

Derbyshire General Practice Champions

Dr Alex Savage



Roles:

- Salaried GP for DHU out of hours provider
- Long term locum at Central Health Clinic, Sheffield, for asylum seekers and refugees
- Locum GP

Career Journey:

I'm not sure when I decided to be a GP. Originally, I thought I might like a career in A+E. Then I thought I might like to be a paediatrician but whilst working at Sydney Children's Hospital a consultant colleague told me "You can look after your own children or everyone else's but not both". Then I started thinking.

It took me seven years to complete my GP training which included posts all over the UK and Australia. Since finishing GP training, I have had numerous jobs but at present I am enjoying the flexibility of out of hours work and being a locum.

For the last four years I have been working as a locum GP with asylum seekers and refugees.

Best things about my role:

I am now married to a consultant anaesthetist and have three children. Flexibility is the most important part of my career. I can pick and choose where and when I work. I still love my job but it is only one part of my life.

In my role as an out of hours GP I feel that I have the time to treat patients well. I am not bombarded by practice emails and I do not have a tray/overflowing inbox.

When I work with the asylum seekers and refugees I feel that I might be the only person at that time in their lives that they can trust. Working with such a vulnerable group of patients is very rewarding.