Are you new to general practice or looking to move sector? Do you want to increase your knowledge, skills, experience and behaviours to support your work in general practice? Are you a community pharmacist looking to understand and integrate with general practice more?

We have a wide range of learning programmes that can support you. In this factsheet, we have provided information about some of the programmes you may be interested in, but this is only a starting point. Visit our website to find out more about our full range of programmes for primary care and GP pharmacy professionals.

**Getting started**

*General practice – the fundamentals of working with GPs* is a 13-week, tutor-supported e-course that runs three times a year. It is designed to support you in taking a more collaborative approach to working in the general practice setting to improve the quality of patient care. It is for any pharmacy professional wanting to integrate more with general practice – from the curious to those contemplating changing sectors. Find out more about the course and how to book your place.

If you want to start before the next tutor-supported course is available it is possible to work through it as a self-directed programme. Find out more about the self-directed e-course.

**Consultation skills**

Every time you speak with a patient you have the opportunity to make a difference.

Health Education England identified developing the patient-centred consultation skills of the pharmacy profession as a priority, which has led to the development of the national *Consultation Skills for Pharmacy Practice (CSfPP)* programme. This is the home of the national practice standards for pharmacy consultations which highlight the knowledge, skills and behaviours expected of all pharmacy professionals in a patient-facing role.

The learning and assessment portfolio from the CSfPP programme is available from the CPPE website. Take a look at the e-learning programme *Consultation skills: what good practice looks like* and see some of the consultation skills experts in action. Watching the video consultations and working through the activities gives you the opportunity to reflect on your own practice and develop new behaviours and helps you prepare to complete the *Consultation skills for pharmacy practice* assessment.

There are programmes to support more advanced skills such as *Consulting with children and young people* and *Consulting with people with mental health problems*.

Contact us to subscribe to our *Consultation skills for pharmacy practice* quarterly newsletter.

We also offer a full-day workshop to develop confidence in consultation skills and a distance learning programme to develop a patient-centred approach.
Supporting clinical pharmacists in primary care

Study days for primary care and GP pharmacy
We offer pharmacists and pharmacy technicians working in primary care and GP teams a range of clinical programmes.

This year, you can access up to six study days:
- Developing your role in general practice
- Consultation skills for general practice
- Care homes – medicines optimisation in older people
- Medication review
- Clinical assessment skills and history-taking in general practice
- Primary care study day

These study days include material originally developed for clinical pharmacists on the General practice pharmacist training pathway and they are now open to a wider audience. Visit the CPPE website to see what is available in your area over the next few months.

Set up a learning community
CPPE has made a range of primary care topics available for all GPhC registered pharmacy professionals. These topics were originally developed as learning sets for clinical pharmacists on the General practice pharmacist training pathway and they are now open to a wider audience. Pharmacy professionals can access these materials through the learning communities section of the CPPE website.

What is a learning community?
A learning community is a group of pharmacy professionals who meet to study a CPPE learning programme. Any pharmacy professional registered in England can set up or join a learning community through the CPPE website.

What topics are available?
- Working with community pharmacy
- Antimicrobial stewardship: engaging patients and the public
- Antimicrobial stewardship: optimising antimicrobial prescribing
- Learning disabilities: supporting people with a learning disability to optimise their medicines
- Learning disabilities: stopping over-medication of people with a learning disability
- Type 2 diabetes
- Patient safety
- Multimorbidity

“Learning sets create a safe and supportive learning environment, where experiences and knowledge can be shared in an open forum…a unique and innovative opportunity of networking and developing core skills to help support working in general practice.”

Ummar Pervaiz, Clinical Pharmacist

To find more information about setting up or joining a learning community visit: www.cppe.ac.uk/therapeutics/learning-communities