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**Case study**

Name: Geraldine Holloway

Job title: Senior Sister, Cardiology Ward

**What did your early career look like?**

I worked as a Staff Nurse in Intensive Care for 2 years then I moved to the Cardiology/Cardiac High Dependency Unit.

I got promoted to Senior Staff Nurse and then I was successful to get a Deputy Ward Sister post on another ward, but still within the same speciality of Cardiology and Coronary Care).

**What was your career journey like prior to training for your current role/ career?**

I did well at school and went to Manchester University to do Linguistics and French, which I didn’t enjoy! I had wanted to do my nurse training for some time so after university I moved to Leicester and studied at Charles Frears College of Nursing and Midwifery (which is now De-Montfort University). When I first qualified I worked in Intensive Care. After some time I then moved to the Cardiology wards within the Hospital.

**What is a typical day as a Senior Sister?**

I start at 7.30am and get a handover from the night staff of all the patients, hear if they have had any problems and what care is required. In the handover I also hear of any ward or staff related issues. I then go to the bed meeting at 8am to look at admissions and bed availability. After this meeting I usually have a caseload (number) of patients to look after, as well as coordinating/managing the ward. In between looking after patients I do staff appraisals, ward off duty rotas, sickness management and have also been involved in disciplinary investigations.

I am responsible for keeping the ward safe and for the standard of nursing care of all the staff, not just myself. I am usually quite busy!

**Do you have any words of encouragement for anyone thinking about a career in health and social care?**

I have been in the NHS for nearly 29 years and wouldn’t change a thing. It’s the most interesting and rewarding career.