

## Overview

The Postgraduate Diploma in General Pharmacy Practice (Community Pharmacy) is a three year part time programme which is designed to equip practitioners with the core skills and competencies required to provide pharmaceutical care in a practice setting. The programme works on a philosophy of student centred workplace learning. Students are expected to take responsibility for managing their own learning and achieving the programme objectives. Evidence of students' competence will be assessed using the General Level Framework (GLF), a professional development framework which describes the competencies expected of a pharmacist at general level which has been thoroughly tested with community pharmacists.

The programme is split into two levels. Students who successfully complete Level 1 may move on to Level 2. The full programme will carry 120 Masters level academic credits. Each 30 credit module comprises 300 hours of student effort.

<b>Level 1 (18 months)</b>	<b>30 Credits</b>	<b>30 credits</b>	<b>Assessments</b>
	<b>Applied pharmacy practice skills</b>	<b>Practitioner development in the NHS</b>	MCQs, OSCEs & portfolio review
<b>Intermediate exam board</b>			
<b>Level 2 (18 months)</b>	<b>60 Credits</b>		Portfolio review, prescribing audit, therapeutic dilemma & Change management strategy
	<b>Applied therapeutics</b>		
<b>Final exam board</b>			

## Study days

Throughout Level 1 and Level 2 there will be study days with seminars, small group work, problem-based learning approaches and individual work. In preparation for each study day, students are required to complete a set of pre-study day activities (directed learning) which must be signed off as completed to an acceptable standard by their workplace tutor.

.Experienced pharmacists will facilitate the programme, but the emphasis at the study days will be consolidating the directed-learning, rather than teaching. Study days are likely to be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays and an example timetable is shown below:

### Example timetable

<b>Level 1</b>		
<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic 1 (9.30-12.30)</b>	<b>Topic 2 (1.30-4.30)</b>
1	Induction	
2	Patient assessment	Working in the NHS
3	Staff Management 1	Consultation Skills 1
4	Risk management	Consultation Skills 2
5	Interface issues	Enhanced service 1
6	Enhanced service 2	Antibiotics
7	Enhanced service 3	Enhanced service 4
8	Mock assessments	Patient Safety Task
9	Health Economics	Mock assessment feedback
10	Assessment (MCQs & OSCE)	

<b>Level 2</b>			
<b>Day</b>	<b>Topic 1 (9.30-11.30)</b>	<b>Topic 2 (11.30-2.30)</b>	<b>Topic 3 (2.30-4.30)</b>
1	Induction		Audit
2	CBD & TR	Medication review 1	Myocardial Infarction
3	CBD & TR	Change Management	Staff management 2
4	CBD & TR	Depression	Schizophrenia
5	CBD & TR	Asthma	COPD
6	CBD & TR	Parkinson's Disease	Chronic pain
7	CBD & TR	Type 1 diabetes mellitus	Type 2 diabetes mellitus
8	Portfolio review	Eczema/psoriasis	Staff management 3
9	CBD & TR	Women's health	Medication review 2

CBD (Case based discussion) & TR (Therapeutic review)

## **Work based assessment tools**

A range of assessment tools are used to gather evaluations of the student's competence by the student themselves, their tutor and their colleagues. These assessment tools enable the student and tutor to monitor the student's development and identify continuing learning needs.

The assessment tools are:

- Mini Clinical Evaluation Exercise (mini-CEX) to assess competence in practical tasks
- Mini Peer Assessment Tool (mini-PAT) to ascertain perceived effectiveness by self, peers and medical or social care colleagues
- Case Based Discussion (CBD) to ascertain knowledge of disease states and evidence base for treatment
- Medication Related Consultation Framework (MRCF) to ascertain consultation and communication skills

## **Supplementary evidence**

Students are required to produce or provide a range of supplementary evidence for inclusion in their portfolios:

- Significant and extended interventions
- Patient profiles and pharmaceutical care plans to ascertain ability to monitor drug therapy for a variety of patients, taking in to account individual circumstances
- Records of Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

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## **Application process: Stage 1 (formal expression of interest)**

To apply for a place on the funded pilot programme, you must submit the following by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 to Dr James Desborough, School of Pharmacy, UEA, Norwich NR4 7TJ:

- Application form, including Eligibility Declaration
- Personal Statement - in no more than 500 words, outline your reasons for applying, motivation to succeed and commitment to this programme
- Statement of Employer Support
- Current CV

**Stage 1 Application Form (formal expression of interest)**

**Eligibility Declaration**

To apply for the PGDGPP (Community Pharmacy) funded pilot you must satisfy the criteria listed below. Please tick each statement to confirm that it applies to you. You must:

Be a registered Pharmacist with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB)/General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hold a UK or European Union member state passport	<input type="checkbox"/>
Be working within the boundaries of the Eastern Region SHA which includes: Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk	<input type="checkbox"/>
Be working the majority of time in community pharmacy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have the ability to develop good working relationship with a local medical practice	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have evidence (where appropriate) from your main employer that they are happy for you to complete the diploma and will facilitate you where possible	<input type="checkbox"/>
Be willing to participate in the evaluation of the pilot	<input type="checkbox"/>
Be willing to support the regional tutor network on graduation from the diploma	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have internet access so that you can use UEA's managed learning environment ("Blackboard")	<input type="checkbox"/>

- I confirm that I have read and understood the statements above and can satisfy each criterion.
- I wish to be considered for the University of East Anglia Post Graduate Diploma in General Pharmacy Practice (Community Pharmacy) funded pilot.
- I enclose the following with this application form:
  - Statement of Employer Support (where appropriate)
  - Personal Statement of no more than 500 words
  - Current CV

Signed ..... Date .....

Name .....

*Contact details*

Address .....

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Email .....

Phone .....

*Employment details*

Employer .....

Location: Town..... County.....

**Statement of Employer Support**

Name of applicant: .....

I support the application of the above pharmacist to the Post Graduate Diploma in General Pharmacy Practice (Community Pharmacy) funded pilot.

I acknowledge the requirements of the programme and am willing to:

- a) facilitate their attendance at all study days, and
- b) allow a UEA recognised tutor to perform work based assessments with the applicant.

Signed ..... Date .....

Name .....

Position .....

Organisation .....

*Contact details*

Address .....

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Email .....

Phone .....