Clinical Pharmacy Practice

Career-long learning at Bath for Primary Care and Community Pharmacists

Postgraduate Certificate, Diploma and Masters and CPD Short Courses

Blended learning with online, practice-based and face-to-face elements
A course designed for you
This flexible, part-time Masters level programme has been designed for primary care and community pharmacists. It will equip you with the essential clinical and consultation skills, knowledge and organisational skills needed for evolving patient-focused pharmacist roles and the increasing challenges in primary care.

Designed with extensive input of a multi-professional team, this very practical course, blends flexible work-based learning supported by web-based resources, online discussion events and face-to-face study days creating a rich learning experience. You can tailor your study to suit your role, to include completing training in Independent Prescribing.

Completing the Diploma will enable pharmacists working in primary care to apply for general practice-based clinical pharmacists positions and develop their practice based role. It will support community pharmacists to offer a range of enhanced services, work across NHS boundaries and provides a route to move into a practice based role.

Benefits and features
- Increased confidence to develop and extend your clinical and professional role
- Study at your own pace to fit in with work and other commitments
- Strong recognition of your training and experience already gained in your current working setting
- Excellent support and learning networks with a user-friendly Virtual Learning Environment
- A mix of weekend study days and optional therapeutics joint sessions with pharmacists studying our secondary care diploma to facilitate shared learning and understanding of each other’s roles
- Work with advanced practitioners and be inspired by our highly commended, well-structured courses developed by a top-ranked Department of Pharmacy that is an internationally recognised centre of excellence in both teaching and research
- Support in meeting CPD requirements of the General Pharmaceutical Council and also professional development in line with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Faculty frameworks

Course Content
Clinical Pharmacy (Primary Care and Community Pharmacy)
Once you have completed the Postgraduate Certificate, you can tailor your learning for the Diploma qualification to suit your individual need, for example by combining Independent Prescribing. Course unit content descriptions can be found online.

Postgraduate Certificate (Year 1)
- Professional Skills for Medicines Optimisation
  - the changing primary care NHS model, developing strong consultation and clinical skills using evidence-based information and medication review, audits, medicines optimisation and patient-centred professionalism
- Managing Long Term Conditions
  - Hypertension, AF, stroke/TIA and CKD
  - ACS, heart failure, lipid modification, peripheral arterial disease, depression
  - Type 1 / 2 diabetes, obesity, asthma, COPD

Postgraduate Diploma (Year 2)
- Providing Better Care for the Older Person
- Polypharmacy and medicines optimisation: reducing risk and increasing benefit
- Pharmaceutical Public Health
- Minor Ailments
- Quality Improvement Methodology

Or a choice of Independent Prescribing or Advanced Level courses with a selection of appropriate units that suit your area of practice.

MSc (Year 3)
Practice-based research & Masters dissertation

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<tr>
<th>Independent Prescribing</th>
<th>Advanced Level Courses for experienced pharmacists</th>
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| (Leading to a CPD Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing accredited by the GPhC) | ▪ Advanced clinical practice
| ▪ Prescribing in Context                                   | ▪ Managing in health
| ▪ Consultation Skills for Prescribing                      | ▪ Leadership
| ▪ Prescribing Effectively                                  | ▪ Supporting education, training and development
|                                                             | ▪ Research design and methods for practice
|                                                             | ▪ Advanced professional development |
Support
Maintaining a work-life balance can be challenging. We believe it is crucial to provide you with an easily accessible, strong support network through your unit tutor and the programme team.

Progress, study time and duration
Continuous assessment allows your progress to be monitored with feedback given as you develop using a range of activities: written work-based assignments, portfolios of evidence, oral presentations, workshops, reflective writing accounts and observed structure clinical examinations. Study time includes work-based practice as well as reading, research and assignments. The amount of time does vary depending on your familiarity with the topics, but is typically 2 hours per day (10-12 hours per week).

Workshops
Some units have one day workshops where you can discuss challenges within practice with your peers and improve your clinical skills. Whilst tailored to the needs of today’s primary care pharmacists they also include selected joint sessions with students from our secondary care diploma to encourage shared learning and understanding of each other’s roles. These workshops take place at the University, see the web for latest dates.

Entry Recommendations
The programme is open to registered pharmacists practising in the UK. Full details of entry and English language requirements can be found on our web.

Course units have a work-based learning component, and we would advise you to check with your employer to see if you will be supported by them. Access to patient medical notes is not compulsory but are highly desirable. Students are encouraged to make links directly with GP Surgeries to secure a suitable arrangement. The University can provide a letter to assist in gaining access to a GP Surgery for educational purposes.

Values Based Recruitment
If you are working in or plan to work in the NHS, we follow the NHS Values Based Recruitment Guidance. We strongly believe in the NHS values and will be looking for them in our applicants. For more information on NHS values, please read the NHS Constitution at http://www.nhs.uk/choiceintheNHS/Rightsandpledges/NHSConstitution/Documents/2013/the-nhs-constitution-for-england-2013.pdf

Continuing Professional Development
You can build your CPD portfolio by choosing separate course units, take the formal assessment and gain credit, or simply study the materials without the taking the assessment. CPD hours vary by unit, but all courses are postgraduate M-Level. If you take the assessment you will gain CAT/ECTS Credit Points that are recognised by professional bodies, employers and have a currency at many higher education providers. Full details on course content, unit length and CPD hours are on our website.

Fees & application
Fees and current fee policy are on our website. Fees will vary depending on your choice of units in the Diploma year. You can normally join the Clinical Pharmacy (Primary Care and Community) Programme twice a year, in January and August/September. Apply online at https://www.bath.ac.uk/study/pg/applications.pl?department=pharmacy.

Help with funding
Students based in the South West region may be eligible for financial support for the prescribing element of the course through a number of regionally funded places through Health Education South West (HESW).

Further information
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www.bath.ac.uk/pharmacy/masters