

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust



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Learning from Innovation in Pharmacy Education

If the pharmacy workforce both today and in the future is going to meet the increasing needs and expectations of the NHS, patients and the public, it is important that pharmacy education is innovative and that new developments are shared not only with pharmacy academics but more widely within the profession and outside. In response to this need a compendium of innovative pharmacy education studies *Learning from Innovation in Pharmacy Education* has been published by the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust.

“These research projects contribute to the sharing of innovation in pharmacy education provision among schools of pharmacy and academia as a whole” says Marshall Davies, chair of the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust. “Each of the individual studies addresses different challenges in the learning and assessment environment and contributes towards a growing body of innovative research in education.”

As a collective, the projects demonstrate the benefits of embracing new technology to support traditional teaching methods; that patient safety and safe working practice remain essential skills; and that there is an increased need for sustained support.

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust commissioned the studies following the identification by the RPSGB Pharmacy Education R&D Reference Group that while schools of pharmacy were innovating in education provision, on the whole the learning from these developments was not widely shared within the academic pharmacy community. "They were designed to encourage pharmacy academics to evaluate and explore innovative aspects of pharmacy education" says Marshall Davies.

"Education in pharmacy must underpin the profession's ability to meet the needs and expectations of patients and the public in delivering accessible and expert pharmacy services" said Graham Phillips, chair of the RPSGB Education Committee. "These studies respond to a need to develop a learning and reflective culture throughout the profession via the medium of pharmacy education."

Ends.

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Notes to editors:

1. Publication details

Learning from Innovation in Pharmacy Education, Pharmacy Practice Research Trust,
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The report is available via the Download documents page of the RPSGB website:

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

2. List of projects

- Dr Angela MacAdam, University of Brighton
An investigation into which factors affect the perceived success of the experiential community pharmacy visits in year one of the MPharm programme
- Dr Imogen Savage, School of Pharmacy, University of London
Learning how to teach the 'final check'

- Dr Dai John, Cardiff University in collaboration with Keith Wilson, Aston University, Simon Tweddell, University of Bradford and Ruth Edwards, The Robert Gordon University
Current and future methods for teaching and assessment of RPSGB fitness to practise procedures
- Professor David Mottram, Liverpool John Moores University
Evaluation of the current and future provision of pharmacy undergraduate research projects
- Professor Kevin Taylor, School of Pharmacy, University of London & University College London Hospitals; and
Dr Geoffrey Harding, School of Pharmacy, University of London
How do pharmacy students learn?
- Miss Denise Taylor, University of Bath
Using videoed teaching OSCEs to aid student assessment
- Dr Lesley Diack, Robert Gordon University/University of Aberdeen
E-learning for sharing across medical, health and social care undergraduate students: development, evaluation, assessment and dissemination of an elearning inter-professional module
- Mrs Dawn Bell, South Manchester University Hospitals NHS Trust (SMUHT)
A study to develop and test a new method of assessment of communication skills of pharmacy undergraduate students: the patient as the assessor
- Dr Derek Stewart, Robert Gordon University
Developing and evaluating an E-network of pharmacists undertaking supplementary prescribing training and their linked designated medical practitioners, which is supported by academia, aiming to enhance the period of learning in practice
- Mrs Alison Gail Eggleton, University of East Anglia
Portfolio based learning and assessment: optimising its use within pharmacy

3. Background to the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust

The Pharmacy Practice Trust 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.

The *Medicines and People* programme is a major initiative by the Trust. As an independent research charity, the Trust aims to promote research that will enable policy makers, manufacturers, prescribers and others to better understand the people and the contexts in which they use and take medicines. www.rpsgb.org/worldofpharmacy/research/

4. Funding

These studies were commissioned by the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust with a grant provided by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.