

Post-registration Training for Community Pharmacists

PhIf-Funded Post Graduate Certificate in Clinical Pharmacy Practice (Community Pharmacists)

This flexible, part-time Masters level programme is designed for practicing community pharmacists, with a focus on a problem-solving, practice-orientated approach.

We have two main intake points each year: September and February. At each intake point we have cohorts starting in both **Bath** and **London**.

Full information on start dates and application deadlines can be found here:

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/study/pg/programmes/funded-clin-comm-phar/index.html>

Our vision

By providing high-quality practice-based education and training for community pharmacists, we are aiming to equip participants with the enhanced knowledge and skills that they will need to prepare them for emerging and advancing roles within community pharmacy.



Structured and Modular Programme of Study

This programme is commonly completed either to the level of Postgraduate Certificate (60 CATS credits) or Postgraduate Diploma (120 CATS credits). **Eligible community pharmacists can access a PhIf-funded place up to the stage of Postgraduate Certificate (1 year of study).** Candidates can continue to a Diploma award with their own funding/employer funding.

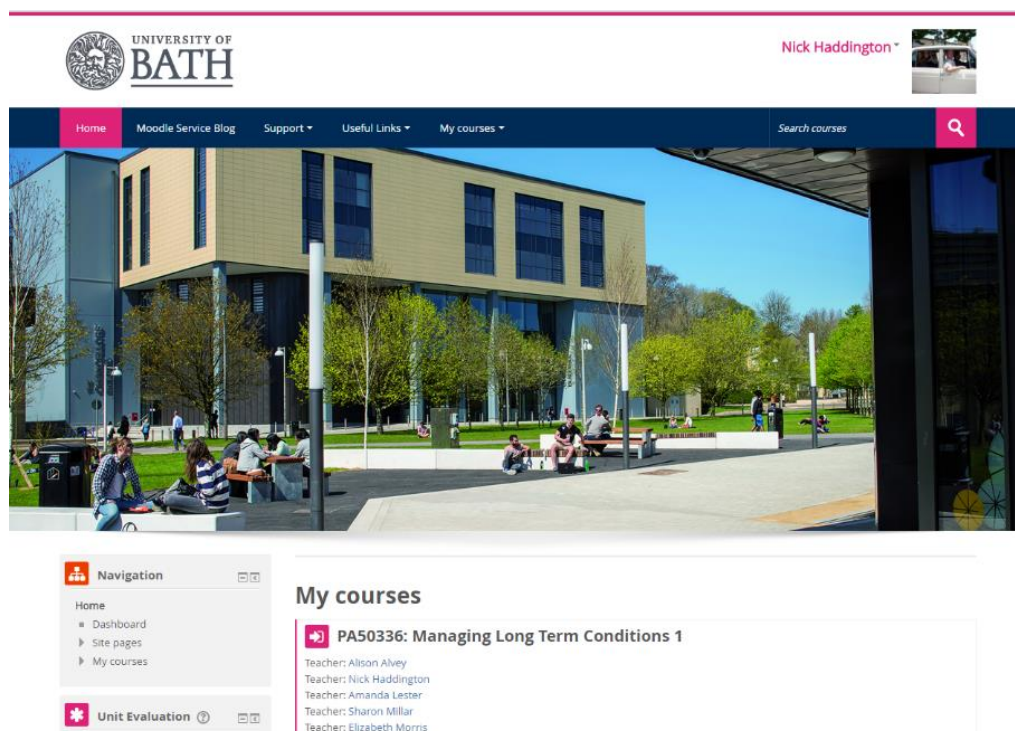
The programme consists of two core units, followed by a series of optional units, each usually completed over 2 months. The fastest that awards can be completed is 1 year for a Certificate (60 credits) and 2 years for a Diploma (120 credits).

Candidates can choose to study the core, recommended units or a combination of optional units below for a Postgraduate Certificate award from Bath. More details can be found in the table of units on pages 4 and 5.

Core units	Optional course units
Professional Skills for Medicines Optimisation	Managing Polypharmacy and Multimorbidity
Evidence Based Pharmacy Practice	Providing Better Care for the Older Person
Recommended units	Minor Ailments
Managing Long Term Conditions 1	Public Health
Managing Long Term Conditions 2	Quality Improvement Project
Managing Long Term Conditions 3	

Learning methods: Blend of online and face to face activities

Each unit is designed for distance/blended learning where students complete the majority of learning in their own practice-base, with typically a ONE-day face-to-face workshop at the University associated with each unit. This is supported by our actively moderated Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle), which hosts a range of learning materials, including a highly detailed study guide for each unit.



At **face to face workshops**, we focus on patient interaction skills, including communication, structured consultations and physical examination skills. We also include expert clinician sessions and complete formative assessments. We teach a range of **physical examination skills** across the first year.

Assessment methods

We use a range of practice-based and patient-focussed assessments. For some assessments (such as the patient case study, or 'MOT') students are required to draw on real patient cases that they encounter in practice. For this reason it is beneficial (although not compulsory) to have links with a nearby GP to facilitate access to patient clinical records such as laboratory results.

What workplace support is needed?

