

My Story

My name is Shazad Akram I am currently working at Birmingham Heartlands Hospital as a Senior Radiographer and a Trainee Ultrasonographer.

I started my training as a Student Radiographer in September 2003.

During the three years of training my clinical placements were based at Birmingham Heartlands and Solihull Hospitals.

After graduating in 2006, I was fortunate enough to obtain a post at Solihull Hospital. My job at Solihull involved working in many different modalities such as CT, Fluoroscopy, Plain X-rays, Bone Density Scans (DEXA) and Theatre work. Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust provides good opportunities for CPD, as I have attended a number of courses including the red dot course and assessor's course, I also gained competence in IV Cannulation.

After nine months of post qualification, I felt that I was ready to take on more challenges in my career, and was successful in obtaining my present Band 6 post at Birmingham Heartlands Hospital.

My duties working as a Senior Radiographer have consolidated my experience in a range of specialties including imaging trauma patients, fluoroscopy, CT, theatres and plain imaging. Working in these areas has enabled me to develop and perform a range of high quality diagnostic procedures by assessing a variety of patients (of different ages and abilities) with a wide range of conditions including major trauma, advanced cancer, and communication difficulties.

This has led to my development of high standards of patient care and empathic communication skills with distressed or disorientated patients.

As a Band 6 Radiographer at Birmingham Heartlands Hospital I am responsible for day to day management of designated areas and supervision of junior members of staff, assistant practitioners and student radiographers. My job role frequently involves offering clinical support and advice to students and colleagues.

I have always been interested in pursuing a career in Ultrasound, when an opportunity became available last year I expressed my interest and was successful in obtaining an Ultrasound trainee post along with my current role of a senior Radiographer.

I strongly feel that Birmingham Heartlands Hospital is a place of great opportunities, where if one has the potential can excel into a number of specialties and become an advanced practitioner in CT heads, plain films, Barium enemas reporting or train to become a Sonographer.