

#### **About this newsletter**

This newsletter provides information about the education pathway for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians employed as part of the NHS England Primary Care Network (PCN) Contract Directed Enhanced Service (DES) Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme. The *Primary care pharmacy education pathway* (PCPEP) builds on the previous CPPE extended education pathways and aligns with the NHS Long Term Plan and the PCN Contract DES.

Newsletter 1, which can be downloaded from our **website**, has more background information about the pathway and how to enrol.

If you have any queries about the pathway that are not answered on our website, please email:  
**primarycare@cppe.ac.uk**

To include:

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#### **Learner feedback after completing the pathway**

It is encouraging to receive feedback from learners completing the Primary care pharmacy education pathway. This feedback was from a learner to her education supervisor that was received this week:

*Thank you very much! Honestly can't thank you enough. You have been amazing and very supportive throughout the course. I feel a bit emotional, very happy and overwhelmed right now on completing the pathway. It's been a fabulous learning journey. It has been a brilliant course. It has been extremely helpful to develop myself clinically and also to settle myself in the PCN/practice from a community pharmacy. Have made good connections too. I remember I felt so under confident and naive in the beginning and you really motivated me and have helped me to steer through. Thank you again for your guidance, support and time. Definitely has been a pleasure to be supervised by you.*

#### **Update on the pathway**

##### **Where we are now....**

Over 2760 pharmacy professionals have completed one of our national training pathways since 2019. A fantastic team of education supervisors, clinical supervisors and clinical mentors have supported these. We would like to give a huge thank you for helping make this happen.

Cohorts 1-6 and Cohort 7 pharmacy technicians should now have all finished their pathway, unless paused. Cohort 7 pharmacists should be on track to finish at the end of October.

### **Cohort 11 (September 2022) begins**

The beginning of this month saw 780 pharmacists and pharmacy technicians start their national training pathway. Education supervisors have made contact, induction webinars have started and Module 1 residential workshops have been booked.

### **Cohort 12 (January 2023)**

The bookings for cohort 12 will be open by the end of September. Pharmacists and pharmacy technicians need to log in to the CPPE website and find the Primary care pharmacy education pathway section. Employers need to read and complete the CPPE proof of employment form, which the learners then upload during the application process. **Here is a link to the form**, which can also be downloaded during the application process.

### **The CPPE pathway and ARRS funding**

We are still finding that some employers are not aware that the *Primary Care Pharmacy Education Pathway (PCPEP)* is compulsory for pharmacy professionals receiving ARRS funding, unless they have successfully applied for exemption. As The ARRs funding is conditional on the PCPEP, this training must take precedence over all other forms of training. Independent prescribing training for pharmacists is part of the funded training but this should be done after the CPPE pathway (or in exceptional circumstances halfway through with a break in the pathway).

### **Module 1 residential workshops return**

*“Social media is an amazing tool, but it's really the face-to-face interaction that makes a long-term impact.”*  
Felicia Day

We are excited to be back to face-to-face residential workshops, where pharmacy professionals stay in one hotel overnight and have two days of back-to-back learning. There are two two-day residential events in Module 1 and a respiratory and cardiovascular clinical assessment skills two-day residential for pharmacists in Module 3. These residential workshops provide an invaluable networking opportunity for pharmacy professionals during their training pathway to build peer networks in their regions and to help create a support structure that sees them through their role in primary care.

The number of training hubs/venues we run will depend on the number of learners in each location and in each cohort, but we aim to minimise travel for as many people as possible. It is inevitable that some people in the more remote areas of England will have to travel further than they may wish to, but we are only running a small proportion of our events now face-to-face compared with pre-pandemic. We cannot run events with low numbers as this does not provide the best learning experience for the learners and it is not a cost-effective use of NHS resources.

CPPE will pay for the accommodation in between the two days. It is expected that employers will pay travel expenses and any other incidental expenses. This is because self-funding of travel expenses and other expenses may cause difficulty for the pharmacy professional and prevent them from attending this compulsory training, which would be a breach of the PCN directed enhanced service agreement.

### **New process for applying for Health Education England (HEE) funding for independent prescribing (IP) courses for pharmacists on CPPE primary care pathways**

In addition to the CPPE training pathway, pharmacists supported with the PCN additional role reimbursement scheme are expected to undertake independent prescribing (IP) training if they have not already completed this. The timing of this needs to be carefully managed to ensure the pharmacists have a solid foundation on which to build to become safe prescribers. Pharmacists are expected to undertake the IP course after they have completed the pathway. In exceptional cases pharmacists can apply to do IP before the end of the pathway and they will find details on who may be eligible on the learners' virtual learning environment, Canvas.

Health Education England commissions IP training places at specific universities for pharmacists who have completed the pathway. CPPE is required to authorise the place for the pharmacists.

