

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCY

At present the Society cannot require evidence of English language competency from EEA nationals wishing to register with the Society.

Once on the Society's register you are bound to practise pharmacy in Great Britain in accordance with the Society's Code of Ethics and Professional Standards and Guidance.

The Code of Ethics seventh principle states at paragraph 7.1 that you must

'Communicate and work effectively with colleagues from your own and other professions and ensure that both you and those you employ or supervise have sufficient language competence to do this'

The Professional Standards for 'Accepting positions of Authority' paragraph 1 states

'You must accept work only where you have the skills and competence for the tasks to be performed. When taking on any position of authority you must:

have the necessary knowledge, skills and experience, including sufficient language competence, to undertake the role'.

Practising pharmacy in breach of the Society's Code of Ethics or Professional Standards and Guidance Documents can result in allegations of misconduct before the Society's Fitness to Practise committees.

Where legislation permits the Society to require an English language test prior to registration, the Society, in the interests of public and patient safety requires applicants to demonstrate that they have achieved a score of at least 7 in the Academic level of the International English language testing scheme (IELTS).

Further information about language courses available to individuals wishing to improve their language competency can be found at your local library or further education colleges.