

This newsletter provides information about the education pathway for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians employed as part of the NHS England primary care Network 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 you can't find the answer to on our website, please email: primarycare@cppe.ac.uk

In this newsletter

- PCN pharmacy technicians now able to join the pathway
- PCPEP cohort learning update during the pandemic
- Employers information webinar
- Clinical supervisor online training and feedback

PCN pharmacy technicians now able to join the pathway

Cohort 5 has opened for booking and pharmacy technicians whose salaries are supported by the PCN additional role reimbursement scheme (ARRS) can now [enrol on the pathway](#). It is a requirement of the ARRS funding for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians that they take part in the training pathway unless they are exempt.

There is lots of information about exemption on our [website](#) but, in summary, pharmacy technician exemption is only granted if they have previously done, or are on, the CPPE *Medicines optimisation in care homes pathway*. Module 4 exemption will be considered for those who have done a formal leadership course such as the CPPE *Leading for change* programme or the NHS Leadership Academy *Mary Seacole* programme.

Cohort 5 officially starts in January but once enrolled, there will be plenty of online learning to be getting on with. The pathway for pharmacy technicians will be slightly shorter than for pharmacists as two of the modules will be shorter. We will provide further details on the employers' information webinar (see below). The cohort will close for booking once it is full so please don't delay in applying.

There are a few places remaining for non-PCN pharmacy technicians from some extra funding provided by Health Education England. If you are interested in one of these places please email: primarycare@cppe.ac.uk and ask for an expression of interest form.

Continuing with learning during the pandemic

Online learning

From the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CPPE team has been working hard to repurpose study days to online workshops. From the middle of June all learners enrolled on the PCPEP (and our other extended education pathways) have been offered access to Module 4, which includes the online *Leadership in primary care* 13-week e-course and the online workshops that have been repurposed. Study days in other modules are ready to launch as online workshops in the autumn. Appendix 1 has a table showing what each PCPEP cohort should be doing at the moment.

Pharmacists who asked to pause during the early days of the pandemic for work or personal reasons are now expected to re-engage with the pathway so they don't get too far behind.

Pathway information webinar for employers

We have been running regular pathway induction webinars for pharmacy professionals who have been enrolling on the pathway throughout the pandemic. All those enrolled on the pathway are expected to attend one of these to learn about the pathway. These are run by Sally Greensmith with the CPPE national programme lead and the next one is Thursday 3 September 1:00-2:15pm. The link to book is made available to the pharmacy professionals once they have enrolled and been approved. New learners also have an online induction to their Canvas platform 7:00-8:00pm on Tuesday 8 September.

Last year we ran a series of employer and other stakeholder information webinars and with the introduction of pharmacy technicians on the pathway, we are reintroducing these. The next one is Thursday 27 August at 1:00-2:00pm. To register for this event please click [here](#).

Clinical supervisors

Clinical supervisor training

We understand it can be hard to prioritise training at this time but equally we have had requests from clinical supervisors saying they do have time for training. We also know through feedback from clinical supervisors on previous training events that the earlier the clinical supervisor does the training in the learner's pathway, the better it is in terms of managing expectations all round and supporting the learners.

We have continued to provide training ongoing training dates over the next few months. Training takes place over two webinars. We can provide a recording of the first one but the second one involves assessing a video, so must be completed 'live'. Further information about upcoming training is available on the [CPPE website](#). This includes the recording of the first webinar, the keycode and how to book. If you have any queries please email emma.wright@cppe.ac.uk

Please note: the learner on the pathway requires support from a senior pharmacist and clinical supervisor. This is clearly outlined in the PCN DES and the funding agreement to partake in this scheme.

Clinical supervisor feedback needed for study

ICF and the Centre for Pharmacy Workforce Studies (CPWS) at the University of Manchester would like to invite you to take part in a study commissioned by NHS England to evaluate the impact of the Pharmacy Integration Fund (PhIF) learning pathways. The pathways include *Medicines optimisation in care homes*, integrated urgent care/NHS 111, *Accuracy checking for pharmacy technicians*, and postgraduate pathways and modules.

ICF and CPWS are inviting you to participate because of your role as an educational supervisor or clinical supervisor in relation to the PhIF learning pathways. The aim of this study is to explore the degree to which the various PhIF training pathways have impacted on the roles, professional practice, and career aspirations of the pharmacy workforce.

ICF or CPWS would like to interview you over the telephone about your views and experiences of supporting learners undertaking the learning pathway(s). The interview will take place at a time convenient for you and will last between 30-45 minutes.

This study has received ethical approval from the University of Manchester Research Ethics Committee [UREC: 7358].

Please find attached an information sheet outlining the study and take some time to read this information and contact the relevant researcher if you have any further questions about the study. Once you have had time to read the information provided, if you would like to take part, please get in touch using the contact details below.

Please contact Jayne Astbury on 0161 2757493 or via email: jayne.astbury@manchester.ac.uk to arrange a convenient time for an interview. Please see information sheet attached to this newsletter.

