



Pharmacy Pride: Inclusive Leadership and Learning Series (PPILLS)

Wednesday 3 rd June	
11:30-12:30pm	LGBT Foundation – Pride in Practice
1-2pm	TransActual – Trans Peoples experiences accessing healthcare
2:30-3:30pm	APTUK Pride Branch - The value of building networks and connections
5:30-6:30pm	Switchboard – LGBTQIA+ History
7-8pm	Michael Brady – LGBTQIA+ Health inequalities: An Overview
Tuesday 9 th June	
11:30-12:30pm	Amandeep Doll – Patient safety, experience and outcomes – why recognising your unconscious bias is integral to pharmacy practice
1-2pm	Melanie Holloway – Tackling Phobic Behaviours
2:30-3:30pm	OUTpatients – Safe and inclusive pharmacy practice for LGBTIQ+ people affected by cancer
5:30-6:30pm	Switchboard – Showing Up For Others: Active Listening, Allyship and Supporting Someone Coming Out
7-8pm	Sneha Varia - Pride and Prejudice - being LGBTQIA+ in a discriminatory world
Friday 19 th June	
10-11am	Melanie Holloway – Developing LGBTQIA+ e-learning
11:30-12:30pm	Prof Andrew Mawdsley – LGBTQIA+ Inclusive Education in Pharmacy – A Research Informed Perspective
1-2pm	Stephanie Katiyar - Modern HIV Prevention and Sexual Health
2:30-3:30pm	Mermaids – Working Towards Trans-Inclusive Practice
5:30-6:30pm	Josh Wells – Queer Health in a Digital Era
7-8pm	Mus Alsaeid - Intersectionality and Pharmacy Practice
Thursday 25 th June	
11:30-12:30pm	Stonewall - Leading on LGBTQ+ Inclusion
1-2pm	Dr Anna Robinson-Barella & Dr Matthew Cooper– Embedding equity, diversity, inclusivity and cultural competence into pharmacy research
2:30-3:30pm	GPhC – Your Profession, Your Voice: A Listening Session with the GPhC
5:30-6:30pm	Stonewall – Proud Careers: Recruiting diverse talent
7-8pm	PPILLS Close & Pharmacy Pride Panel Discussion: A Lived Experience Perspective including an address from the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer.



Wednesday 3rd June

11:30 – 12:30pm

Speaker
Andrew Gilliver - Pride in Practice Coordinator, LGBT Foundation

Speaker Bio
 As part of LGBT Foundation’s Pride in Practice team, Andrew works with organisations to discuss specific issues around LGBTQ+ health inequalities and assist health professionals with how they can develop best practice to further support LGBTQ+ people in their care. Having worked with LGBT Foundation for 25 years, Andrew has been involved in many projects over the years. He is always happy to share learning from his work to promote wider LGBTQ+ awareness and inclusion.

<https://lgbt.foundation/pride-in-practice-for-healthcare-professionals/>

Session Title:
An Introduction to Pride in Practice

Session details
 Pride in Practice is LGBT Foundation’s award-winning programme that works with primary care services to ensure LGBTQ+ people receive inclusive, high-quality healthcare. Endorsed by the Royal College of General Practitioners and the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, it helps practices create welcoming environments and tackle health inequalities.

Benefits for Service Users include:

- Improved confidence and trust in healthcare services.
- Reduced health inequalities by addressing specific LGBTQ+ needs
- Early engagement with healthcare services leading to better health outcomes.

Benefits for Your Service include:

- Strengthens staff morale and retention by fostering an inclusive workplace culture.
- Enhances your reputation as an inclusive, progressive healthcare provider.
- Supports compliance with Care Quality Commission (CQC) standards and equality legislation.

[Please register to join here](#)

1-2pm

Speaker
TransActual

Speaker Bio
 TransActual are a CIC working for trans adults in the UK, focused on healthcare and legal rights, run by trans people and led by trans people. TransActual work towards a UK where all trans people can live safely, in dignity, and with access to the healthcare that they need.

