

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the MACP for awarding me a bursary towards my MSc.

I have now reached the end of my MSc journey. I completed this at Coventry University, which was a familiar place for me as I had completed my undergraduate course there too. I began my MSc in 2018, doing this part time alongside full-time physiotherapy work in the NHS. It has taken me 3 and a half years to complete, but I am so pleased that this is something I decided to do.

I used my MACP bursary towards the cost of the MACP placement module. I had been looking forward to this module the most, as it provides the opportunity to consolidate learning from the past few years. I did my placement in Cambridge at Cambridge Community Services NHS trust which was very convenient for me as I live nearby. This was in an NHS outpatient MSK service. I had 2 APP mentors who observed the majority of the sessions and gave invaluable feedback. I had a mixed caseload of spinal and peripheral, and acute and chronic cases which really allowed me to draw on knowledge I had learnt at the university and further look into the evidence for specific conditions. I was able to have additional teaching sessions on topics that I wanted to explore further and had the opportunity to shadow pain clinic and rheumatology clinic as part of this. The placement allows a smaller caseload of patients with time in between sessions to reflect and look up evidence. I was able to really develop my manual therapy skills for assessment and treatment and it was useful to discuss this with my mentors to demonstrate and advance my clinical reasoning.

Having now completed the placement I really value the unique opportunity this allows for career progression. To have regular feedback and the opportunity to discuss cases and progress clinical reasoning is invaluable. I would highly recommend this as a learning opportunity to anyone who has the chance to do this.

The overall masters has developed me greatly as a clinician as it provides a structured and broad learning experience. This included what I expected from the masters in regards to upper and lower limb modules and the research/dissertation modules. But also additional modules and skills such as a module where we developed expertise, a module on APP role, learning about blood tests, imaging and advanced clinical reasoning. As well as a managerial module which provided an additional qualification as part of the chartered management institute.

The masters has allowed me to progress in my career. In the past 2 years I have been working in a mixed role of Physiotherapy and FCP. Having now completed my MSc I am looking for APP roles to allow myself to further progress and develop.

Thank you so much to Coventry University, the MACP and my Placement mentors for helping me progress on my career journey.