

Call for Evidence: Clinical Academic Careers in Pharmacy

Monday 9th May 2022 14:30-15:30

NHS England and NHS Improvement



Agenda



Item	Speaker	Time
1. Welcome and introduction	David Webb, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer and Clinical Academic Careers in Pharmacy Short Life Working Group Co-Chair	14.30-14.40
2. Overview	Natasha Callender, Future Practice Advisor, NHSE&I and Clinical Academic Careers in Pharmacy Project Lead	14.40-14.50
3. Clinical Academic Internship Pilot	Nick Haddington, Pharmacy Dean, HEE South	14.50-15.00
4. Call for Evidence on Clinical Academic Careers in Pharmacy	Professor Christine Bond, Emeritus Professor (Academic Primary Care), University of Aberdeen and Clinical Academic Careers in Pharmacy Short Life Working Group Co-Chair	15.00-15.15
5. Q&A	David Webb	15.15-15.30

[We Are The NHS People Plan](#) – action for us all 2020/21 sets out the key elements of the reform, replacing the current pre-registration year with a foundation year, and enhancing clinical experience in initial education and training. This continuous, educational programme for pharmacists will still be five years in duration, and **will link into** advanced practice and **research training**.

The vision is to develop a flexible pharmacy workforce that embraces innovation and research.

National policy drivers for clinical academic careers in pharmacy in England



- Research is at the heart of the care we provide to patients, it provides the evidence required to make clinical decisions and advancements in patient care.
- Pharmacy professionals are well placed to contribute to expanding the evidence base and there is an urgent need to increase research capacity

2011

Modernising Pharmacy Careers – an urgent review of the academic workforce is needed, including opportunities for pharmacists to undertake PhD and postdoctoral research, with access to support grants specifically for pharmacists



2017

NIHR Strategic Review – pharmacy is an under-represented discipline and have a low number of successful applications compared to other disciplines



2019

The NHS Long Term Plan – patients benefit enormously from research and innovation, with breakthroughs enabling prevention of ill-health, earlier diagnosis, more effective treatments, better outcomes and faster recovery.



2019

Interim NHS People Plan: the future pharmacy workforce - clinical pharmacists in all sectors will increase their activity in clinical research into new and existing medicines and professional interventions from increasing patient participation to leading research



2020

We Are The NHS People Plan - replacing the current pre-registration year with a foundation year, and enhancing clinical experience in initial education and training. This continuous, educational programme for pharmacists for 5 years in duration, linking advanced practice and research training.

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) is the largest principal funder for health and care research including training and development opportunities for clinicians

Preparing pharmacy professionals to participate and undertake research, with full integration into NIHR training opportunities is vital, for both the future and existing workforce

NIHR fellowship applications (2014-21)



- The NIHR clinical research training opportunities have been available for pharmacists since 2008 and pharmacy technicians since 2015.
- Pharmacy is an under-represented discipline and the vast majority of trainees are medical.
- Pharmacy is less successful than allied health professions, doctors and dentists on application.

5000+

NIHR fellowship applications

137

Applications from pharmacy professionals

8

Pharmacy professionals previously held a fellowship

15

Pharmacy professionals that currently hold/recently held a fellowship

Our aim is to propose sustainable clinical academic pathways in research for the pharmacy professions

Objective 1

- facilitate the spread of a research culture across the pharmacy professions through raising the awareness of clinical academic careers

Objective 2

- increase research capability, capacity and leadership to improve patient outcomes, through structured and protected pathways starting with enhanced research training offers from the foundation year.

Objective 3

- help pharmacy professionals gain better access to existing research training opportunities and research/educational awards through coordination of information, support of effective networking, and mentorship .

Objective 4

- propose new forms of support and professional development opportunities for pharmacy professionals, starting with pharmacists in research and academic education with identified potential funding streams, building on pilot initiatives



These objectives will be met with the support of:

Devolved Administrations

General
Pharmaceutical
Council



Health Education England

NHS England and NHS Improvement



NIHR | National Institute for
Health and Care Research

PhSC 
Pharmacy Schools Council

ROYAL
PHARMACEUTICAL
SOCIETY



Clinical Academic Internship pilot programme for early career pharmacists

- The Clinical Academic Internship programme for early career pharmacists is a **HEE South** pilot 2021/22.
- It is a bespoke offer for early career pharmacists offered through NHS Trusts selected through a competitive bidding process and School of Pharmacy partnerships
- The pilot programme delivers on *objective 4: propose new forms of support and professional development opportunities for pharmacy professionals, starting with pharmacists in research and academic education with identified potential funding streams, building on pilot initiatives* in the wider programme of work
- The internship offers an introduction for pharmacists to all aspects and roles across clinical academic research from generating ideas, data management through to undertaking practical research in a clinical environment.
- Pharmacists have structured and protected postgraduate Masters-level research training to develop academic skills and spend 50% of your time in research and 50% in clinical work in 13-week block placements. Some organisations have opted for split week models.
- The outputs from the pilot will be used to inform proposals for the initial delivery model developed by the short life working group for clinical academic career pathways in pharmacy.



Royal United Hospitals Bath
NHS Foundation Trust



University Hospitals
Plymouth
NHS Trust



University Hospital
Southampton
NHS Foundation Trust



UK-wide call for evidence – May 2022



Purpose

- To identify sites where pharmacy professionals have been supported to undertake research
- To describe the views, barriers and facilitators for pharmacy professionals wishing to have a clinical academic research career
- To inform proposals for transformative change in clinical academic research career development for the future and current pharmacy workforce.

Call for evidence

- Individual survey
- Organisational survey

Who are we asking?

- NHS providers, clinical and operational managers, education and training leads and other parties
- Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), educators
- Clinical academics
- Other experts

Outputs

- Proposals for the first stage of an initial delivery model for developing a clinical academic pharmacy workforce, applying the recommendations and experiences from the report: Medically- and dentally-qualified academic staff:
Recommendations for training the researchers and educators of the future.

UK-wide call for evidence – May 2022



09.05.22

Call for Evidence: Clinical Academic Careers in Pharmacy

A UK-wide Call for Evidence on Clinical Academic Careers in Pharmacy has been launched on 9 May 2022. The work...

[Read more](#)



<https://www.pharmacyschoolscouncil.ac.uk/call-for-evidence-clinical-academic-careers-in-pharmacy/>

How can you promote the UK-wide call for evidence?

- Please read the background to the work and access the UK-wide call for evidence survey links on the [Pharmacy Schools Council website](#)
- Share the posts on social media with other pharmacy professionals and organisations that you know would like to participate in the UK-wide call for evidence surveys
- If anyone wishes to find out more about the Clinical Academic Careers in Pharmacy project, please contact: England.CPhO-Office@nhs.net

Q&A Session

NHS England and NHS Improvement