On their website transactual.org.uk you can find extensive resources about supporting trans patients, and their research into UK trans people's experiences, including trans people's experiences accessing healthcare.

Session Title
Trans people's experiences accessing healthcare

Session details



In the 2025 Trans Lives Survey, TransActual spoke to over 4000 trans people across the UK about their experiences. Come to this session to find out what these trans people said about the barriers they face accessing pharmacy, how to learn more about supporting trans people, and where to signpost trans people.

[Please register to join here:](#)

2:30-3:30pm

Speaker
 APTUK Pride Branch
 Sarah Sharman (she/her) – Co-founder and Co-chair APTUK Pride Branch, Clinical Educator in Pharmacy Practice University of Sheffield.
 Jason Benning (he/him) – Co-founder and Co-chair APTUK Pride Branch, Professional Lead Pharmacy Technician

Speaker Bio(s)
 Sarah Sharman – Sarah has worked across a variety of sectors as a Pharmacy Technician, including community, secondary care and ICS. Currently, she is working as an academic Pharmacy Technician, educating future pharmacy workforces within the Pharmacy Practice Team at the University of Sheffield, whilst completing an NIHR funded master's in research methodology in health at the University of Nottingham. She is a key EDI lead within her role, advocating that inclusive values are embedded in Pharmacy practice from the point of initial training and education. Her research area is within LGBTQIA+ health inequalities and Pharmacy practice, and she is the proud recipient of the first Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity Award in 2025's APTUK Conference.

Jason Benning - (He/Him) In his current role Jason is an education programme director for Pharmacy Technicians, PTPTs and pharmacy support staff; standardising medicines optimisation training trust-wide and leading on all initial and post-graduate professional training. As a professional and personal development coach, Jason provides 1-to-1 coaching for NHS and Pharmacy staff who wish to move past challenges; empowering individuals to self-reflect and unearth answers from within themselves.

In his voluntary roles of CNWL Pride Network Policy Lead and Co-Chair of APTUK Pride Branch, Jason reviews trust staff policies for inclusive language, provides LGBTQ+ awareness training, delivers educational webinars to APTUK members and is an active participant in the NHSE London Pharmacy EDI Champions group.

Session Title:
The value of building networks and connections

Session details
 Sarah and Jason had never met, or even heard of each other, but shared the same vision of creating a national LGBTQIA+ network for Pharmacy Technicians. Brought together by APTUK, they quickly began working together to fulfil their vision and formed the first LGBTQIA+ Pharmacy Technician space in the UK.

In this session, the APTUK Pride Branch Co-Chairs will discuss what led to the formation of the branch, their individual values and what they aim to achieve as a LGBTQIA+ network and as individuals.

Sarah and Jason will be highlighting the value and importance of LGBTQIA+ networks and professional spaces. They will also share their formula for working in close partnership and how to celebrate, embrace and manage differences.

[Please register to join here:](#)

5:30 - 6.30pm

Speaker
 Bob Hughes - Switchboard, the National LGBTQIA+ Support Line



Speaker Bio

Bob Hughes (he/him) is the Partnerships Manager (and a former listening volunteer) at Switchboard, the national LGBTQIA+ support line. With a background in education, the charity sector and LGBTQIA+ rights, Bob is passionate about EDI and community support, and in particular, about how active listening allows people to have agency to make their own decisions and check their own assumptions. Bob will be talking about the listening skills taught to Switchboard volunteers, and developed over 52 years, as well as how to use these listening skills to be an effective ally.

Switchboard is the national LGBTQIA+ support line. For 50 years, their volunteers, who all identify as LGBTQIA+, have been available to discuss anything related to sexuality and gender identity; whether it's sexual health, relationships or just the way you're feeling. Switchboard's support line is completely free, and available wherever you feel most comfortable – whether that's on the phone, via chat or email. 10am-10pm every single day.