Pharmacists complete an online form via the **CPPE website** to apply for funding authorisation for an IP place or to apply to do IP before the end of the pathway. They need to decide which university they want to apply for before completing the funding application form. If they are eligible, they will be given a certificate of eligibility of funding which will include the details of their chosen university and date of the IP course. They will use the certificate as part of the application process for the IP course at their chosen university.

The new process is much more efficient as applications for pharmacists who have already completed the pathway are automatically approved and the online system speeds up the process for those applying for IP courses at the end of their pathway or early IP. The new system enables us to provide more accurate and timely reporting to HEE on the number of learners approved for each IP course.

More information including the policy on timing of IP courses can be found on the **CPPE website**.

### **FAQs review**

The employer and learner frequently asked questions (FAQs) are currently being updated and should be on the CPPE website by October 2022. If you have any questions that you think should be added to this document, please email [emma.wright@cppe.ac.uk](mailto:emma.wright@cppe.ac.uk)

### **Portfolio entries and SoAP feedback**

Throughout the pathway all learners are encouraged to routinely complete entries in their e-portfolio describing the evidence of the impact they are having in their role, aiming for one entry-per-month. These entries should provide evidence of the learners' role in practice and describe the impact that their work is having. Their entries in total should demonstrate the breadth of their role including clinical work, safety work, strategic work, networking and leadership.

Employers may wish to ask their learners to show them their portfolio entries during the pathway and their final Statement of Assessment and Progression (SoAP) feedback at the end of the pathway as part of their ongoing personal development review process.

We hit record numbers of completed SoAPs over the summer, with over 500 pharmacy professionals completing the pathway in July and August.

Our education supervisors tell us that well written entries provide good insight into their learners' roles and the impact the pharmacist or pharmacy technician is having and provides some insight into their development as they progress through the pathway.

### **Changes to Safeguarding Assessment as part of the pathway**

As there are a number of other providers of learning and assessment for safeguarding including e-Learning for Health, Health Education England has asked CPPE to stop providing this basic training and assessment. Cohorts 1-10 of the PCPEP were required to complete the *CPPE Safeguarding children and adults at risk level 2* e-assessment as part of Module 1 of the pathway. This e-assessment has now been withdrawn so cohort 11 (September 2022) onwards will not be required to complete this e-assessment.

However, learners from all cohorts will be asked to declare on their pathway progress tracker that they have completed other statutory and mandatory safeguarding training within three years of starting the pathway. Please liaise with your pharmacy professionals on your local requirements for safeguarding training. The pharmacy professional and their employer are responsible for ensuring that statutory and mandatory training is completed during induction and that refresher training is completed every three years.

The minimum level of safeguarding training for pharmacy professionals is level 2. However, in some areas it is recommended to complete level 3 safeguarding training for all pharmacy professionals and or level 3 safeguarding training only for healthcare professionals who work predominantly with children and young adults.

### **Clinical Supervisor Corner**

After a recent CPPE stakeholder reference group meeting and review the September training sessions have seen the relaunch of the updated clinical supervisor training material. An updated clinical supervisor handbook accompanies this, and your pharmacy professional will get a hardcopy of at their second Module 1 residential. Please ask them to give this to you. It will also be available to download from the website shortly.

### **Communication with your learner's education supervisor**

Your learner's education supervisor will be in contact with you after each group tutorial, about every three months, with a brief summary of where your learner is on their pathway. It is essential that your pharmacist or pharmacy technician shares the contact details of their clinical supervisor with their education supervisor early in the pathway so you can be in contact with them about any concerns that may arise with your learner. As a clinical supervisor it is important that you have an idea on where your learner is on the pathway, what they are studying and what assessments are coming up, etc. We expect that this is covered in your regular meetings with your learner. Although you don't have access to the Canvas learning platform, you can ask your learner to log in and looking through it together.

### **Clinical supervisor training dates**

Both hour-and-a-half online workshops help clinical supervisors understand the pathway, following on from the national pathway information (or employer) webinars. In the training, we explore their role in supervision and the competency and capability of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, which will help manage expectations of what the pharmacy professional can and can't do. The second session is an assessor standardisation using a bespoke consultation observation tool.

All details, including booking links and keycodes can be found on the *Clinical supervisor* pages on the CPPE website: [www.cppe.ac.uk/career/pcpep/clinical-supervisor](http://www.cppe.ac.uk/career/pcpep/clinical-supervisor).

Here are the upcoming dates.

Clinical supervisor online workshop 2	Monday 19 September 7:00-8.30pm
Clinical supervisor online workshop 1	Monday 10 October 12.30-2:00pm
Clinical supervisor online workshop 2	Tuesday 18 October 7:00-8.30pm
Clinical supervisor online workshop 2	Wednesday 26 October 12.30-2:00pm
Clinical supervisor online workshop 1	Tuesday 1 November 7:00-8.30pm
Clinical supervisor online workshop 2	Thursday 3 November 7:00-8.30pm
Clinical supervisor online workshop 1	Monday 5 December 12.30-2:00pm
Clinical supervisor online workshop 2	Wednesday 7 December 7:00-8.30pm
Clinical supervisor online workshop 2	Tuesday 13 December 12.30-2:00pm

### Pathway information webinar for employers

This is a bi-monthly webinar for employers, clinical supervisors and interested parties outlining the PCPEP pathway. For clinical supervisors, this is in addition to the clinical supervisor training. We advise all employers, clinical supervisors and interested parties to attend one of these or listen to a recording to get the basic information about the pathway.