Participants require support from their employer to:

- Be released to attend the workshops (5 workshops per year, plus initial induction and an OSCE assessment at the end of the first year)
- Complete work-based activities
- Where possible, to provide informal mentorship locally to help facilitate access to appropriate patient cases – this will help the participant to get the most from their learning

Full employer information and the Employer Support Form (which must be completed for each student) is available here: <http://www.bath.ac.uk/study/pg/programmes/funded-clin-comm-phar/pdf/clin-comm-phar-employer-pack.pdf>

Funding

The first 60credits (equivalent to a Postgraduate Certificate) for each community pharmacist participant is funded by the Pharmacy Integration Fund.

Early application is recommended, as funded courses spaces are limited. To be eligible for a funded place, participants need as a minimum:

- To be a practising pharmacist in a patient facing role for at least 15 hours a week (0.4 WTE).
- Support from their employer to release the participant to attend the workshops, and to complete work-based activities

For those going on to complete a second year of study (to PG Diploma stage), the [fee for the current](#) academic year is £2350 (that is £470 per 12 credit unit).

Independent Prescribing

We also offer Independent Prescribing (36 credits, the equivalent of 3 units), which can be incorporated into an award. This is **not funded** by the PhIF for community pharmacists. Current cost is £2025.

For Further Information

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Web: go.bath.ac.uk/ClinComPharm

Overview of Units Available at University of Bath (1)

Unit	Content	Assessment	Workshop days
Professional Skills for Medicines Optimisation (12credits) CORE for a PG Cert award	This unit introduces the programme and provides participants with a toolkit of professional and clinical skills to continue developing over the first year. Topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping personal development to the Foundation Pharmacy Framework and planning learning Interpreting lab results, communication/consultation skills, consent, motivational interviewing, medicines review, medicines reconciliation, and medicines optimisation. 	-Structured Patient Case Study (MOT) -Reflection on Clinical Activity -Online assessment -Oral Presentation -OSCE examination	1 Programme Induction day (Bath or London) 1 workshop day (Bath or London) 1 OSCE assessment day at the end of the first year of study
Evidence Based Pharmacy Practice (12 credits) CORE for a PG Cert award	Participants develop expertise in the identification, critical appraisal and use of a range of evidence sources to answer and solve practice-based enquires and problems.	-Medicines related question -Critical appraisal -Oral presentation	1 workshop day (Bath or London)
Managing Long Term Conditions (MLTC) 1 (12credits)	Improving patient outcomes through medicines optimisation of a range of long term conditions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hypertension/AF/Stroke/CKD, AKI Clinical/professional skills development 	-Structured Patient Case Study (MOT) -Reflection on Clinical Activity -Online assessment	1 workshop day (Bath or London)
Managing Long Term Conditions (MLTC) 2 (12credits)	Improving patient outcomes through medicines optimisation of a range of long term conditions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACS/STEMI&NSTEMI/ CHF/ lipid modification/PAD/ LTC associated Depression Clinical/professional skills development 	-Structured Patient Case Study (MOT) -Reflection on Clinical Activity -Online assessment	1 workshop day (Bath or London)
Managing Long Term Conditions (MLTC) 3 (12credits)	Improving patient outcomes through medicines optimisation of a range of long term conditions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asthma, COPD, T1DM, T2DM, Complications of diabetes, Obesity, Hypothyroidism Clinical/professional skills development 	-Structured Patient Case Study (MOT) -Reflection on Clinical Activity -Online assessment	1 workshop day (Bath or London)

Overview of Units Available at University of Bath (2)

Unit	Content	Assessment	Workshop days
The Older Person: Providing Better Care (12credits)	Improving skills in optimising care for older people, including a range of conditions encountered in the older person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dementia, Ophthalmology, Frailty and Falls, Acute confusion, OA/OP, urology, orthostatic hypotension Consultation skills to support the older person 	-Structured Patient Case Study (MOT) -Reflection on Clinical Activity -Online assessment	1 workshop day (Bath or London)
Pharmaceutical Public Health (12credits)	Supporting pharmacists to design and apply project-based Public Health interventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health needs assessment, Health Promotion, changing behaviours, healthy living pharmacies, obesity, sexual health, mental health, cancer, communicable disease, substance misuse, smoking cessation; cardiovascular. 	-Practice-based public health project	Webinar (no workshop)
Quality Improvement (with UoB School of Management) (12credits)	Equipping pharmacists with the knowledge and skills to drive quality improvements systematically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key principles, improvement approaches, tools in practice (following Institute of Health Improvement approach), production of structured, work-related report 	-Work-based QI project	MOOC (no workshop)
Managing Minor Ailments (12credits)	Developing expertise in the management of a range of minor ailments encountered in the primary care setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-Care, Allergy, Dermatology, Respiratory (LRTI), GI, Neurology, ENT, ophthalmology, paediatric, acute pain, musculo-skeletal 	-Practice-based diary demonstrating management of a range of patients -Critical evaluation of OTC class	1 workshop day (Bath or London)
Managing Polypharmacy and Multimorbidity – Reducing Risk (12credits)	Using a range of decision making tools (including de-prescribing techniques) to review and optimise the care of complex patients, using a novel case-based approach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADRs, interactions, reducing hospital admissions, risk screening, de-prescribing, transfer of care, learning disabilities. 	-Structured Patient Case Study (MOT) -Reflection on Clinical Activity -Online assessment	1 workshop day (Bath or London)