

Virtual Networks

BRSM

29th October 2009



VN Project - Background

- **Transcom Prospectus highlights that the PLB ‘will look for new ways for pharmacists to come together. For example virtual communities will be created through web-based technology, so that pharmacists can exchange experience and knowledge easily, wherever they are’.**
- **VNs will be accessible to individual and groups of pharmacists in any geographical location across GB and will allow members with an interest in a specialist area of practice to communicate and share ideas with each other.**



Steps taken to date

- Undertaken preliminary work on user requirements - developed early prototype
- Set up VN steering group to provide ongoing feedback on future member requirements
- Cross-referenced with LPF / Mentoring projects
- VN pilot groups now taking part in a rolling trial until early Dec:
 - Secure Environment Pharmacists Group
 - Industrial Pharmacists Group Committee
 - Academic Pharmacy Group Committee
 - Qualified Person (QP) Assessors
 - National pharmacy boards
 - Hospital chief pharmacists
 - Local Practice Forum(s)



Next steps

- Analyse feedback from pilots and define user requirements
- Final amendments during December
- Develop communications programme and rollout to wider range of groups in January 2010
- Access to VN / LPF / Mentoring services on-line by April 2010
- VN steering group to drive user developments for later phases