Phone: 0800 0119 100
 Chat: www.switchboard.lgbt
 Email: hello@switchboard.lgbt

Session Title

52 Years of Listening to the Community- An Introduction to Switchboard, The National LGBTQIA+ Support Line

Session details

This session will introduce you to Switchboard, the National LGBTQIA+ Support Line. Founded in 1974, the service provides non-judgemental listening support via phone, instant messaging and email, every day of the year, just as it has since its very first call.

As well as its 52-year history, the session will also share recent data from its conversations, giving context to the experiences, trends and challenges of the LGBTQIA+ community in the current day, and an insight into what your patients or colleagues might be experiencing.

[Register to join here](#)

7-8pm

Speaker

Michael Brady – NHS England

Speaker Bio

Michael is the National Advisor for LGBT+ health at NHS England and a consultant in Sexual Health and HIV at Kings College Hospital in south London

Session Title:

LGBTQ+ health inequalities - an overview

Session details

Drawing from learning from the national LGBT+ Health Evidence Review the talk will cover the key inequalities experienced by LGBT+ communities and highlight approaches and interventions that pharmacies and the pharmacy workforce can implement to address them.

[Register to attend here](#)



Tuesday 9th June

11:30 - 12:30pm

Speaker

Amandeep Doll – Royal College of Pharmacy

Speaker Bio

Amandeep Doll is a pharmacist with over 18 years of experience across hospital pharmacy, education, and national policy. She began her career in hospital pharmacy, specialising in workforce education and development, before becoming Training and Education Pharmacist Lead at Kettering General Hospital.

Amandeep was the first Chief Pharmaceutical Officer’s Clinical Fellow at Health Education England, contributing to the Pharmacy Reforms programme.

She has held a range of roles at the Royal College of Pharmacy since 2018, leading initiatives in professional development and policy.

Since 2020, she was the Head of Professional Belonging and Engagement, leading on implementing inclusion and diversity strategy for the profession.

Alongside her leadership work, she continues to practice as a Specialist Medical Pharmacist at Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust.

Session Title:

Patient safety, experience and outcomes – why recognising your unconscious bias is integral to pharmacy practice

Session details

In this thought-provoking session, we will be exploring how unconscious biases shape the experiences of pharmacy professionals, influence workplace culture, and impact the care patients receive. Through an examination of diversity, inclusion, belonging, and equity, the session highlights the real-life consequences of bias, from workforce inequalities to differential health outcomes and why addressing these issues is essential for a safe, compassionate, and culturally competent profession.

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of intersectionality, learn to recognise different types of unconscious bias, and explore practical strategies for fostering inclusive behaviours, allyship, and microaffirmations in everyday practice.

Grounded in current data and lived experience, this session empowers pharmacy professionals at all levels to reflect, challenge assumptions, and contribute to a more equitable and inclusive healthcare system.

[Register to join here](#)

1-2pm

Speaker

Melanie Holloway - Chair of NHS England Staff Network; Guiding Group Member, NHS Alliance Health & Care LGBTQ+ Leaders Network.

Speaker Bio

I have worked within the Diversity and Inclusion space since 2018, bringing over two decades of experience in social care to inform my inclusive practice. My career has been shaped by a deep commitment to equity, intersectionality, and community empowerment. I began as the EDI Lead for a large social housing organisation,



where I was responsible for writing and implementing a comprehensive EDI strategy that embedded inclusion into the organisation’s culture and operations.

For the past five years, I have worked within NHS arm’s length bodies as part of the National Diversity & Inclusion Team, leading on high-impact national projects such as Black on Board, supporting Staff Networks, and coordinating the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index submission. I arranged the delivery of Black on Board cohorts across several organisations, helping to elevate Black and minority ethnic colleagues into board-level positions. I held board roles within the Black on Board Community, the LGBT Foundation’s Education Board, and served as interim EDI advisor to Samaritans board, supporting their policy refresh and strategic direction.

