). Her previous responsibilities have included supervising teams, safeguarding, Care Quality Commission (CQC) preparation and compliance and triage in emergency and primary care. Carole was a Tissue Viability Link Nurse as well as a Student Nurse Mentor, Clinical Supervisor and Continuing Healthcare Assessor.

Carole has a Dip HE in Nursing (Adult), Certificate in Health and Social Care (Open), Mentorship in Health and Social Care, Consultation and Assessment Skills.

Carole’s key areas of nursing interest are palliative care, complex wound management, pre-hospital care, consultation and diagnostics and care of older people. She is experienced in assessment and care in acute and emergency medicine, post-operative care, management of long-term conditions and end of life care. She has looked after people with conditions such as multiple sclerosis (MS), motor neurone disease (MND), cancer, as well as cardiac, respiratory and renal failure, haematology conditions such as thalassaemia, and spinal and brain injury. She is competent in catheterisation, PEG management, venepuncture and cannulation, intravenous and subcutaneous therapy, oxygen therapy, negative pressure dressing therapy, pressure area care, compression bandaging, insulin therapy, hormone replacement therapy (primarily in treating prostate cancer) and bowel care and stoma and urostomy care. She has also cared for patients undergoing gender reassignment.

Carole has worked alongside social workers, therapy services, hospice services and mental health services, as well as taking part in the annual 'Flu-a-thon' in her local area, where approximately 500 flu vaccines were administered in a community event whilst raising money for the local hospice. As a Tissue Viability Link Nurse, Carole regularly took part in wound dressings evaluation trials. As a GP nurse, she participated in a wound dressing trial supporting the vascular surgeon who was caring for one of the patients at the acute hospital where she previously worked, as well as partaking in a research study focusing on women's understanding of the human papilloma virus and cervical screening.

Carole's explains her proudest moment: "Other than graduating from university with a nursing qualification, helping to save the life of a patient who had a cardiac arrest during a routine appointment at the GP surgery where I worked is my proudest moment to date. His cardiology surgeon called to thank us later that day after the patient had undergone emergency heart surgery; the patient is still well a year later. Knowing that I was able to use my knowledge and training to save someone's life is such an amazing feeling."

