



## What Can Clinical Pharmacists Contribute to the GP Team?

48% of adult patients take at least one prescribed medication<sup>1</sup>, pharmacists, as medicines experts are streamlining practice prescription processes, medicines optimisation, minor ailments, & long term condition management.

‘There is evidence that the clinical pharmacist (CP) role contributes to an increase in the capacity of General Practice to see patients.....There is evidence that the capacity released by the CP role benefits the General Practitioner’<sup>2</sup>

‘Patients report good advice about their medications from the CP which leads to better adherence & minimises side effects’<sup>2</sup>

## NHS England Programme - Clinical Pharmacists in General Practice

NHSE is continuing to invest in GP clinical pharmacists, pledging funding for three years to recruit, train & establish clinical pharmacists in your general practice. Dorset practices have already benefitted from the programme & recent changes have made it easier to apply.

If you are considering applying for funding, information is [here](#) & advice can be sought from the NHS England Team [england.wessexgpfv@nhs.net](mailto:england.wessexgpfv@nhs.net).

Contact Us:

[www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/training-hubs/wessex](http://www.hee.nhs.uk/our-work/training-hubs/wessex)

## Wessex Learning & Successes

'I'd like to see the clinical pharmacist' NHS England video [here](#).

Westbourne Medical Centre have estimated that one pharmacist post saves GPs 80 hours a month (excluding indirect patient activities) [Link](#)

A medicines optimisation pharmacist working across Weymouth & Portland locality saved £114,000 in a year through medicines optimisation interventions. [Link](#)

Dr. Keith Ridge, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer, describes the positive impact of pharmacy professionals in GP & on patient care in Wessex. [Link](#)

*'CPs have made a unique & valuable contribution to the primary care skill mix. Pharmacists contribute significantly to patient safety, bring medicines and prescribing expertise, support with prescribing tasks, support for patients with long term conditions including support for healthy lifestyles. They have improved medication knowledge in the wider clinical team leading to the prospect of overall improvements in care related to medicines<sup>2</sup>*

## Training and Experience

Pharmacists will have a wide range of experience depending the sector(s) they have worked in. A Dorset network of GP clinical pharmacists is now established with associated training opportunities; most are prescribers & working at or towards ACP.

If you want advice regarding GP pharmacist training pathways get in touch with the [HEE Wessex Primary Care Training Hub](#).

## Useful Resources

The Primary Care Pharmacists' Association guide [here](#) including job descriptions.

The CPPE provides training free of charge to registered pharmacists and pharmacy technicians including elements of the GP Pharmacist Training Pathway [here](#).

This local report describes the tasks undertaken by CPs in general practice [here](#) & their value & productivity [here](#).

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