Clinical Pharmacist

Overview of the role

AfC Band 7/8a

Max reimbursable amount over 12 months (with on cost) - £55670

Clinical pharmacists work in primary care as part of a multidisciplinary team in a patient facing role to clinically assess and treat patients using expert knowledge of medicines for specific disease areas. They will be prescribers, or if not, can complete an independent prescribing qualification following completion of the 18-month CPPE pathway. They work with and alongside the general practice team, taking responsibility for patients with chronic diseases and undertaking clinical medication reviews to proactively manage people with complex polypharmacy, especially for the elderly, people in care homes and those with multiple comorbidities.

Funding

From April 2020, this role will be reimbursed at 100% of actual salary plus defined on-costs, up to the maximum reimbursable amount of £55,670 over 12 months.

Training/Development

- Clinical pharmacists employed through the Network Contract DES will either be enrolled in or been granted exemption from the 18 month Primary Care Pharmacy Education Pathway (PCPEP). This pathway equips the pharmacist to be able to practice and prescribe safely and effectively in a primary care setting.
- All clinical pharmacists will be part of a professional clinical network and will always be clinically supervised by a senior clinical pharmacist and GP clinical supervisor.
- Independent prescribing is in addition to training pathway and will be completed following completion of the PCPEP.
- Prior experience, training and qualifications may lead to exemption for some modules – this will be granted by CPPE.

Pre-requisites

 Pharmacy degree and registration as a pharmacist with the General Pharmaceutical Council or the equivalent regulatory authority in your home country

Length of course

- 18-month pathway, including 28 days dedicated study days
- Learner receives a statement of assessment & progression on completion of the pathway
- No placement is required as the clinical pharmacist will be employed within primary care whilst completing the PCPEP.

Activities Undertaken

- Develop bespoke integrated pharmaceutical care plans for individual patients
- Facilitate communication and liaise across a patient's care pathway (including wider primary care workforce, secondary care, social care and domiciliary)
- Manage patients with more complex long-term conditions such as "difficult" hypertension, compliance with lipidlowering therapy
- Increase the uptake of new medicines with a focus on overall value
- Offer a holistic approach to the use and understanding of medicines by patients that includes step up and step-down management required in long term conditions or possibly end of life
- Facilitate access to medicines (e.g. secondary care referrals for "specials", unusual formulations etc.)
- Support innovation and clinical research
- Provide expertise in practical therapeutics

Skills and Competencies

- Working with GPs and patients to address medicine adherence.
- Reviewing patients on complex medicine regimens
- Triaging and managing common ailments
- Responding to acute medicine requests
- Managing and prescribing for longterm conditions (often with the practice nurse)
- Holding minor ailment clinics
- Prescription management
- Dealing with medication for patients recently discharged from hospital
- Helping the practice deliver on the QIPP and QOF agenda and enhanced services
- Delivering repeat prescription reviews
- Being the point of contact for all medicine-related queries.
- Overseeing the practice's repeat prescription policy.
- Taking over clinical medicines reviews from GPs
- Audit and education.
- Medicines management



Health Education England

 In dispensing practices, pharmacists can take responsibility for the business management of the dispensary

Supervision

The PCPEP is for pharmacists employed as part of the NHS England primary care Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service (DES) additional roles reimbursement scheme.

- The PCN DES says that all clinical pharmacists will be part of a professional clinical network and will always be clinically supervised by a senior clinical pharmacist and GP clinical supervisor
- The clinical supervisor for pharmacists will usually be a GP but if the pharmacist works in a care home, the clinical supervisor could be a consultant geriatrician
- Each clinical pharmacist will receive a minimum of one supervision session per month by a senior clinical pharmacist
- All clinical pharmacists will have access to an assigned GP clinical supervisor for support and development.
- As the number of clinical pharmacists working within PCNs increases, this should be on a ratio of one senior clinical pharmacist to five clinical pharmacists, and in all cases appropriate peer support and supervision must be in place
- Further information can be found here: https://www.cppe.ac.uk/career/pcpep/c linical-supervisor

Educator Providers

CPPE for PCPEP pathway:

https://www.cppe.ac.uk/career/pcpep/pathway-progress#

University Providers of Pharmacy degrees:

https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/subjects/pharmacy

GPhC accredited courses leading to eligibility to enter pharmacist preregistration training in the UK:

https://www.pharmacyregulation.org/sites/default/files/gphc accredited courses leading to eligibility to enter pre-reg correct as of july 2017.pdf

Job Description

PCPA Job descriptions https://www.pcpa.org.uk/454kgekwj545c8 7as234lg/PrimaryCareNetworksClinicalPharmacistsJDs-V3.pdf

Case Studies

CPPE Case studies
https://www.cppe.ac.uk/ca
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NHS Englend Case
studies#gpptpMenu
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Health Education England

https://www.england.nhs.u k/gp/our-practiceteams/cp-gp/

Additional Resources