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Learning with CPPE

The Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE) is funded by the Department of Health to provide continuing education for practising pharmacists and pharmacy technicians providing NHS services in England. We are based in the University of Manchester’s School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

CPPE 1 2 3

We recognise that people have different learning needs and not every CPPE programme is suitable for every pharmacist or pharmacy technician. We have created three categories of learning to cater for these differing needs:

CPPE 1 Core learning (limited expectation of prior knowledge)
CPPE 2 Application of knowledge (assumes prior learning)
CPPE 3 Supporting specialties (CPPE may not be the provider and will signpost you to other appropriate learning providers).

This is a CPPE 2 learning programme.

Continuing professional development (CPD) - You can use this focal point unit to support your CPD. Consider what your learning needs are in this area. You may find it useful to work with the information and activities here in a way that is compatible with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain’s approach to continuing professional development. Use your CPD record sheets or go to: http://www.uptodate.org.uk/ to plan and record your learning.

Programme guardians - A programme guardian is a recognised expert in an area relevant to the content of a learning programme who will review the programme every six months to ensure quality is maintained. We will post any alterations or further supporting materials that are needed as an update on our website. We recommend that you refer to these updates if you are using a programme significantly after its initial publication date.

Feedback - We hope you find this learning programme useful for your practice. Please help us to assess its value and effectiveness by visiting the My CPPE page on our website. Alternatively, please email us at: feedback@cppe.ac.uk
About CPPE focal point programmes

We’ve developed focal point to give you short, clinically focused learning sessions. It will help you learn with your colleagues and improve the services you offer your patients. Each unit presents information and activities that are relevant for pharmacy professionals working in primary care and in the community. There are two types of learning event for you to choose between when using focal point units – you can either attend a CPPE tutor-led event or can learn as part of a CPPE ‘learning community’. Have a look at the CPPE website: http://www.cppe.ac.uk for more information about how to set up a learning community.

Reference sources for all the books, articles, reports and websites mentioned in the text can be found at the end of the programme. References are indicated in the text by a superscript number (like this 3).

This booklet gets you started. It provides key information to meet the learning objectives presented overleaf, but it also encourages you to identify your own learning needs and then challenges you to relate what you have learnt to your own area of practice and professional development. We have included practice points and talking points to stimulate your thinking and we will refer to these again at the focal point event. Make sure you have undertaken these activities before your event.

Booklet 2, which you will be given when you attend the focal point event, uses a case study and ‘clinical vignettes’ to help you apply what you’ve learnt and encourages you to make changes to improve your practice. We also include some suggested answers to the learning activities.

About this focal point unit on anticoagulation

In this unit we consider:

- the indications for anticoagulation treatment and principles of monitoring warfarin therapy
- National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) guidance on dispensing anticoagulants, patient concordance and communication
- how to develop warfarin management clinics within community pharmacy.
Learning objectives

You can meet the learning objectives that we suggest here by reading the information that we provide and refer you to, undertaking the various activities that we suggest and putting what you’ve learnt into practice. We’ve split our learning objectives into appropriate sections. This should help you determine how to meet them. We’ve also linked them to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB) competences, the General Level Framework (GLF), and the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (KSF) dimensions. We have suggested some competences, but you may be able to apply your learning to other aspects of these frameworks.

Moving into focus and Reading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>RPSGB</th>
<th>KSF</th>
<th>GLF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrate understanding of the NPSA guidance for anticoagulation medication and how it relates to your workplace and practice.</td>
<td>G8 G10 C4 TG13</td>
<td>Communication 1 Level 3</td>
<td>Cluster: Delivery of patient care Competency: Medicines information and patient education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identify and seek to resolve common medicine management issues in the anticoagulated patient.</td>
<td>G1, G5, G7, G8 TG6</td>
<td>Communication 1 Level 3, HWB 7 Level 3</td>
<td>Cluster: Problem solving Competency: Gathering information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain the recall period for patients receiving warfarin based on their INR result.</td>
<td>G1, G5</td>
<td>HWB 7 Level 4</td>
<td>Cluster: Delivery of patient care Competency: Monitoring drug therapy</td>
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**Practice points, talking points, case studies and clinical vignettes**

You’ll find these in this booklet and Booklet 2, and will work on them during the event.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State the nine main indications for warfarin therapy and their target INR values.</td>
<td>G1, G7</td>
<td>HWB 7 Level 4</td>
<td>Cluster: Delivery of patient care Competency: Monitoring drug therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe how you can improve safety for anticoagulated patients by following best practice in dispensing, communication and concordance.</td>
<td>G1, G5 TG1, TG13</td>
<td>Service improvement 4 Level 2, Communication 1 Level 2</td>
<td>Cluster: Management and organisation Competency: Service provision</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Directing change scenarios and follow-up activities**

You will achieve practical outcomes after completing this unit, when you apply what you have learnt to your everyday practice. You will find advice in Booklet 2.

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Implement improvements in the care provided to patients prescribed anticoagulants through better medicines use reviews (MURs) and more appropriate use of staff skills and competencies.</td>
<td>G2, G5 TG4</td>
<td>Personal and people development 2 Level 2</td>
<td>Cluster: Delivery of patient care Competency: Monitoring drug therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propose a potential role for pharmacy in setting up a community-based anticoagulation monitoring service.</td>
<td>G1, G5 TG12</td>
<td>Service improvement 4 Level 2</td>
<td>Cluster: Delivery of patient care Competency: Monitoring drug therapy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Useful resources

We have selected some resources that you can use when developing improved pharmacy services for people receiving an anticoagulant.

Patient support

Patient UK - http://www.patient.co.uk/

This website is designed to provide health information for patients, their carers and health professionals. It makes available details on different anticoagulant medicines and patient information leaflets on clinical conditions, for example atrial fibrillation. It provides materials of a complexity suitable for both the public and professionals. The website also lists links to further information and support.

Community pharmacy services support

National Patient Safety Agency (NPSA) - http://www.npsa.nhs.uk/health/alerts

The NPSA alert is an essential resource for this learning programme. There are several documents in the alert. You may wish to focus on Anticoagulation therapy - advice for the community pharmacist; Anticoagulant competence number 4 - dispensing oral anticoagulants; Managing patients who are taking warfarin and undergoing oral surgery or dental extractions and the Anticoagulants audit template.

Some of the documents are presented in poster format which you can print and display in your consultation room.


This organisation provides information on the management of oral anticoagulation, safety indicators for oral anticoagulant care and advice about INR self-testing in warfarin management. The website links closely to articles published in the British Journal of Haematology.

National Pharmacy Association (NPA) - http://www.npa.co.uk/

The NPA provides a range of services to its members including the template standard operating procedure (SOP) and guidance notes for the supply of an anticoagulant. This could help community pharmacists who wish to develop or review their SOP.