They all run from 1:00–2:00pm. To register for an upcoming date, click on the link in the table below.

Date	Registration link
Thursday 17 November	Register in advance for this webinar: <a href="https://cppe.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xQgldFVXTuahvKbLhWeMdg">https://cppe.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xQgldFVXTuahvKbLhWeMdg</a>

There is a recording of a previous employer information webinar on the PCPEP landing page on our website, just above the pathway diagram.

### Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) advanced practice recognition for pathway alumni

The RPS released their **advanced core curriculum** in June this year. Health Education England has commissioned the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) to work with CPPE to support pharmacists to be recognised as practising at an advanced level.

Pharmacists wishing to be credentialed as a pharmacist practicing at an advanced level of practice will complete the RPS e-portfolio assessment outlining they meet the five broad domains of practice to demonstrate competence against the curriculum outcomes

- Person-centred care and collaboration
- Professional practice
- Leadership and management
- Education
- Research

An invitation to an information webinar held on 14 September was extended to pharmacists who met all the following criteria:

- Pharmacists who have completed one of the CPPE national training pathways (MOCH, GPPTP, CPGPE, PCPEP) and have a CPPE Statement of Assessment and Progression or have been

granted exemption from the pathway (those in PCN ARRS roles) or equivalence (those in non-PCN roles).

- Practising as an independent prescriber (IP)
- Leading or managing other team members in the workplace
- Undertaking research and/or quality improvement, to improve healthcare outcomes at a team and/or service level.

The first cohort of pharmacists working through the CPPE 12-week supported programme will start in October.

#### **CPPE stakeholder reference group members needed**

We are looking for patient and learner representatives on our CPPE stakeholder reference group that meets for 90 minutes, three times a year. If you know of any willing patients who have experienced consultations with your pharmacy professionals and would be able to contribute to a reference group, please ask them to contact [emma.wright@cppe.ac.uk](mailto:emma.wright@cppe.ac.uk). We also want a pharmacist or a pharmacy technician who has recently been through the pathway or who has nearly finished to be part of the group. We do pay an attendance fee to patient and learner representatives (if they are doing this in their own time).

#### **Environmental sustainability in the pathway**

Both the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and the Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK have declared climate emergencies and called on pharmacy professionals and pharmacy teams to take a leading role in reducing the environmental impact of medicines use. The NHS has set ambitious net zero carbon emissions for 2040 and 2045. Every NHS trust and Integrated Care System was required to publish a Green Plan by March 2022.

CPPE is continuing to embed learning on the environmental sustainability of healthcare and the health impacts of the climate crisis within the primary care pharmacy education pathway.

In the pathway we are in the process of developing the following areas of learning:

Module 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline of health impacts of climate change</li> <li>• Principles of sustainable healthcare</li> <li>• Signposting to education and resources</li> </ul>
Module 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources relating to greener inhaler prescribing targets</li> <li>• Sustainability aspects discussed in case studies with examples from external speakers.</li> </ul>
Module 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan to include sustainability as a factor in Quality Improvement learning and projects. Environmental sustainability is important to us at CPPE, and we are working hard as an organisation to become as sustainable as we can. You can read more about our journey in our recent <b>Pharmaceutical Journal article</b>.</li> </ul>

In addition, CPPE has created the **Environmental sustainability learning gateway** to signpost pharmacy professionals to resources to find out why the climate crisis is also a health crisis and, most importantly, what we can do about it. The Environmental sustainability learning gateway includes videos and links to Greener NHS, e-Learning for Health modules on sustainability, greener inhaler resources, carbon calculators and much more.

**Sustainability in Education free online conference**

CPPE is supporting the Sustainability in Education free online conference on Saturday 15 October 9:30am–1:30pm. You can find out more about speakers and register for this event [here](#).

Given the vast challenges and opportunities presented by climate change, it is vital that curricula and resources are developed for science-based education on climate-health issues and a network of educators be built where communication and sharing of resources can be fostered.

Pharmacy Declares has collaborated with the Guild of Healthcare Pharmacists and Centre for Postgraduate Pharmacy Education in hosting this event. It is primarily aimed at undergraduate & postgraduate pharmacy students, staff teaching at Schools of Pharmacy and any staff involved in the education and training of pharmacists.

**How to contact us**

If you have any queries about the pathway, you can contact [primarycare@cppe.ac.uk](mailto:primarycare@cppe.ac.uk)

Please also visit our website to find the **Frequently asked questions** documents for learners and employers, as well as the dedicated clinical supervisor pages and the pathway handbooks.