



## Press release

For immediate release

11 January 2012

### **CPPE and Day Lewis pharmacies announce successes in Return to practice and Supported Training Placement Programme**

Five pharmacists who have completed their CPPE Return to practice course have taken part in a new initiative with Day Lewis Plc called the Supported Training Placement Programme (STPP). The STPP gives pharmacists who are returning to work the opportunity to put their theory into practice. To celebrate this successful approach to reintroducing pharmacists back into the workplace, Day Lewis Plc held a certificate presentation for two of the successful pharmacists.

The presentation lunch was held on 9 December 2011 and was attended by Kirit Patel MBE, CEO, Day Lewis Plc and Michelle Styles, regional manager and Return to practice course manager, CPPE.

Mr Patel said: "We are extremely pleased with the pharmacists from the CPPE Return to practice course taking up the work-based placements at Day Lewis. This combination of returners updating their knowledge with CPPE and then having one or two months to gain experience in our pharmacies provides a successful formulae for reintroducing pharmacists back into community pharmacy."

Earlier in 2011, Ms Styles met with Laura Thurston, learning and development, and Katriona Guerin, human resources, from Day Lewis Plc to discuss work-based training for returners following the CPPE Return to practice course. Following each future CPPE Return to practice course, five pharmacists will have the opportunity to complete the STPP in a Day Lewis pharmacy. Day Lewis Plc understands how valuable this support is to

pharmacists and how essential is it to ensure that patient safety is the first priority.

Ms Styles comments: "This opportunity will provide trainees with an ideal start in updating their hands-on skills before restarting their careers in pharmacy. Some of our trainees have used their experience to gain a reference, which has led to direct offers of employment."

*Quotations from trainees on the STPP course:*

**Caroline Banks**

"I really enjoyed my placement. I had not been practising pharmacy for just over four years. The CPPE Return to practice Course was very good; what I then lacked was some time in a pharmacy. The Supported Training Programme including a mentor was greatly beneficial in building my confidence. It helped with finding out about all the small but important changes. I also sat in on and completed some MURs and took part in a surgery visit to explain NMS. All the staff at Day Lewis were very helpful. Thank you to everyone for making it all happen."

**Peter Marshall**

"The Supported Training Placement has been extremely beneficial in enabling me to return to community practice with increased confidence. I had not worked in community for over 20 years and the structured nature of the programme was ideal, covering all the major aspects required to practice again. The programme followed on very well from the CPPE Return to practice course, providing many opportunities to put into use the topics covered on the course. I was able to visit another nearby branch to cover a different service and had an opportunity to gain experience of another patient medication records system. All the staff in the two branches have been exceptionally helpful with their expert guidance and support. I would thoroughly recommend this programme to anyone considering returning to practice."

ENDS

Notes to editors:

**About CPPE**

The Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) is funded by the Department of Health and offers continuing professional development opportunities for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians providing NHS services in England. It is based in the University of Manchester's School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences within the multidisciplinary teaching environment of the Faculty of Medicine and Human Sciences. Since 1991, CPPE has focused on designing and delivering new programmes to meet both

the national and local needs for pharmacists providing NHS services. Please visit the CPPE website for further information: [www.cppe.ac.uk](http://www.cppe.ac.uk).

### **About Day Lewis pharmacies**

Day Lewis Plc has a chain of over 186 pharmacies across England. Day Lewis pharmacies are situated at the heart of local communities and the core purpose of the company is “to help people in the community stay healthy and feel better”. Please visit the Day Lewis website for further information: [www.daylewisplc.co.uk](http://www.daylewisplc.co.uk).

### **Return to practice course**

Return to practice is a residential course in two parts, held four times a year, aimed at pharmacists who have been out of practice for a minimum of three years and those who are changing sector. For further information on dates, costs and how to book on visit: [www.cppe.ac.uk/returntopractice](http://www.cppe.ac.uk/returntopractice).

### **Supported Training Placement Programme**

The work-based placements with Day Lewis pharmacies will be offered to pharmacists once they have successfully completed the CPPE Return to practice course. There is a limit of five work-based placements after each course and will be based in pharmacies as stipulated by Day Lewis pharmacies.

You can also keep up to date with developments at CPPE and get in touch via the following media:

- CPPE blog: [www.cppe.ac.uk/blog](http://www.cppe.ac.uk/blog)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/cppeengland](http://www.facebook.com/cppeengland)
- Twitter: [www.twitter.com/cppeengland](http://www.twitter.com/cppeengland)
- LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/centre-for-pharmacy-postgraduate-education](http://www.linkedin.com/company/centre-for-pharmacy-postgraduate-education)
- YouTube: [www.cppe.ac.uk/youtube](http://www.cppe.ac.uk/youtube)