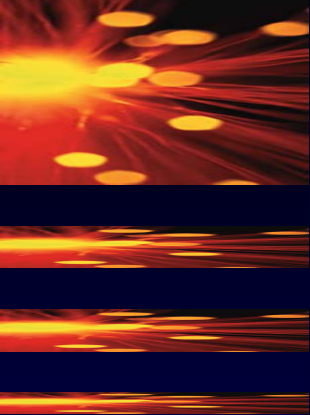




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Establishment of the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC)



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Creation of the GPhC

- Why?
- What?
- How?
- When?



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Why?



Trust, Assurance and Safety –
The Regulation of Health Professionals
in the 21st Century

Presented to Parliament by
the Secretary of State for Health
by Command of Her Majesty
February 2007

Cm 7013

£13.50



Why?

- Overriding interest should be the safety and quality of care that patients receive
- Independence of regulator from Government, professionals and all other interest groups and sustain public confidence through impartiality
- Regulation is as much about sustaining, assuring and improving professional standards, as it is about identifying and addressing poor practice or bad behaviour
- Regulation should not create unnecessary burdens, but be proportionate to the risk it addresses and the benefit it brings



Why?

Benefits include ensuring that:

- There is a clear message that patient safety is paramount
- Registered professionals are fit to practise
- The regulator is agile and able to anticipate and respond to change
- There is transparency and openness, through increased involvement of lay people on Council
- There is accountability to Parliaments, and independence of Governments
- There is a framework for continuing professional development and standards for advanced levels of practice
- Where appropriate, harmonisation of the regulation of health professionals



What?

- Key functions:
 - Setting standards of practice, education, training and conduct
 - Ensuring standards are met
 - Registration of competent practitioners
 - Regulation, registration and inspection of pharmacy premises
 - Operating fitness to practise procedures
 - Enforcement responsibilities in relation to medicines and poisons legislation



How?

- Pharmacy Regulation and Leadership Oversight Group (PRLOG)
- Health and Social Care Act 2008 – Royal Assent 21st July 2008
- The Pharmacy Order 2009
 - Consultation ran from Dec 9th 2008 – Mar 9th 2009
 - DH held 5 consultation events around GB
 - Views of stakeholders sought



Draft Pharmacy Order 2009 – What's new?

The Council's (incl staff and its committees) main objective:

..in exercising such of its functions as affect health, safety, well-being of members of the public is to protect, promote and maintain the health, safety and well being of members of the public, and in particular of those members of the public who use or need the services of registrants, or those of a registered pharmacy, by ensuring that registrants, **and registered pharmacies**, adhere to such standards as the Council consider necessary for the safe and effective practice of pharmacy.



Draft Pharmacy Order 2009 – What's new?

- Duty to have 'proper regard' to the interests of certain stakeholders
 - When exercising its functions, Council shall have proper regard to the interests of service users, registrants and prospective registrants and **persons owning pharmacies.**
- Duty to consult with 'recognised' professional bodies or other organisations representing registrants.
 - Duty to consult with 'recognised' professional bodies or other organisations representing registrants.



Draft Pharmacy Order 2009 – What's new?

- Governance and accountability
 - Appointed Council (14)
 - Parity between lay/professional members
 - One member to live or work wholly or mainly in each of England, Scotland and Wales
 - No reserved sectoral places
- Fitness to Practise
 - Reduced number of statutory committees
 - Legally qualified chairs – permissive, not mandatory
 - Office of Health Professions Adjudicator



Draft Pharmacy Order 2009 – What's new?

Premises:

- Inclusion of registered pharmacies within draft Order
- Power to set standards for pharmacies in Rules e.g. availability of facilities, conditions of the premises, standards of premises for training etc.
- Powers to set standards for superintendent pharmacists and pharmacy owners
- Power to request periodic declarations and self assessments
- Power to set premises fees



Draft Pharmacy Order – What's new?

Premises

- Emergency registration of premises
- Enforcement tools:
 - Improvement notices
 - Fines
 - Prosecution
 - Temporary suspension of registration
 - Conditional registration
 - Cancellation of registration



Draft Pharmacy Order 2009 – What's new?

