

Annual Report 2006 – 2007

Key successes:

- National NHS pharmacy workforce and recruitment surveys
- Review of the nationally agreed framework for final accuracy checking of dispensed items for pharmacy technicians - Accredited Checking Technician (ACT)
- Maintenance & development of an electronic recruitment system for pre-registration trainee pharmacists in England and Wales (www.pharmacytraining.nhs.uk)
- Development of a peer reviewed self-assessment QA framework for regional pre-registration training programmes
- Pre-registration trainee pharmacist outcomes and destinations surveys

During the period from **September 2006 - August 2007**, the committee has undertaken the following activities:

Pharmacy Workforce Planning and links to the national Workforce Review Team

The committee engaged with the WRT to advise on pharmacy workforce related issues.

National NHS Pharmacy Staffing Establishment & Vacancy Survey to inform workforce planning

The results of the 2006 survey were distributed widely to inform workforce planning. In addition, information was collected and collated on destination for pre-registration trainee pharmacists completing training within the NHS managed service; a report was produced and widely circulated.

Development of a Nationally Recognised Framework for Accreditation of Pre- and In- Process Checking and Final Accuracy Checking in Aseptic Services

Members of the committee have been involved in the development of Nationally Recognised Frameworks for Pre- and In-Process Checking and Final Accuracy Checking in Aseptic Services.

National Occupational Standards for Pharmacy – Skills for Health

Members of the committee have been involved in Skills for Health work to develop National Occupational Standards for Pharmacy, and contributed to the review of the S/NVQ Level 2 Pharmacy Services Qualification structure.

Four Home Countries

Communication links were formalised between Chief Pharmacists in each of the four home countries.

Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacist salaries and Agenda for Change

The MPET funding shortfalls led to a great drop in pre-registration trainee pharmacists recruited for the 2007/08 cohort. NHS pre-registration trainee pharmacist numbers dropped by 90 for the 2007 intake. The committee has continued to be actively involved in collating data in order to inform employers, commissioners, RPSGB and DoH of the situation.

Review of the nationally agreed framework for final accuracy checking of dispensed items for pharmacy technicians

Committee members reviewed and updated this document, particularly the assessment and re-accreditation processes.

Specialist groups working on behalf of the main committee

The Support Staff and Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacists Specialist Groups continue to be effective in developing joint initiatives, disseminating and sharing information. They provide valuable help and support to training leads in these specialist areas.

Links with Department of Health

A new Chief Pharmacist, Keith Ridge came into post in early 2006. Keith attended the committee meeting in October 2006 to highlight current and future issues important for the committee to address, these included the review of the medical and non-medical professional regulation and advanced practice such as pharmacist prescribing and Pharmacists with a Special Interest. Formal links and attendance at the committee by Department of Health representatives were formalised following staff changes.

Links with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB)

Titles for Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacists and Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacy Technicians were clarified, as advised by the RPSGB.

Professional Development Framework for Pharmacy Staff involved in Education, Training and Workforce Development

The committee began collaborative work with UKCPA to develop a Professional Development Framework for Pharmacy Staff involved in Education, Training and Workforce Development.

Information and advice provided to national bodies on policy and practice in pharmacy education:

- A member of the Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacists Specialist Group represents the NHS (England, Scotland & Wales) on the newly formed stakeholders group of the RPSGB Preregistration Liaison Group.
- A member of the Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacists Specialist Group represents the NHS (England, Scotland & Wales) on the RPSGB Cross-Sector Experience working party
- Members of the committee are attending CPPE Stakeholder and User Advisory Board meetings
- Representatives from the committee attended the RPSGB Pharmacy Sector committee and link with the new Pharmacy Support Staff Advisory Committee
- Members of the committee provide information on pharmacy careers to NHS Careers
- DoH Pharmacy Workforce Think Tank – linking in with National Workforce Review Team

Responses to consultations

The committee sent responses to the following draft documents proposing future national policy:

- Draft Principles of Pharmacy Education and Training

