

# Postgraduate Certificate in Pharmacist Independent Prescribing and Enhanced Clinical Skills



**US**  
UNIVERSITY  
OF SUSSEX

A weekend school programme developed by Sussex  
Pharmacy to equip pharmacists with prescribing and  
clinical skills for enhanced patient care

# 2018 – 2019 Programme

Our Postgraduate Certificate in Pharmacist Prescribing and Enhanced Clinical Skills will equip you with a wide range of knowledge and skills essential for you as a pharmacist independent prescriber.

Successful completion of the course will provide you with a “Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing”<sup>1</sup>, which will enable you to apply for annotation as a pharmacist independent prescriber with the General Pharmaceutical Council. An important feature of our PgC is that it includes a particular focus on enhanced clinical skills, tailored to your area of practice so that you gain the enhanced skills and confidence necessary to meet the needs of specific patient groups.

You will be taught by university lecturers and expert clinical practitioners - some of whom are prescribers - and all of whom are experienced in postgraduate pharmacy education.

**Study Days:** there are five weekend schools \*<sup>2</sup> (Saturday and Sunday at the Sussex Campus, starting in September) and one assessment day (Saturday in May). You will have access to an academic adviser and expert support services within the School of Life Sciences and at the University. In addition, we will support your Designated Medical Practitioner (DMP) throughout the course, so that they can give you the best possible experience as you undertake your 90 hours of supervised clinical practice.

**Professional and Clinical Aspects of Prescribing:** covers the legal, professional and ethical aspects of prescribing, the psychology of prescribing with reference to the health care team approach, care planning and the public health context. Evidence – based practice and clinical governance are covered in detail. The module also includes principles of pharmacology and pharmacokinetics, systems – based pharmacology for key long-term conditions and other clinical topics relevant to your role. Medicines safety issues and the monitoring of treatment are also addressed. Physical examination and history taking are covered, including normal physiological measurements, patient consultation, the health history taking process and decision making. Methods of undertaking systematic physical examination and assessment, as well as requesting, interpreting and using findings are included.

**Enhanced Clinical Skills:** develops more in-depth knowledge, clinical expertise as well as professional and clinical judgement. There will be opportunities to build on knowledge and skills of patient consultation, physical assessment, advanced analytical and critical reasoning, diagnostic and patient management skills. The learning will be based and build on your clinical area of practice with the demonstration of enhanced clinical and caseload management skills as a key learning outcome.

**Entry Requirements:** registration with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) or Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (PSNI) as a pharmacist, at least two years patient-facing practice in a UK setting following the pre-registration year, an area of clinical practice in which to develop your prescribing skills an up-to-date clinical, pharmacological and pharmaceutical knowledge relevant to your intended area of prescribing practice. In addition, you will need a Designated Medical Practitioner who meets the requirements for the role.

**Fee:** for Sept 2018 entry the fee is £2630.

**To apply:** please complete the web- based form which can be found at: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/study/masters/courses/life-sciences/pharmacist-prescribing-and-enhanced-clinical-skills-pgcert> We will contact you on receipt of your university application to arrange an interview, if your application meets the requirements. For further information contact: [j.c.portlock@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:j.c.portlock@sussex.ac.uk)

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<sup>1</sup> \*N.B. The programme will be available, subject to successful General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) accreditation.

<sup>2</sup> \* The dates will be confirmed when you apply. N.B. No overnight accommodation is provided, but we can direct you to the nearest local hotels and B and B provision.