My specialism lies in LGBTQIA+ inclusion, and I have proudly chaired NHS England’s LGBTQIA+ Staff Network for the past three years. I am deeply committed to increasing support for marginalised identities within the LGBTQIA+ umbrella and actively challenge the homophobia and transphobia that persist in parts of NHS culture. I believe in role modelling inclusive behaviours and being my authentic self in the workplace, with a personal duty to ‘lift others’ —especially those from marginalised groups.

I’ve supported both the housing provider and HEE in achieving recognition in Stonewall’s Top 100 list of LGBTQ+ inclusive employers, earning Gold Awards and Commended Network Awards. In 2019, the network I led received a Commended Rainbow Honours Award, and recently won an Inclusion Leader Award for Inclusive Employee Network at NHS England.

Session Title:

Tackling Phobic Behaviours

Session details

This session is a practical, reflective exploration of how phobic behaviours show up in everyday professional, pharmacy settings — often subtly, casually, and without intent — and what each of us can do when we encounter them.

Using real world examples and lived experience, the session helps participants recognise LGBTQIA+ phobia in its many forms: from overt language and assumptions, to microaggressions and coded comments that can quietly undermine inclusion. It explores why these behaviours are harmful and the impact they can have on individuals, teams and workplace culture.

Participants explore practical ways to challenge behaviour in the moment, using realistic scenarios that reflect the emotional and professional complexity of speaking up.

The session is honest, human and solution focused. It does not assume expertise or perfection — instead, it creates space to build confidence, practise responses, and reflect on how everyday actions and inactions shape inclusive (or exclusionary) cultures across professional environments.

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Recognise phobic language and behaviours including those that can appear subtle or disguised as neutral as they may appear in pharmacy practice and workforce settings
- Understand how casual discrimination and microaggressions can affect colleagues, learners, patients and team culture over time
- Distinguish between calling out and calling in, and know when each approach may be appropriate
- Apply practical techniques — including questioning, reframing and active bystander methods — to challenge inappropriate behaviour
- Feel more confident responding to difficult moments in ways that uphold professionalism, safety and inclusion



[Register to join here](#)

2:30-3:30pm

Speaker

OUTpatients

Speaker Bio

OUTpatients is the UK's LGBTIQ+ cancer charity. Proudly patient-led, they exist to shake up the system, advocate for equity, and stand up for every LGBTIQ+ person navigating the cancer journey. They host peer support, educate healthcare professionals, and help to shape national policy that supports the LGBTIQ+ community. John is currently completing a fellowship with OUTpatients to deliver an updated version of TRANS:cribing, a resource which can help pharmacy professionals to deliver safe, effective and compassionate care to trans and gender diverse patients living with cancer. Find out more at: OUTpatients.org.uk

John Leggett - MRPharmS, Specialist Oncology Pharmacist. Non-medical prescriber affiliations: UK Cancer & Transition Service, Barts Health NHS Trust, OUTpatients.

Lee Dibben - OUTpatients

Session Title:

Safe and inclusive pharmacy practice for LGBTIQ+ people affected by cancer

Session details

This session focuses on the role of pharmacists in delivering safe and inclusive care for LGBTIQ+ people affected by cancer. We will provide an introduction to gender affirming care and introduce TRANS:cribing, a resource which can help pharmacy professionals to deliver safe, effective and compassionate care to trans and gender diverse people living with cancer. The session centres pharmacy practice and highlights key considerations for creating welcoming, respectful, and equitable care environments for LGBTIQ+ patients. You will learn ways to address barriers, reduce harm, and improve patient experiences, and understand the importance of safe and inclusive pharmacy practice.

[Register to join here](#)

5 - 6.30pm

Speaker

Bob Hughes - Switchboard, the National LGBTQIA+ Support Line

Speaker Bio

Bob Hughes (he/him) is the Partnerships Manager (and a former listening volunteer) at Switchboard, the national LGBTQIA+ support line. With a background in education, the charity sector and LGBTQIA+ rights, Bob is passionate about EDI and community support, and in particular, about how active listening allows people to have agency to make their own decisions and check their own assumptions. Bob will be talking about the listening skills taught to Switchboard volunteers, and developed over 52 years, as well as how to use these listening skills to be an effective ally.

