

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Summary of an Independent Prescribing Accreditation Report

University of East Anglia

1. Summary and Conclusions

As a result of the accreditation event on 15 July 2008, the panel agreed that in view of the nature and number of the conditions below, it will be a requirement that the Society receive the University's responses to these conditions prior to any recommendation to the Society's Education Committee. This means that the course is not accredited until the conditions have been satisfactorily met and approval has been given by the Society's Education Committee.

The panel commended the team on the content of the student handbook, in particular the introduction section and its clear indication of what the course will involve. The clear and concise format of the supervisor's handbook was also commended. In addition, the panel felt that it was good practice that when referencing the NMC guidelines in the course documentation it was highlighted to students to be aware that the guidelines were produced prior to the introduction of independent prescribing.

2. Conditions

There are 14 conditions associated with this report, which, with the exception of condition 2a, must be met before the programme is recommended for accreditation.

- 2a. For quality assurance purposes, all Universities offering newly accredited Independent Prescribing Programmes will be expected to undertake an evaluation of the teaching provided to enable students to develop clinical examination skills, once the first cohort has completed the programme. The evaluation must include assessment results for this essential core element and feedback from students on the teaching provided. The evaluation report must then be forwarded to the Society [this is a standard condition].
- 2b. That the staff profile of the programme is mapped to the FTE and teaching activity and that the 'identified pharmacist' is made clear in the documentation (This relates to criteria 2.1.2 and 2.1.5).
- 2c. That the student application form is amended to ensure the following:
 - i. the requirement that applicant is on the practising register (Criterion 2.2.1);
 - ii. that the PSNI number is included as an alternative registration number (This relates to criterion 2.2.1);
 - iii. that the applicant has two years appropriate patient-orientated experience (This relates to criterion 2.2.2); and,
 - iv. that the requirement for the applicant to have access to a budget to meet the cost of their prescribing on completion of their training is deleted (This relates to criterion 2.2.3).
- 2d. That a statement is added to the documentation specifying that only registered practising pharmacists may undertake the course (This relates to criterion 2.2.6).
- 2e. That the document clarifies the pharmacist's potential for continuing their professional development by adding the masters level independent prescribing programme to the

pharmacy masters portfolio, within the School of Pharmacy, UEA (This relates to criterion 2.3.2).

- 2f. That the learning outcomes of the programme are accurately mapped to the 16 RPSGB outcomes and to the assessment of the programme (This relates to criterion 2.3.4)
- 2g. That the learning outcome *“use common diagnostic aids e.g. stethoscope, sphygmomanometer”* is added to the totality of the documentation. That the learning outcome *“demonstrate an understanding of the public health issues related to medicine use”* is added to the learning outcomes of the programme at all levels and that the taught component and assessment relating to this outcome is fully identified. That the learning outcome *“demonstrate an understanding of the legal, ethical and professional framework for accountability and responsibility in relation to prescribing”* is added to the learning outcomes of the programme at all levels and that the taught component and assessment relating to this outcome is fully identified (This relates to criterion 2.3.4).
- 2h. That the course team provides the timetable for the taught skills in clinical assessment component of the course. It must be made explicit in the documentation that pharmacists are required to attend all teaching and learning related to clinical examination and diagnosis (This relates to criterion 2.3.8).
- 2i. That the course team describes the policy on attendance in the documentation and provide this to the RPSGB (This relates to criterion 2.3.10).
- 2j. That the course team makes clear in the documentation that there is no exemption for assessment and no APEL/APL (This relates to criterion 2.3.11).
- 2k. That the documentation is revised in it's entirety to reflect the fact that the RPSGB requires '12 x 7.5 (90) hours' in practice (This relates to criterion 2.4.3).
- 2l. That the course team provides the assessment criteria sheet for the video consultation. (This relates to criterion 2.5.1)
- 2m. That the course team makes clear in the documentation that the consequence of a major failure to identify a serious problem is conditional across all assessments and the programme in general (This relates to criterion 2.5.6).
- 2n. That the course team ensures that all documentation includes updated references and websites.

3. Recommendations

No recommendations were set.

Following the above accreditation event satisfactory evidence was provided to meet the above conditions of accreditation (with the exception of the standard condition 2a which must be met on completion of the first cohort). The programme was subsequently approved for accreditation by the Society's Education Committee for a period of three years.