

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust



News Release: for immediate release

Pharmacy has to move away from a culture of paternalism

“Pharmacists have to move away from a culture of paternalism to one which embraces the wider focus of multiprofessional working and increasing patient and public expectations but changing the ethos of professionalism is a challenge, not only for pharmacists, but for all healthcare professionals” said Ann Lewis, recently retired Secretary and Registrar of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Speaking at a dinner organised by the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust to discuss the changing face of professional ethics in healthcare and the research that the Trust has commissioned in this area, she went on to say that as pharmacists become more involved in complex patient care pathways and a widening professional team, they may be faced with having to make an increasing number of ethical decisions which will affect both patient and professional colleague relationships.

“Maintaining the confidence of both the patient and members of the clinical team can be challenging” commented Harry Cayton, Chief Executive of the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence who attended the event, “and pharmacists may have to struggle to move away from their normally comfortable, paternalistic nature.”

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The event was attended by leading academic ethicists, chief executives of healthcare regulatory bodies plus Trust and Society guests.

Ends.

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28 September 2007 email: bonnie.green@rpsgb.org

Notes to editors

1. Respect for medicines and respect for people: mapping pharmacist practitioners' perceptions and experiences of ethics and values

The above report is available via the Download documents page of the RPSGB website:

<http://www.rpsgb.org/informationresources/downloadsocietypublications/>

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2. The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust (PPRT) was established 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, industrialists and retailers. For further information email: practiceresearch@rpsgb.org

3. The research was commissioned by the PPRT with a grant from the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of GB.