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PRESS RELEASE

Dudley Group part of pilot for new nursing associates

The Dudley Group and partners in the Black Country Alliance have secured funding to pilot the role of nursing associates to work with registered nurses and clinical support workers.

The Trust aims to start the first programme of training January 2017 in partnership with Wolverhampton University.

The successful bid was put together by The Dudley Group, Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust (the lead pilot site), Sandwell & West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust and Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust.

The two year training course will offer the nursing associate the chance to offer hands on help to patients and enable them to play a key role in delivering patient care.

"This is fabulous news not only for the Trust but also to those wishing to find a route into nursing," said Dawn Wardell, Chief Nurse for the Trust.

"Our dedicated and hard working nurses will really appreciate the extra support the nursing associate role will bring."

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For more information, please call Jackie Dietrich, Communications Manager for The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, on (01384) 456111 extension 1314 or email <u>Jackie.dietrich@dgh.nhs.uk</u>