

Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Summary of an Independent Prescribing Accreditation Report

University of Portsmouth

1. Summary and Conclusions

Following an accreditation event on the 29 November 2007, the accreditation panel agreed that the University of Portsmouth had produced and presented an excellent programme in which the panel had confidence. The panel wishes to extend its congratulations to the School of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences. As a result of the accreditation event, the panel will recommend to the Society's Education Committee that the independent prescribing programme at the University of Portsmouth is accredited for a maximum period of three years, subject to the conditions and recommendations detailed below being satisfactorily fulfilled. The panel was particularly impressed with the guidance that was provided for DMP to support their role and the multi-professional approach to working that had been developed with the School of Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Southampton.

2. Conditions

(It is expected that conditions 2b to 2e inclusive will be satisfied before the programme commences)

- 2a. For quality assurance purposes, given the implications of Independent prescribing and the additional responsibility on pharmacists, 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 report must be forwarded to the Society.
- 2b. Unit three must be validated through the University's internal Quality Assurance mechanisms before the programme commences. The University must advise the Society once the programme has been validated. (Criterion 2.1.1.).
- 2c. The SHA application form for the programme must ask the candidate to confirm if he/she is on the Society's practising register. The form should also indicate that applicants who are registered with the PSNI are eligible to apply to the programme and should request their PSNI registration number. (Criterion 2.2.1).
- 2d. The Society's learning outcomes for independent prescribing programmes must be mapped to the learning outcomes for the units and the course. (Criterion 2.3.4).
- 2e. The Assessment of Practice form which is signed by the Designated medical Practitioner must be amended to read "...satisfactorily completed a minimum of 12 days and a minimum of 90 hours supervised practice" (Criterion 2.4.3 and 2.5.2).

3. Recommendations

- 3a. The University clarifies in the student handbook the exact number of contact days required per unit and the policy on attendance as this was not clearly defined within the supporting documentation. (Criterion 2.3.8)
- 3b. The University team reviews all the programme documentation and removes all references to the conversion course(Criterion 2.4.3)
- 3c. The log of time spent in supervised practice is amended to state the total number of hours. (Criterion 2.5.5).

3d. That clearly defined guidance is provided to students in relation to assessments and marking criteria. (2.5.5).

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.