

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 are not answered on our website, please email: primarycare@cppe.ac.uk

In this newsletter

- Update on the pathway
- Engaging with the pathway through COVID vaccinations
- Cohorts 6 and 7
- Employers information webinar
- Learner induction webinars
- Clinical supervisor online training

Update on the pathway

In 2020 we worked hard to repurpose the learning so that it could be delivered online. Over 95 percent of the learning is available in an online format either as e-courses or live online workshops. We will return to face-to-face for some parts of the pathway, when we can, but those events that are working well online will continue to be run online.

1700 pharmacy professionals enrolled for the pathway in 2020 and 2021 is set to be a bumper year too.

Cohorts 6 and 7

We normally start cohorts in January, May and September but NHS England and Improvement (NHSE/I) and Health Education England (HEE) have asked us to run an additional cohort starting in March 2021. We opened a waiting list for this cohort in mid-November and it filled by Christmas. The people on the waiting list have now been invited to enrol but there are no spare spaces for anyone else. There is now a waiting list for cohort 7 which we hope will start in May 2021, but we are waiting for NHSE/I and HEE go ahead. Pharmacy professionals should add their names to the waiting list for cohort 7 by going to the PCPEP pages on the [website](#) and clicking on the **Apply** button.

Engaging with the pathway through COVID vaccinations

We understand that launching into 2021 may see your pharmacy professional needing to put aside some time to support practices with COVID vaccinations. However, it is important that they keep commitments to study days and learning sets to ensure they stay up to date with their learning. This is essential not only for their development and resilience within their role but also will ensure that NHS resources are not wasted with last minute cancellation of study days. If you have any particular concerns about this, please email our Head of primary care pathways sally.greensmith@cppe.ac.uk

Pathway information webinar for employers

Webinar for employers, clinical supervisors and interested parties - outlining the PCPEP pathway. They all run from 1–2pm. To register for an upcoming date, click on the link in the table below.

Date	
Wednesday 10 th February 1–2pm	Register in advance for this meeting here
Tuesday 16 th March 1-2pm	Register in advance for this meeting here
Monday 19 th April 1-2pm	Register in advance for this meeting here
Thursday 20 th May 1-2pm	Register in advance for this meeting here
Tuesday 29 th June 1-2pm	Register in advance for this meeting here
Wednesday 14 th July 1-2pm	Register in advance for this meeting here

Learner induction webinars

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 senior pharmacists at CPPE. We recommend the learners attend one of these webinars before they have their initial meeting with their education supervisor. We repeat them every three to four weeks and the learners will find the links to book a webinar on our virtual learning platform, Canvas, once they have their application approved. Cohort 5 learners who have started this month will find their induction webinar dates on Canvas.

Clinical supervisors

Clinical supervisor training

The uptake for the clinical supervisor training throughout the pandemic has been fantastic! The feedback that we have had is that this training is invaluable and best attended early in the pathway.

Training takes place over two webinars. Further information about upcoming training is available on the [CPPE website](#). **Please note:** the keycode to book events is **CSW2020**

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 as well as a clinical supervisor. This is clearly outlined in the PCN DES and the funding agreement to partake in this scheme. We provide more information about this in the [Clinical supervisor and clinical mentor handbook](#) on our website. Please note the clinical mentors are employed by CPPE.

DES updates

Key responsibilities of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians

The Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service Contract specification 2020/21 - PCN Requirements and Entitlements 17 September 2020 - [NHS England Report Template 7 - no photo on cover](#) outlines key responsibilities of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

Clinical Pharmacists must be enrolled in, or has qualified from, the approved 18-month training pathway or be exempt to be able to practice and prescribe safely and effectively in a primary care setting and to deliver the key responsibilities outlined.

Pharmacy Technicians must be enrolled in, undertaking or qualified from, the approved training pathway and are working under appropriate clinical supervision to ensure safe, effective and efficient use of medicines to deliver the key responsibilities stated.

In both cases the approved pathways are the current *Primary Care Pharmacy Educational Pathway* (PCPEP) or the previous *Medicines Optimisation in Care Homes pathway* (MOCH) and the *Clinical pharmacists in general practice education pathway* (CPGPE).

Structured medication review

The qualifications and training required to carry out structured medication reviews are outlined in the Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service, [Structured medication reviews and medicines optimisation: guidance](#), September 2020. The onus is on PCNs to ensure that only appropriately trained clinicians working within their sphere of competence undertake SMRs. This document provides a summary of the SMR requirements. We understand there will be further guidance from NHSE/I to support PCN clinical directors when deciding who is competent to carry out SMRs.

With the introduction of the *Structured medication review* enhanced service we will be shortly updating our [Pathway and role progression](#) handbook to show how pharmacy technicians can support this service.

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>