

News Release
12th February 2010

**PPRT CONTINUES TO SUPPORT CAREER DEVELOPMENT IN
PHARMACY RESEARCH:**

Aspiring researchers can now apply for a 2010 Practice Research Award

Pharmacists who want to start or develop a research career are being invited by the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust (the Trust) to apply for a 2010 Practice Research Award.

The awards were set up to build research capacity in pharmacy practice and develop the evidence base for pharmacy practice. Since the Trust was established 10 years ago it has supported more than 60 pharmacists to develop their research skills and qualifications including granting 23 Research Practice Awards. Research funded through this scheme in 2009 is exploring such issues as the extent of community pharmacy engagement with patients having a skin disease and an evaluation of an integrated pathway for inflammatory bowel disease.

William Horsley, lead pharmacist for the North East Specialised Commissioning Group was granted a Practice Research Award in 2009. He is undertaking an evaluation of an integrated care pathway for inflammatory bowel disease and exploring ways in which community pharmacy can be involved in care pathways for chronic diseases which are largely managed in primary care.

He said: Hopefully my results obtained from this project will feed into the community pharmacy evidence base, ultimately leading to improvements in patient care and

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potentially a greater role for pharmacy. I am looking forward to sharing the results with my pharmacist colleagues and contributing to pharmacy practice in academia. Receiving such a valuable and prestigious award will help me stand out amongst my peers in an increasingly competitive world and I would encourage fellow pharmacists with an interest in developing research or their research career to apply for a Trust research award."

A total of £55,000 is available for a number of grants which are open to:

- those requiring funding between PhD and post doctoral grants;
- those requiring funding to go from MPhil to PhD;
- practitioners new to research; and
- PhD students requiring 'research costs' to enhance their PhDs

The awards can also be used to fund new areas of research, for example, pre-pilot and feasibility studies that would not be considered by other funding bodies.

The deadline for all completed applications is 21 May 2010 and interviews will be held on 2nd July in London.

Further details, application forms and guidance notes for the Practice Research Awards are available at <http://www.pprt.org.uk/ResearchFunding/2010ResearchAwards.aspx> or email: charlotte.coates@rpsgb.org

Ends

For further media information contact: **Bonnie Green on 07774 650 391**
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Notes to editors:

1. William Horsley is also a Doctoral Researcher at the School of Medicine and Health, Wolfson Research Institute, Durham University.

2. Two types of Research Awards are available:

- **Galen Award** - one or more awards made annually to a total value of £10,000 funded by the Galen Trust.
- **Sir Hugh Linstead Fellowship** - one or more awards made annually to a total value of £45,000 funded by a grant from the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust in order to support research relating to community pharmacy.

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3. The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust was established by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of GB in July 1999 as an independent research charity with a broad objective to promote and develop the field of pharmacy practice research. Its trustees are drawn from senior health policy makers, leading academics, industry and retailers.

The Trust has invested over £1.5m in research; 30% supporting capacity building in pharmacy practice research and 70% on commissioned research. The Trust receives financial support from the Pharmaceutical Trust for Education and Charitable Objectives, the Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust and the Galen Trust, as well as a gift in kind from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. For further information and to access reports of Trust commissioned research or for funding/grant opportunities go to: www.pprt.org.uk