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Nurse Practitioner  
at  
**Merridale Surgery**



# At Merridale we have 1 Nurse Practitioner:-

**Helen Rhodes.** Post Graduate Certificate in Primary Care, Advanced Clinical Assessment and Diagnostic Reasoning. Derby University.

Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Community Health Care Nursing. De Montfort University.

Independent Nurse Prescriber.

Diploma in Asthma management. Warwick University.

Diploma in Women's Health. Bloomsbury Hospital Trust London.

Diploma in NHS Management. Open University.

Registered General Nurse.

Registered Sick Children's Nurse.

Nurse Practitioners are increasingly used as part of the skill mix in GP practices, Out of Hours and hospital services.

She can provide much the same care provided by the GP and maintain a close working relationship with the GPs especially the duty doctor each day.

Helen is a very experienced nurse who has undertaken further training which includes diagnosis and management of common medical conditions including acute and chronic illnesses and providing a wide range of health care management.

She is able to transfer patients to see a GP if she identifies a condition which is beyond her experience.

This skill mix approach provides GPs with more time for managing multiple and complex cases.

The Nurse Practitioner can:-

See any patients over 2 years of age. Work independently in history taking, diagnosis, investigations and treatment, including prescriptions. On going management of minor illnesses such as:-

- Cough/colds symptoms
- General aches and pains, joint and muscle pains.
- Back pain
- Headaches
- Urine and bowel problems
- Ear nose and throat problems
- Stomach problems
- Skin conditions
- Fit to work notes (sick notes) in liaison with GP.
- Low mood symptoms
- Minor injury
- Minor eye complaints
- Stop smoking prescribing

Helen does not see pregnant ladies, patients with chest pain or patients wishing to be referred.