



APTUK Position statement:

Pharmacy Technicians Clinically Validating Prescriptions

Pharmacy technicians continue to expand their roles and scope of practice, including involvement in the clinical validation of prescriptions. APTUK recognises that a range of practice models can be safely and effectively implemented, provided they are underpinned by robust governance, clearly defined accountability, and appropriate workforce development.

Pharmacy Technician supported models for example, where Pharmacy Technicians have completed the BOPA Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT) Passport, achieved competency sign-off, and operate under up-to-date Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) with pharmacist oversight - are already contributing safely and effectively to screening processes. These can be appropriate where organisations demonstrate that the necessary safeguards, training structures, and oversight arrangements are firmly in place.

APTUK supports the development and utilisation of such models where they meet the following principles:

- **Governance Frameworks** — Local SOPs, risk assessments, and validation processes must be current, comprehensive, and regularly reviewed to ensure safe delegation and effective workflow design.
- **Professional Oversight** — Decisions regarding the appropriateness and scope of pharmacy technician involvement should be made collaboratively with senior pharmacy management, governance teams, and service managers, with clear expectations and limitations agreed.
- **Competency and Accountability** — Competency assessment, documentation of delegation, and clear lines of accountability must be established and maintained for all staff undertaking these roles.
- **Training Pathways** — A structured, transparent training pathway would be ideal to support role development, ensuring pharmacy technicians acquire the knowledge, skills, and behaviours required for safe practice.

APTUK advocates for continued investment in Pharmacy Technician education and role expansion where supported by evidence, governance, and professional leadership. Such models strengthen workforce resilience, improve service efficiency, and enable pharmacy teams to deliver high-quality, patient-centred care.

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On behalf of the APTUK Executive Committee