

**Media Release**  
**19<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

### **Mentoring scheme established for aspiring researchers**

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust (the Trust) has established a one-to-one mentoring scheme to support novice or junior pharmacy practice researchers and help them develop research knowledge.

The scheme will offer the mentee support and advice on key research areas such as concept development through to grant applications and forging professional links. It will be accessible via email, telephone or face-to-face.

For mentors, who will be drawn from the pharmacy research establishment, it will provide the opportunity to help and support the future academic workforce, the potential to extend collaborations outside academia and access to emerging research talent. Already mentors have agreed to support the scheme from 10 accredited educational establishments throughout the UK.

Dr Catherine Duggan, Senior Clinical Lecturer, London School of Pharmacy and also chair of the UK Clinical Pharmacy Association (UKPCA) commented,  
“Mentorship is a concept that the UKPCA supports. It needs to be linked to

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professional development and be mutually beneficial for mentor and mentee alike whether it's about education, research skills or developing leadership management.”

“Pharmacists interested in developing their pharmacy practice research experience can often feel isolated from academia and this scheme will provide the opportunity for them to seek advice or share concerns with senior researchers” said Dr Sue Ambler, Trust director. “It will help to strengthen the important link between academia and practice and contribute towards the Trust’s objective of building pharmacy practice research capacity.”

Full information is available at:

<http://www.pprt.org.uk/ResearchSupport/E-MentoringScheme.aspx>

Ends.

**For further media information:**

**Bonnie Green**

**Direct tel: 07774 650 391**

**email: [bonnie.green@rpsgb.org](mailto:bonnie.green@rpsgb.org)**

**Notes to editors:**

### **1. 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. For further information: [www.pprt.org.uk](http://www.pprt.org.uk)