

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Summary of an Independent Prescribing Accreditation Report

Medway School of Pharmacy

1. Summary and Conclusions

As a result of the accreditation event on the 12 September 2008, the panel agreed that it would recommend to the Society's Education Committee that the Independent Prescribing programme at the Medway school of Pharmacy be accredited for a period of 3 years, subject to the following conditions and recommendation. The panel would like to commend the University for the strong level of contact with the Designated Medical Practitioner, and particularly the practice of a member of the programme team visiting the Designated Medical Practitioner at their practice setting. The panel was also impressed with the flexibility of approach in course design in order to tailor the programme as closely as possible to student needs, as well as with the additional days of face-to-face teaching and learning provided to students who have been unable to attend parts of the programme.

2. Conditions

There are 5 conditions associated with this accreditation, which, with the exception of condition 2a, must be satisfactory met before the programme can be accredited.

- 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 of accreditation].
- 2b. In the light of the oversight of not including registration with the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland as an entry route to the programme, that the University amend the enrolment form to include such registration details (this relates to criterion 2.2.1).
- 2c. That the University provide the Society with a copy of the assessment guidance document currently being prepared for students which makes explicit the responsibility of the Designated Medical Practitioner in signing off the required competencies (this relates to criteria 2.3.5 and 2.4.2).
- 2d. That the University amend the final document signed by the Designated Medical Practitioner to confirm that the pharmacist has completed successfully a minimum of 90 hours of learning in practice, and that in the opinion of the Designated Medical Practitioner the pharmacist's practice as a prescriber is suitable for registration as an independent prescriber. (This relates to criteria 2.4.4 and 2.5.2).
- 2e. That the University amend the full documentation pertaining to the programme to indicate clearly that for pharmacists the period of learning in practice is a minimum of 90 hours, i.e. 12x7.5 hour days (this relates to criterion 2.4.3).

3. Recommendation

That the University review the portfolio examples in the documentation for the programme to ensure that they reflect M-level practice.

The course will not formally be accredited until the accreditation panel's recommendations have been endorsed by the Society's Education Committee.

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.