Transition between COVID-19 care home support and the Enhanced Health in Care Homes (EHCH) service in the Network Contract DES and training requirements for personalised care roles

From 31 July 2020, the interim COVID-19 care home service will transition into the more comprehensive Enhanced Health in Care Homes service as described in the [Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service \(DES\)](#).

To support the COVID-19 care home service, don't forget the RPS, in partnership with CPPE and other organisations, has developed the [COVID-19 Care Homes Training Resource](#). In addition, CPPE has some fantastic in-depth learning resources available for pharmacy professionals who are not enrolled on the national training pathways. A collated list is currently being created.

Moving forward, training to support implementation of the Enhanced Health in Care Homes Framework (by September 2020) as outlined in the [Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service \(DES\)](#) is embedded throughout the *Primary care pharmacy education pathway* (PCPEP).

Please be reassured **that all** learning from the *Medicines optimisation in care homes* training pathway has been integrated into the pathway so there is no need for additional training. The Enhanced Health in Care Homes Framework is introduced to PCPEP learners in The *Primary care essentials* e-course unit 2.2.2 – and throughout the pathway in all modules, learning supports pharmacy professionals to develop knowledge and skills to support the care elements. Pharmacy professionals not enrolled on the *Primary care pharmacy education pathway* can also access learning in this e-course through the CPPE website [Primary care essentials e-course](#).

NHSE recognises that some great work has taken place to support care homes during the pandemic. To avoid disrupting the positive relationships that have developed between general practice, community services providers, and care homes, NHSE intends to amend the Network Contract DES so that – by exception – the clinical lead role for the service may be held by a clinician, other than a GP, with appropriate experience of working with care homes. However, this must be agreed by the practices in the primary care network, the clinical commissioning group and the relevant community provider. We know that in some PCNs MOCH pharmacy professionals alumni are seen as system leaders and would be fantastic candidates for this role. This is a great opportunity for MOCH or PCPEP alumni to lead best practice! [Look here for further information](#).

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How to contact us

If you have any queries about the pathway you can contact 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.

Appendix 1

PCPEP cohort	Current offer and progress - PCPEP
PCPEP cohort 1 Started September 2019	<p>Module 1 – <i>Primary care essentials</i> – all should have completed already</p> <p>Module 2 – <i>Clinical knowledge and its application in primary care</i>. All have two study days to complete – available online in October and November</p> <p>Module 3 – <i>Clinical assessment skills</i>. Will be available again in January 2021</p> <p>Module 4 – <i>Leadership</i>. Available now as an e-course and online workshops</p> <p>Module 5 – learning offered after Module 1 for learners to decide when to do it</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Whale study days now being offered as e-courses available for 12 months • Red Whale webinars available and spread out throughout the pathway • <i>Mental health and wellbeing</i> workshop – is now available as two online linked events • <i>Neurology and dementia</i> study day – will be available again from January 2021 • <i>Helping others learn</i> study day – will be available again from January 2021 • <i>Shared decision making</i> course – available in 2021 <p>Learning sets – organised by education supervisors online or face to face when possible</p>
PCPEP cohort 2 started January 2020	<p>Module 1 – <i>Primary care essentials</i>. Some will still have days 3 and 4 to do. Available as online workshops in October.</p> <p>Module 2 – <i>Clinical knowledge and its application in primary care</i>. Study days will be available online from October 2020 to March 2021</p> <p>Module 3 – <i>Clinical assessment skills</i>. Will be available for cohort 2 in April 2021</p> <p>Module 4 – <i>Leadership</i>. Available now as an e-course and online workshops</p> <p>Module 5 – as for cohort 1</p> <p>Learning sets – organised by education supervisors online or face to face when possible</p>
PCPEP cohort 3 Start date May to July 2020	<p>Start date was May 2020 but continued to recruit until June as combining May and September.</p> <p>Module 1 – e-course and assessments to be done summer 2020. Module 1 residential workshops will be delivered as online events in October and November. There will be an introductory local peer get together for an hour organised by the education supervisors and a separate CQC webinar for larger numbers.</p> <p>Days 1 and 2 – will both be all-day sessions and the bookings are linked, ie, book for both days together – same day following week for day 2.</p> <p>Days 3 and 4 – will be similar but day 4 will be shorter (three hours). There will be more online preparation than for the face-to-face days.</p> <p>Module 2 – will be available as online workshops if we can't do face to face from January (module will start in December) – online study days will run until May 2021.</p> <p>Module 3 – will start from June 2021</p> <p>Module 4 – available at the beginning of July to cohort 3 (e-course and bookings) but will be repeated next year for those who have missed it.</p> <p>Module 5 – as for cohort 1 but hopefully some face to face will return (Red Whale programmes are likely to stay as e-courses)</p> <p>Learning sets – organised by education supervisors online or face to face when possible</p>
PCPEP cohort 4	<p>September 2020 start date. Will join cohort 3 for events</p>