**Developing Advanced Practice**

**Background**

The multi-professional framework defines advanced practice as below:

“Advanced clinical practice is delivered by experienced, registered health and care practitioners. It is a level of practice characterised by a high degree of autonomy and complex decision making. This is underpinned by a master’s level award or equivalent that encompasses the four pillars of clinical practice, leadership and management, education and research, with demonstration of core capabilities and area specific competence.

Advance clinical practice embodies the ability to manage clinical care in partnership with individuals, families and carers. It includes the analysis and synthesis of complex problems across a range of settings, enabling innovative solutions to enhance peoples experience and improve outcomes”

At ELHT we employ Advanced Practitioners in many areas, providing highly skilled decision making and care to patients. The Education Directorate wishes to support this group as they develop their practice by providing a framework that will satisfy governance requirements.

**Process**

Once a learning need is identified (a skill or procedure) a form is submitted to the advanced practice faculty setting out who is to be taught and how. This will include detail of how both the theory (including consent, indications, contraindications and complications) and how the practice will be taught and assessed. If the same skill is being taught elsewhere in the Trust we can share some of the previous lessons learnt from the process. If local or national guidance already exists, this can be used. It may be that on review local guidance may need to be updated. If no guidance is available a training package should be outlined.

A log book will be provided for the practitioner to record all training. This can be uploaded to the Trust portfolio or an external portfolio, if used, along with a reflection.

Sign off will be by the supervisor and the practitioner themselves stating that they are competent to perform the procedure independently and that they have a good understanding both theory and practice. The numbers of observed procedures will vary from individual to individual.

It is the responsibility of the practitioner to maintain their competence.