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Phone: 0800 0119 100



Chat: www.switchboard.lgbt
 Email: hello@switchboard.lgbt

Session Title:
Showing Up For Others: Active Listening, Allyship and Supporting Someone Coming Out

Session details

This session will cover the listening skills practised by Switchboard volunteers over its 52-year history, and how to apply them in a range of situations, whether in a healthcare setting with patients and colleagues, or in your personal lives. The session will cover Switchboard’s ‘Encounters’ acronym for effective listening and give confidence in how to best show up for others.

Building on the active listening skills, we will then explore what allyship is, and some tips and tricks of how to show up best for patients and colleagues. This session will also explore skills for de-escalating challenging situations through Switchboard’s method of ‘Challenging with a Small C’.

[Register to attend here](#)

7-8pm

Speaker
Sneha Varia, CPPE

Speaker Bio

Sneha is the Regional Manager, East of England, at the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE). She has over twenty years of experience in pharmacy education and training within community pharmacy, the NHS, and CPPE. She has designed and developed learning on leadership, culturally competent communication for person-centred care, coaching, mentoring and reflective practice. She has published articles in peer reviewed and professional journals on feedback, medicines adherence and cultural competence. She is the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) lead at CPPE and accountable for the development and delivery of the organisational EDI strategy for both employees and service users. She has presented at national and international conferences on EDI and cultural competence.

Session Title:
Pride and Prejudice - being LGBTQIA+ in a discriminatory world

Session details

Learning outcomes:

- List the reasons why some LGBTQIA+ people may not feel a sense of belonging within the community in which they live and work
- Summarise the importance of addressing discrimination against LGBTQIA+ people from medical and legal perspectives
- Explain the actions and behaviours we can take to reduce prejudice and discrimination against LGBTQIA+ people
- Ask people about their preferred pronoun or how they like to be addressed
- Suggest examples of more inclusive language for common LGBTQIA+ microaggressions and problematic terminology used in every day situations

[Register to attend here](#)

Friday 19th June

10-11am

Speaker



Melanie Holloway - Chair of NHS England Staff Network; Guiding Group Member, NHS Alliance Health & Care LGBTQ+ Leaders Network.

Speaker Bio

I have worked within the Diversity and Inclusion space since 2018, bringing over two decades of experience in social care to inform my inclusive practice. My career has been shaped by a deep commitment to equity, intersectionality, and community empowerment. I began as the EDI Lead for a large social housing organisation, where I was responsible for writing and implementing a comprehensive EDI strategy that embedded inclusion into the organisation’s culture and operations.

For the past five years, I have worked within NHS arm’s length bodies as part of the National Diversity & Inclusion Team, leading on high-impact national projects such as Black on Board, supporting Staff Networks, and coordinating the Stonewall Workplace Equality Index submission. I arranged the delivery of Black on Board cohorts across several organisations, helping to elevate Black and minority ethnic colleagues into board-level positions. I held board roles within the Black on Board Community, the LGBT Foundation’s Education Board, and served as interim EDI advisor to Samaritans board, supporting their policy refresh and strategic direction.

My specialism lies in LGBTQIA+ inclusion, and I have proudly chaired NHS England’s LGBTQIA+ Staff Network for the past three years. I am deeply committed to increasing support for marginalised identities within the LGBTQIA+ umbrella and actively challenge the homophobia and transphobia that persist in parts of NHS culture. I believe in role modelling inclusive behaviours and being my authentic self in the workplace, with a personal duty to ‘lift others’—especially those from marginalised groups.

I’ve supported both the housing provider and HEE in achieving recognition in Stonewall’s Top 100 list of LGBTQ+ inclusive employers, earning Gold Awards and Commended Network Awards. In 2019, the network I led received a Commended Rainbow Honours Award, and recently won an Inclusion Leader Award for Inclusive Employee Network at NHS England.

