



## Dr Stewart Wilkie

Stewart and his wife work as GPs in a semi-rural practice at Stewarton Medical Practice, East Ayrshire. They enjoy the work-life balance their roles afford, and the opportunity to be part of a close-knit community, while close to the amenities of nearby Glasgow.

I have been a GP Partner at Stewarton Medical Practice for about 12 years. There are six partners and two salaried GPs. My wife is one of the other partners and this affords some great advantages when it comes to getting the right 'work-life balance', particularly with regards to childcare. Our children attend the local school and we very much feel part of the local community. We live on a farm which is close enough to get home for lunch if time allows, and there is never any traffic congestion!

The practice is semi-rural and is based in the town of Stewarton in East Ayrshire, in Scotland's central belt. We have a list size of over 10,000 patients, the majority of whom are located in the town. A sizable number of patients live in surrounding villages and farms and the practice area is quite extensive. This brings a nice mix of clinical conditions that you may not see in an urban practice. In many cases families have lived in the area for several generations and there is good sense of tradition and community.

The practice has good links with local pharmacies and opticians and has a good IT infrastructure. It retains a small town feel and but has the advantage of being very close to local hospitals, and is only a 20 to 30-minute drive from Glasgow.

I would thoroughly recommend semi-rural practice to anyone considering a career as a GP. It has all the benefits of country living with the advantages of city life only a short drive away.

