

General practice and community pharmacy guides

NHS Employers, the General Practitioners Committee (GPC) and the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee (PSNC) have produced two guides to support GPs and community pharmacists in developing more effective working relationships.

The guide to pharmacy for GPs is designed to increase awareness of the work of community pharmacies and to encourage joint working. You may also find it beneficial in educating trainee GPs about community pharmacy. The second guide provides an overview on general practice for community pharmacists.

The guides, on the work of community pharmacists and GPs, cover the following areas:

- the funding and contractual arrangements for pharmacists and GPs
- the range of clinical and administrative functions that each profession provides
- various staff roles and responsibilities
- training and qualifications
- the key national bodies
- where to get more information on each profession

The two guides are available on-line only at the following link, along with a letter to GPs (attached) from NHS Employers, the PSNC and GPC, introducing the guides:

<http://www.nhsemployers.org/PayAndContracts/CommunityPharmacyContract/Pages/professionall-relationships-guides.aspx>

Following our joint letter last year, we would also encourage you to meet your local pharmacy colleagues to discuss ways in which you may be able to work together to enhance patient care. If you have any comments about the guide, please email pharmacy@nhsemployers.org.

We would be grateful if LMCs could disseminate this as widely as possible.

Best wishes

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