Session Title
Developing LGBTQIA+ e-learning

Session Details

Ever wondered what actually makes LGBTQIA+ inclusion learning effective – or where it can go wrong? This workshop offers a behind the scenes look at how meaningful inclusion learning is designed, challenging tick box approaches and focusing on impact, quality and credibility.

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Understand the key considerations involved in developing good LGBTQIA+ e learning
- Spot the difference between meaningful learning and “tick box” compliance
- Recognise how language, framing and design choices shape credibility and impact
- Anticipate common risks and challenges in LGBTQIA+ learning – and how to address them

[Register to attend here](#)

11:30 - 12:30pm

Speaker
 Professor Andrew Mawdsley, The University of Manchester

Speaker Bio

Andrew Mawdsley is Professor of Clinical Education and Pharmacy at the University of Manchester. Andrew is the Director of Education for the School of Health Sciences which includes pharmacy, optometry, nursing, midwifery, social work, psychology, cognitive neuroscience, audiology, speech and language therapy, public health, occupational health, imaging science and data science. Andrew is a Principal Fellow of Advance HE, a Fellow of the



Royal Pharmaceutical Society Faculty and an associate editor of the International Journal of Pharmacy Practice. Andrew's scholarly work explores inclusive education, awarding gaps and the design of teaching and learning.

Session Title:

LGBTQIA+ Inclusive Education in Pharmacy – A Research Informed Perspective

Session details

Despite growing diversity in society and healthcare, pharmacy education remains largely normative by design. Drawing on contemporary research and lived educational experience, this session explores why inclusive education matters, how hetero- and cisnormativity are embedded within pharmacy curricula, and the impact this has on learners, patients, and the profession.

Professor Andrew Mawdsley examines the role of the hidden curriculum, curricular “othering,” and structural assumptions that shape representation, assessment, and professional identity in pharmacy education. Using queer pedagogy and inclusive curriculum theory as key lenses, the session critically interrogates power, norms, and who succeeds within our systems.

The session concludes with practical, evidence-based strategies for educators and institutions, offering clear next steps to embed LGBTQIA+ inclusion meaningfully across pharmacy curricula and better prepare future pharmacists to deliver affirming, inclusive care.

[Register to attend here](#)

1-2pm

Speaker

Stephanie Katiyar - MPHARM, DipGPP, IP, Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Speaker Bio

Pharmacist specialising in PrEP and Sexual Health at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust in London, bringing nearly a decade of expertise in HIV and sexual health care. She is an honorary clinical lecturer for King's College London. Nationally, she holds the role of HIVPA lead for patient information leaflets and Pharmacy rep for the BASHH Clinical Governance Committee and additionally contribute to various committees, including the BHIVA education and training group, BASHH syphilis guideline, BASHH vulvovaginal candidiasis guideline and BASHH PrEP working group. Furthermore, she is the founder and co-chair of the Pharmacy PrEP network, PrEP PharmConnect.

Session Title

Modern HIV Prevention and Sexual Health: A Practical Update for Pharmacy professionals

Session Details

A practical update on HIV care and prevention for pharmacy professionals, including HIV treatment, PrEP, PEP, doxyPEP, sexual health vaccines, stigma-aware communication, and the growing contribution of pharmacists to sexual health service delivery.

[Register to attend here](#)

2:30-3:30pm

Speaker

Mermaids - Martin Storey

Speaker Bio

Mermaids has been supporting trans, non-binary and gender diverse children and young people and the important people in their lives since 1995.

Back then, we were a small group of concerned parents sitting around the kitchen table, coming together to share experiences, find answers and look for ways to keep our children safe and happy.



Today, we're one of the UK's leading Trans-focused charities. We provide services directly to Trans children and young people, to families, and work to educate and inform professionals and organisations who want to be part of a society where trans children and young people are safe, included and empowered to be their best selves.

Session Title:

Working Towards Trans-Inclusive Practice

Session details

The fear of saying something wrong often leads to people saying nothing at all.

This session aims to highlight the green flags for Trans-inclusive practice, typical questions that Trans youth may have in a pharmacy setting, the current concerns that Trans youth have when it comes to their treatment and the best places to signpost both service users and staff.

