

# Training Pharmacists for Prescribing: developing the Curriculum

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# Pharmacists and Prescribing

## Formal postgraduate specialty

- 1<sup>st</sup> To be regulated
- Accredited training
- Registration



# Prescribing Models

- Supplementary prescribing (2003)
- Independent prescribing (2006)

(An independent prescriber is also a supplementary prescriber)

# Patient Safety

- Patient safety is paramount
- A prescriber should be able to:
  - Assess a clinical condition
  - Reach an accurate diagnosis
  - Not miss a serious problem
  - Practise as a prescriber within professional competence

# Developing the Curriculum

1. Identifying learning outcomes
2. Producing an indicative curriculum
3. Developing a criterion-based process for accreditation

# Prescribing – What for?

- All conditions (initially 1 then CPD)
- By agreement
- Within competence
- Long term conditions

# Purpose of Education and training programmes

- Train pharmacists in prescribing
- Confirm clinical competence
- Two years experience

## Developing the Curriculum – Learning outcomes

- High level task group
- Multi-disciplinary
- Draw on experience with nurse prescribing
- Managing differences

# Learning outcomes

- **Develop an effective relationship with the Independent Prescriber, patient and wider care team**
- **Demonstrate their ability to communicate and consult effectively with patients and carers**
- **Demonstrate their ability to conduct a relevant physical examination of patients with those conditions for which they may prescribe.**
- **Demonstrate the ability to monitor response to therapy and modify treatment or refer the patient as appropriate.**
- **Demonstrate how to assess patients' needs for medicines, taking account of their wishes and values in prescribing decisions**
- **Demonstrate how they will prescribe safely, appropriately, clinically and cost effectively;**

# Learning outcomes

- **Identify sources of information, advice and decision support and explain how they will use them in prescribing practice taking into account evidence based practice and national / local guidelines;**
- **Recognise, evaluate and respond to influences on prescribing practice at individual, local and national levels;**
- **Develop and document a clinical management plan within the context of a prescribing partnership**
- **Demonstrate an understanding of the legal and professional framework for accountability and responsibility in relation to supplementary prescribing.**
- **Demonstrate a reflective approach to continuing professional development of prescribing practice**

# Developing the Curriculum – Indicative curriculum

- Multi-disciplinary task group but different
- Detailed consideration
- Expert opinion on clinical specialties

# Pharmacist prescribing in London

<b>Cardiology</b> CHD Transplant Hypertension	<b>Mental Health</b>	<b>Intensive Care</b>	<b>Anticoagulant therapy</b>
<b>HIV</b>	<b>Renal</b> Anaemia Hypertension Bone disease	<b>Prison</b>	<b>GP Practice</b> Osteoporosis Diabetes CHD Hypertension
<b>Cancer</b> Chemotherapy Supportive therapy	<b>Older people</b>	<b>Nutrition</b>	

# Supplementary Prescribing – What is it?

- A partnership
  - A doctor (dentist) who diagnoses and begins treatment (Independent Prescriber)
  - A pharmacist who subsequently monitors the patient and prescribes (Supplementary Prescriber)
  - A patient with (generally) a chronic condition
- A responsibility **(Not a right!)**

# Supplementary prescribing framework

- The clinical management plan
  - Legal requirement
  - Specific to the patient
  - Relevant medical history
  - Condition
  - Aims of treatment
  - Scope of treatment
  - Referral
- KISS



# Clinical management plan

- Patient's name
- Illness, condition(s)
- Dates – start and review
- Medicines and limits  
(guidelines/protocol)
- Warnings
- ADRs
- Referral

# Curriculum

- Prescribing

Consultation and  
examination

Psychology

Monitoring

Public health

Team working

Prescribe safely

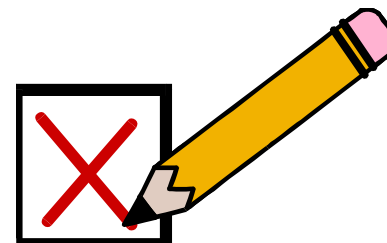
Legal & professional  
framework

Reflective practice

- Clinical pharmacy

- APEL

- Must pass assessment



# Education and training Programmes

- 25 Days learning
  - Class contact  $\pm$
  - Directed private study  $\pm$
  - Distance learning



# Learning in Practice

- Supervised by a medical practitioner (DMP)
- At least 12 days
- NPC Competence framework
- Learning log
- Graded experience
- Assessment

# Supplementary Prescribing - problems

- Clinical management plan
- Additional clinical problems

# Pharmacist Independent Prescribing

- Announced November 2005
- Legal from May 2006
- First practitioners early 2007

# Independent Prescribing

- All medicines in the BNF except CDs (no clinical management plan)
- Autonomous practice
- Within professional competence
- Patient safety paramount

# Additional Skills

- Clinical Examination
- Diagnosis
- ‘Red flags’
- Autonomous practice
  - Legal implications
  - Professional implications

# Prescribing Framework

- Somebody has to pay!
- Agreement on prescribing role
- Potential to identify/treat additional clinical problems

## Award(s)

- Practice certificate in supplementary prescribing  
(accepted by Society)
- ± academic credit
- ± contribution to postgraduate programme

# Regulation by the Society

- Accreditation of education programmes
- Register pharmacist prescribers
- Monitor prescribers' CPD
- Standards for clinical governance

# In the Future

- Electronic patient record
- Links to additional pharmaceutical services
- Prescribing in MPharm degree
- A bigger role for pharmacists in patient care.



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