



# Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK (APTUK)

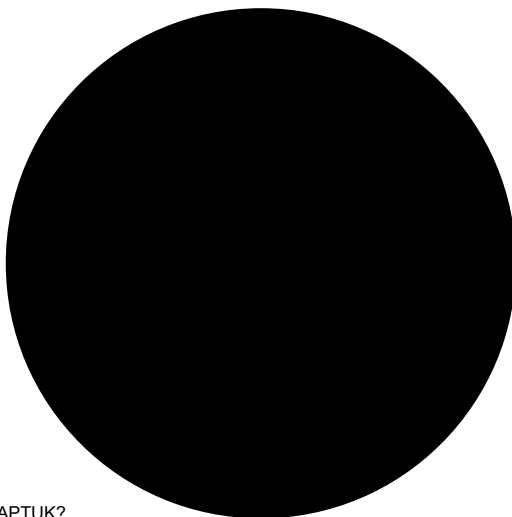
The Professional Leadership Body for Pharmacy Technicians

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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### Abstract Title:

The Learning Needs of Pharmacy Technicians Working in General Practice

### Abstract text:

#### Background and Introduction

The role of pharmacy technicians in general practice is evolving with the growth of GP clinical pharmacists. The HEE Wessex Primary Care Training Hub (PCTH) needed to understand the role, tasks undertaken and training available to enable the provision of quality assured training opportunities for GP pharmacy technicians (GPPTs).

#### Aims and Objectives

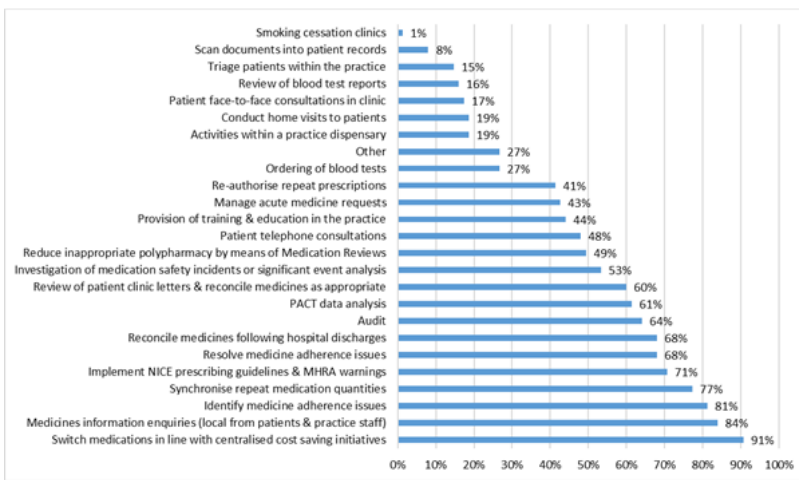
- Understand the role and training needs of a GPPT
- Identify existing training available for GPPTs
- Plan training provision for GPPTs

#### Method

Audit1 questions were structured in collaboration with SWMIT and local GPPTs using SurveyMonkey®. The SurveyMonkey® link was distributed via social media platforms including Twitter, Facebook, Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK (APTUK), GPPT discussion forums and local networks.

#### Results

75 UK GPPTs completed the survey, tasks undertaken are extensive and often complex:



57% of GPPTs were supervised by a clinical pharmacist, for most (52%) this is remote. For others, GPs provide supervision.

Over 50% of GPPTs stated the following training would support their role:

- interpretation of biochemistry
- medication review
- consultation skills
- health promotion
- clinical triage skills
- understanding general practice e.g. contracts

### Discussion and Conclusion

GPPTs add value to the GP team, undertaking a variety of complex tasks that also support GP clinical pharmacists to focus on advancing roles. Accredited relevant work-based training for GPPTs is not available, there is a gap in providing support and quality assuring competencies through training. Post-registration pharmacy technician accreditations are established in secondary care and supported by a national competency framework.

As a result of these findings, an accredited training programme for GPPTs is being developed and piloted.

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### References

1. HEE Wessex (2018). GP Pharmacy Technician Learning Needs Survey. [Online] <https://primarycaredorset.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GP-Pharmacy-Technician-Role-Learning-Needs-Report-2018.pdf>
  2. NHS Pharmacy Education & Development Committee (2016). Nationally Recognised Competency Framework for Pharmacy Technicians: The Assessment of Medicines Management, version 3. [Online] <http://www.nhspedc.nhs.uk/Docs/SupportStaff/MMS%20National%20Framework%20v3%20January%202016.pdf>
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### Authors of the Abstract