(Please note: we use 'Trans' as an umbrella term for those who are: transgender, non-binary, genderqueer, genderfluid, agender, of non-Western gender identities and those who have a trans history.)

[Register to attend here](#)

5:30-6:30pm

Speaker

Dr Josh Wells (he/him) - Associate Academic, Kingston University

Speaker Bio

Josh is a specialist pharmacist and academic with a background in psychometric statistical modelling and digital health inequalities. Alongside his substantive post in the pharmaceutical industry, Josh has had several LGBTQ+ focused roles, including as clinical lead for a digital HIV PrEP service, Trustee safeguarding lead for Brighton & Hove LGBT Switchboard, and most recently as Vice President of the PDA LGBT+ Network.

Session Title:

Queer Health in a Digital Era

Session details

The world has become increasingly digital. In healthcare, this raises important questions about the role and inclusion of marginalised communities. We will explore how LGBTQ+ communities interact with the digital world, the potential health benefits, but also the challenges of equity, access and data. By the end of this session, we aim to:

- Explore the role of digital health interventions and services for LGBTQ+ communities
- Understand the risks and limitations of digital systems for marginalised communities
- Explore what the future may bring for queer health in a digital era

[Register to attend here](#)

7-8pm

Speaker

Mus Alsaeid – Clinical Pharmacist

Speaker Bio

Clinical Pharmacist with over 15 years of vast NHS experience spanning General Hospital, Mental Health, Primary Care, and Care Home settings. Passionate about enhancing medication safety and committed to leadership that celebrates equality, diversity, and inclusion.

Session Title:

Intersectionality and Pharmacy Practice



Session details

In this session we will discuss intersectionality which can help us to move workplaces from basic diversity to meaningful inclusion and reduce bias and discrimination. Learning about this framework can help us to understand our patient populations and meet their needs better. Understanding different identities that overlap can help us see with a better lens and help people feel seen.

[Register to attend here](#)

Thursday 25th June

11:30-12:30pm

Speaker

Sarah Campbell (she/her), Head of Programmes, Stonewall

Speaker Bio

Stonewall is a leading LGBTQ+ rights charity. We work with hundreds of workplaces to support them to realise the benefits of inclusion on their people, their operations and their communities.

Session Title:

Leading on LGBTQ+ Inclusion

Session details

The Proud Employers accreditation run by Stonewall enables workplaces to celebrate, understand and progress their inclusion work. In this session we'll take practical learnings from this year's accreditation to support you to understand how leaders play a crucial role in driving inclusion work. Whether you're a leader yourself, you aspire to be one or you are supporting leaders to drive inclusion you'll find practical tips on inclusive leadership that you can take back to your day-to-day work.

[Register to attend here](#)

1-2pm

Speaker

Dr Anna Robinson-Barella - School of Pharmacy, Newcastle University, Newcastle NIHR Patient Safety Research Collaboration

Dr Matthew Cooper - Chartered Health Psychologist, Newcastle University and NIHR Patient Safety Research Collaboration (PSRC)

Speaker Bio

Anna has been a pharmacist for 10-years, having worked across hospital, general practice and community pharmacy before undertaking her PhD in 2019. She is now the Director of Education and Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity for the Newcastle School of Pharmacy and the Newcastle Patient Safety Research Collaboration. Anna's research expertise centres on working with people from minoritised or marginalised communities to tackle medicines and health inequalities

Matt specialises in the psychology of health, using behavioural science and qualitative methods to generate knowledge. His research is centred around the equitable access and integration of health and social care. Matt is particularly interested in the impact of social health on individuals and interventions to improve self-management of physical, mental, and social health. Matt currently leads a range of patient and public-led research around carer's involvement in patient care and the well-being of carers, the development and evaluation of preventative health screening programmes, and the patient risks of non-pharmacological community-based interventions.

Both speakers bring expertise in health inequalities and share a passion for inclusive pharmacy and healthcare research.

