



Ref: PH318

To all Community Pharmacies in the Wessex area

Dear Colleague,

Health Education England (HEE) has developed a new training course for community pharmacists to help them make the best use of their skills as part of multidisciplinary NHS teams and ensure patients get the most benefit from taking their medicines.

The master level courses which are funded through NHS England's [Pharmacy Integration Fund](#) (PhIF) are now open for applications. The courses will cover five strands, which are:

- service improvement
- extended skills
- patient activation
- delivering medicines optimisation
- NHS England priorities

The courses will run from March 2018 to March 2019 and the equivalent of up to 2,000 postgraduate certificates are available in total.

Please find below more detail contained in a press release which has been issued by HEE and relevant website subject link:

To the press release:

<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/news-blogs-events/hee-news/new-post-registration-pharmacist-training-strengthen-pharmacy-workforce>

To the HEE central web page:

<https://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/developing-our-workforce/pharmacy-education-training/pharmacy-integration-fund/post-registration-training-community-pharmacists>

Background information:

- The NHS is working to ensure that pharmacists and pharmacy technicians play an increasingly visible and expanded role in improving outcomes and value from medicines for patients.
- To support this, NHS England is enabling the development of pharmacy practice through the Pharmacy Integration Fund.
- The fund is being used to develop schemes which integrate pharmacists and pharmacy technicians into wider primary care as part of new multi-disciplinary healthcare teams, making the most of their clinical skills.
- The NHS Five Year Forward View set out a clear direction for the future NHS and placed great emphasis on service integration, including 'new models of care' which integrate primary and secondary care, and health and social care.
- Health Education England is working in partnership with NHS England to drive forward the workforce transformation which will be needed to achieve these goals. This work is part of a broader HEE agenda to enable workforce transformation across the NHS to support locally delivered integrated care models.

- Working with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and other partners, HEE has developed new, fully-funded, innovative programmes. These are available for individual pharmacists or pharmacy technicians through flexible and accessible learning solutions, allowing those enrolling to study at work, or in their own time.
- The Pharmacy Integration Fund works across several strands:
 - Independent Prescribing for Pharmacists in GP practices, Care Homes and Integrated Urgent Care/NHS111 hubs aligned to specific programmes
 - NHS111/Integrated Urgent Care Workforce Development Programme
 - Medicine Optimisation in Care Homes Training for Pharmacy Professionals
 - Clinical and Professional Leadership Development for Pharmacy Professionals
 - Post-registration Training for Pharmacists
 - Community Pharmacy Technician Training and Development Pilot Programme
 - Accuracy Checking Pharmacy Technician Programme.

For more information on HEE visit the website – www.hee.nhs.uk or follow them on Twitter [@NHS_HealthEdEng](https://twitter.com/NHS_HealthEdEng) or Facebook www.facebook.com/nhshee

I hope you find this information of interest.

Kind regards



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