

**Title of occupation**

Pharmacist

**UOS reference number**

ST0702

**Core and options**

No

**Level of occupation**

Level 7

**Route**

Health and science

**Typical duration of apprenticeship**

60 months

**Target date for approval**

31 December 2019

**Resubmission**

No

**Occupational profile****This occupation is found in...**

community pharmacies, hospitals, pharmaceutical production or sales within the pharmaceutical industry, prisons, primary care organisations, universities in teaching and research, the military and pharmacy organisations.

**The broad purpose of the occupation is...**

to be responsible, accountable clinicians who are experts in medicines. The Pharmacist occupation is regulated by the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) and they are autonomous practitioners delivering person centred care. The broad purpose is to be accountable for and undertake any work or give advice in relation to the preparation, assembly, dispensing, sale, supply or use of medicines, the science of medicines, the practice of pharmacy or the provision of healthcare. As an expert of medicines, a Pharmacist will integrate the science and lead the practice of pharmacy to ensure both the quality and supply of medicines to patients is within the statutory regulation.

Pharmacists work both individually and as part of a multi-disciplinary team and have a high level of autonomy. They work in the context of continual change, challenging environments, different models of care delivery, a diverse population, innovation and rapidly evolving technologies. Pharmacists can find themselves working with people from birth to end of life and in a wide range of settings.

The actual work setting will determine the specific areas of activity that the Pharmacist

undertakes, but typically their role will include the following;

- \* Ensure patient safety by advising patients about medicines, including how to take them, reactions which may occur, answering patients' questions and ensuring that the medicines prescribed to patients are safe and effective
- \* Supervise the medicines supply chain and ensure pharmacy premises and systems are fit for purpose and meet statutory regulation
- \* Advise the multi-disciplinary teams about safe and effective medicines use, and the safe and secure supply of medicines
- \* Use specialised skills to address problematic and complex situations
- \* Critically reflect on practice and maintain professional standards
- \* Pharmacists make an important contribution to the promotion of health, health protection and the prevention of ill health by empowering the population to make informed decisions
- \* Provide services which enable patients to be fully involved in their own care and make shared decisions about their treatment and medicines
- \* Supervise and lead by example, and contribute to the education, training and professional development of the team including pharmacy technicians and/or of others

**In their daily work, an employee in this occupation interacts with...**

patients, people, carers, healthcare professionals

**An employee in this occupation will be responsible for...**

patient safety, supervision of medicine supply, advising health and social care professionals, staff and resources

**Transferability**

*The Institute expects that being competent in the duties you have listed in this proposal will mean that an individual will be able to undertake the occupation in all relevant types of employer. Please outline the steps you have taken to ensure that this will be the case.*

The proposal has been developed through consultation with a range of employers, the professional body, regulator and Higher Education Institutes. The proposal has also been shared with the employers on the group for comments prior to submission.

As this is a regulated profession, a registered Pharmacist is able to work in a wide range of organisations as seen in the job adverts attached.

**Stand-alone occupation**

*Please confirm that the proposed apprenticeship relates to a stand-alone occupation and explain how it will fit in with any associated apprenticeship standards.*

This is a stand alone occupation which is regulated by the General Pharmaceutical Council. This is fundamentally distinct from the Advanced Clinical Practitioner standard which required an apprentice to be a registered professional with the Nursing and Midwifery Council and Healthcare professional Council. Pharmacists are experts in medicines and therapeutical management and ongoing care, they are not required to diagnose and manage medical care, they will also provide advice to patients on medicines management. This is also distinct from

## Proposal to develop an apprenticeship standard L7: Pharmacist (continued)

the Pharmacy Technician which is also a GPhC registered profession, however a Pharmacist has a higher level of education and a Pharmacy Technician works under the supervision of a Pharmacist.

### **Typical job titles**

Pharmacist

Duty	OTJ training (days)
Be an expert clinician that practices in accordance with the General Pharmaceutical Council standards and within the limits of their own competence, knowledge and sphere of professional practice.	50
Provide person centred care. Working in partnership with the multi-disciplinary team in order to make sure that there is continuity of care for the patient concerned. They must take action to safeguard people, particularly children and vulnerable adults.	30
Be accountable for patient safety. Using an evidence base to advise patients and other healthcare professionals about medicines, including how to take/administer them, what reactions may occur, answering patients' questions and ensuring that the medicines prescribed is suitable.	30
Maintain, develop and apply their professional knowledge and skills. Critically reflect, evaluate and routinely review their own practice and behaviours in order to maintain and improve their professional standards to ensure that optimum patient safety is maintained at all times.	50
Use their professional judgement to deliver safe and effective care, in complex and challenging environments.	25
Respect and maintain a patient's confidentiality and privacy by keeping accurate records and maintaining the dignity of the patient.	30
Apply duty of candor and speak up when they are having concerns or when things go wrong in order to minimise the risks.	50
Provide professional leadership in the coordination and management of complex health and integrated care needs of people at all stages of their lives, across a range of organisations and settings	50
Use evidence-based practice to make decisions on problematic and complex situations and refer to other health and social care professionals where appropriate.	25
Work in partnership with patients and people to support and empower them when making decisions about their health and wellbeing.	50
Accurately analyse and interpret clinical information and provide appropriate outcomes in collaboration with the patient and other health and social care professionals.	25
Contribute to the promotion of health, health protection and the prevention of ill health by empowering the population to make informed decisions.	30