



Qualifications Support Team (QST): HN pharmacy portfolio

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11 January 2024 (via Microsoft Teams)

Present:

Aileen Begley	External Verifier
Angela Cannon	NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
Ann White	Glasgow Kelvin College
Caroline Carre	Edinburgh College
Carol Neilson	NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
Colin Sinclair	NHS Fife
Laura Gibson	Qualifications Officer
Laura McClelland	Edinburgh College
Suzanne Thompson	West College Scotland
Susan Roberts	NHS Education for Scotland
Val Findlay	NHS Education for Scotland
Yvonne Bayne	Fife College

Not present:

Afraa Mahmood	Glasgow Kelvin College
Jodi Jenkins	External Verifier
Jonathan Gillies	Qualifications Manager
Marion Gates	NHS Fife

Welcome, introductions and apologies

Apologies were received from Jodi Jenkins and Jonathan Gillies.

1. GPhC registration process

Suzanne raised awareness of the GPhC registration process. Learners need to provide a certified copy of their Diploma in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 7 certificate as part of their registration application. It must be an exact and clear copy with the group award code visible.

QST members were encouraged to share this information with colleagues to avoid any delays. Val advised she would be happy to pass on this information to the PTPT and PTEC groups to help raise awareness.

2. Use of BNF during assessment

Suzanne queried the use of an online version of the BNF during assessment. QST members discussed this and agreed that flexibility is required however additional guidance should be developed. It was agreed that the SQA External Verifiers would get together and develop some guidance for centres. Once this guidance is available, Laura Gibson will share it with QST members.

3. Learning logs

Laura Gibson raised a query on behalf of Jodi regarding the use of label generation as evidence for Pharm 09. All QST members agreed that label generation isn't sufficient evidence to use in the log for Pharm 09 given the unit itself doesn't require a label to be generated.

QST members discussed the understanding around who can sign off a learning log, and it was confirmed that a learning log does not have to be signed by a pharmacy professional. Colin suggested for the person signing the learning log they could either state their GPhC number if they are registered or their qualifications if they are not.

QST members discussed the need to standardise learning logs across centres. It was agreed the delivering centres would get together and develop a new template. Once the template is available, Laura Gibson will share it with QST members.

Laura McClelland queried with the group, that gels are not stipulated in Pharm 09 performance criteria 4, would they include these with creams and ointments. All QST Members agreed they would include gels with creams and ointments.

Laura McClelland asked the group their preference on the current Pharm 28 and whether or not this will continue as is or should it be a standalone unit. QST members discussed the unit and the need for a review, however if the unit were standalone there would need to be underpinning knowledge provided. Val agreed to raise this issue with the PTET group.

4. SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6 and 8

Laura McClelland raised an issue regarding Pharm 09 and Pharm 12 being in both the SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6 and the SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 8 frameworks. Centres delivering Pharm 09 and Pharm 12 within the SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 8 expect the evidence to be of a higher level based on their job role.

Laura Gibson confirmed for SQA certification that a unit in more than one framework only needs to be entered and resulted once. The unit will contribute towards both frameworks, and there is no SQA requirement for additional evidence for the SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 8.

Following on from the above query, Laura Gibson consulted with GPhC, who confirmed, if a trainee has achieved Pharm 09 and Pharm 12 as part of the SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6 for Pharmacy Support workers, they will need to be assessed again as part of the SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 8 for Pharmacy Technicians. Laura Gibson confirms Pharm 09 and Pharm 12 will be assigned new codes for each framework and will notify members when this is complete.

This also applies to NOS Gen39 which already has two different codes in each framework therefore no amendments are required.

5. Diploma in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 7

The entry requirements for the Diploma in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 7 were discussed. Val/Yvonne wanted clarification in relation to numeracy being an acceptable equivalent to mathematics. QST members agreed that numeracy may be acceptable if the numeracy unit developed the required knowledge and skills. However, QST members noted that using numeracy as

the entry requirement could cause confusion as not all numeracy units would be acceptable. QST members agreed that a Core Skill in numeracy would not be acceptable. Employers should contact their local training provider for advice and guidance if they are unsure as to what is/isn't an acceptable equivalent to mathematics.

6. Aseptic units

Laura McClelland raised a query regarding entry requirements for the new Procedures for Aseptic Checking unit and whether learners had to be registered as a Pharmacy Technician. Laura Gibson confirmed the entry requirements for the new unit have been left open so the service can decide who is suitable for the unit. Learners should be nominated by an accountable pharmacist.

Laura Gibson confirmed that the new Aseptic Preparation in Pharmacy unit and the new Procedures for Aseptic Checking unit have been sent to ASSIG for their final comments before publication.

7. AOB

Action grid

Action	Date completed
Val to pass on GPhC registration information to the PTPT and PTEC groups to help raise awareness.	
SQA EVs to develop new guidance with regard to the use of the BNF	
Laura Gibson to share new BNF guidance once available	
Delivering centres to develop a new template to standardise learning logs	
Laura Gibson to share new learning log template once available	
Val to raise the issue of Pharm 28 with the PTET group	
Laura Gibson to confirm new codes for Pharm 09 and Pharm 12.	
Laura Gibson to send QST members an online poll to ascertain the best date/time for the next meeting	