Registration

- Registers
- No non practising register
- Use of restricted title 'pharmacist'
- Fees
- Annotations
- Technician registration
- Temporary registration/annotation-
individuals and premises



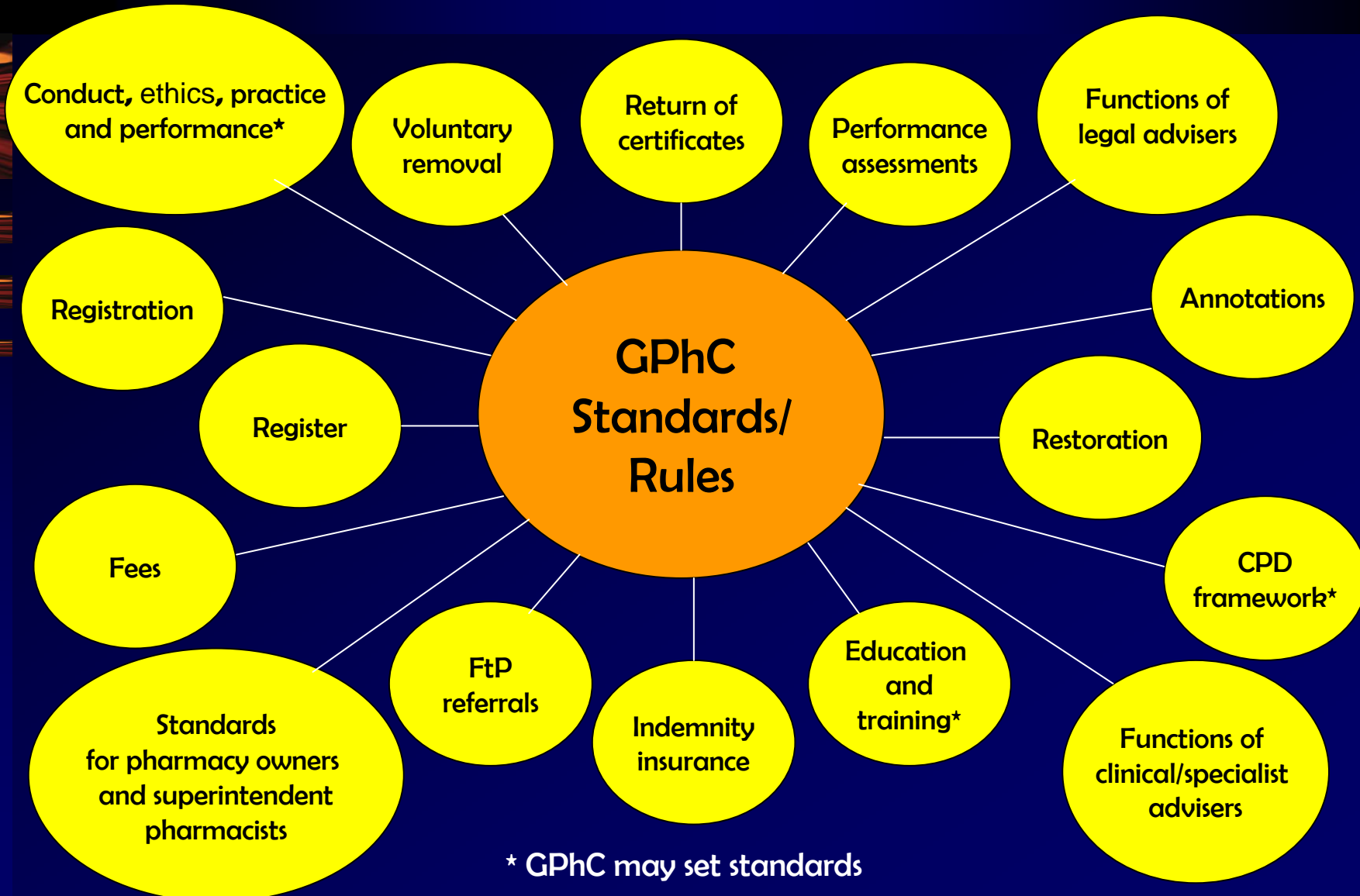
Draft Pharmacy Order 2009 – What's new?

Education:

- Clarification of relationship between regulator and other institutions
- Provisions to allow the Council to require information from other institutions
- Provisions for appointment of visitors
- Continuing professional development



Draft Pharmacy Order 2009 – What's new?



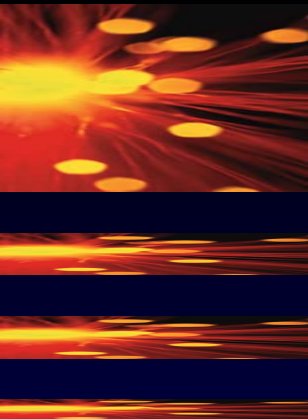


Next steps

- GPhC Chair and Council designate adverts – Early 2009
- Publish response to consultation – Spring 2009
- Affirmative process in Scottish Parliament and Westminster – Autumn 2009
- GPhC established in shadow form – Autumn 2009
- Development of regulatory Rules and standards
- Consultation on standards and rules – Autumn 2009
- GPhC fully operational – 2010



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Any Questions?