

Media release for immediate use
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Pharmacy Practice Research Trust welcomes calls for more pharmacy practice research in Pharmacy White Paper and Clarke Inquiry

The Pharmacy Practice Research Trust (the Trust) has welcomed the recommendations made for a greater and continuing focus on health services and pharmacy practice research in both the Department of Health White Paper on the future of pharmacy in England and the recent Clarke Inquiry report.

The White Paper acknowledged the contribution already made by the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust in both building the evidence base and research capacity in pharmacy. It identified six principal research domains, many of which the Trust is already supporting through its broad research programme and also suggested that there will be greater opportunities for pharmacists to undertake research as their clinical expertise further develops.

“The Trust is particularly pleased that consideration will be given to sustaining the research capacity related to pharmacy practice and medicines use as this is one of our key objectives” said Dr Sue Ambler, Director of the Pharmacy Practice Research Trust.

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The Trust acknowledges the need for research that focuses on patient benefit, quality of services and value for money as identified in the White Paper. “This will provide a welcome opportunity for future multidisciplinary practice research, particularly in the areas of long term conditions and public health, to provide the much needed evidence base for the contribution that pharmacists can make to primary care,” said Sue Ambler.

Support of the Trust’s work was echoed in the recommendations of the Clarke Inquiry into a Professional Body for Pharmacy. This recommended that the new Professional Body should commission research, work with others to undertake specific research, assist and inform the research communities and most importantly, ensure that the resulting evidence base underpins all that it does.

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Notes to editors:

1. *Pharmacy in England: building on strengths – delivering the future*. DH, April 2008. London. For recommendations on research see chapter 6
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_083815

2. *Report of the Independent Inquiry into a Professional Body for Pharmacy* led by Nigel Clarke. For recommendations on research see section 3.8
www.theclarkeinquiry.com

3. 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