Session Title:

Embedding equity, diversity, inclusivity and cultural competence into pharmacy research



Session details

What does truly inclusive pharmacy research look like - and how do we get there? This session will discuss principles of equity, diversity, inclusivity and cultural competence and why they are fundamental to inclusive pharmacy practice and inclusive pharmacy research. Showcasing their newly developed NIHR 'Cultural Competence in Research Framework', Anna and Matt will talk about approaches, strategies and goals to support pharmacy research that is designed, conducted and delivered with inclusivity at the centre. Whether you are designing studies, working with communities, or shaping future practice, this talk will inspire you to lead research that reflects and serves the diversity of the populations we care for.

[Register to attend here](#)

2:30-3:30pm

Speaker

Lynsey Cleland, Chief Standards Officer and Deputy Registrar, GPhC
Annette Ashley, Head of Policy and Standards, GPhC
Gurdas Singh Sually, Senior EDI Policy Manager, GPhC

Speaker Bio

Lynsey

Lynsey is Chief Standards Officer and Deputy Registrar at the General Pharmaceutical Council. She is responsible for a broad range of functions including pharmacy education and training, policy and standards, equality, diversity and inclusion and external communications. Before taking up her current role, Lynsey was Director of Quality Assurance and Regulation at Healthcare Improvement Scotland, leading work to assure the quality and safety of NHS and independent healthcare services in Scotland. She also served as Healthcare Improvement Scotland's Director of Community Engagement, supporting the meaningful engagement of people and communities in shaping health and care services. Prior to that Lynsey undertook a range of quality assurance, policy development and strategic leadership roles in pharmacy regulation.

Annette

Annette Ashley is the Head of Policy and Standards at the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) with over 20 years' experience of writing policy, strategy, and standards. After an early career working in horse-racing and academia she moved to the public and charity sectors, where roles included campaigning and lobbying for equitable access to healthcare, before moving into regulation.

Gurdas

Gurdas Sually is the Senior EDI Policy Manager at the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC), leading the GPhC's EDI Team. He brings over a decade of experience across regulation and the legal sector, including roles at the Law Society, Intellectual Property Regulation Board and the Legal Services Board, where he has driven policy and research to address systemic barriers. His work focuses on tackling inequalities and supporting more inclusive, equitable regulatory outcomes.

Session Title:

Your Profession, Your Voice: A Listening Session with the GPhC

Session details

Join the General Pharmaceutical Council for an open conversation. We will introduce the GPhC's role, our standards, and our wider EDI strategy, before opening the floor to you. This is your opportunity to ask questions, share experiences, and tell us what matters to you as we shape inclusive regulation.

[Register to attend here](#)



5:30-6:30pm

Speaker:

Jake Laws (he/him), Workplace Programmes Manager, Stonewall

Speaker Bio:

Stonewall is a leading LGBTQ+ rights charity. We work with hundreds of workplaces to support them to realise the benefits of inclusion on their people, their operations and their communities.

Session Title:

Proud Careers: Recruiting diverse talent

Session details

The Proud Employers accreditation run by Stonewall enables workplaces to celebrate, understand and progress their inclusion work. In this session we'll take practical learnings from this year's accreditation to support you to understand how to drive inclusion through your recruitment processes. This session will explore effective strategies to attract and retain the best talent in your organisation.

[Register to attend here](#)

7 – 8pm

Panel members:

Jason Benning - Co-founder and Co-chair APTUK Pride Branch, Professional Lead Pharmacy Technician

Nikki Hayden –Co-chair FLUX UK, AIDS Health Foundation

Segdae Richardson-Read - Advanced Clinical Pharmacist, NHS Borders

David Webb - FRPharmS, Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England NHS England

Liz Fidler - FAPharmT, MBA (executive), PGCertEd Senior Professional Advisor Pharmacy Technician Practice NHS England

Speaker/Panel Bio

Jason Benning (He/Him)- In his current role Jason is an education programme director for Pharmacy Technicians, PTPTs and pharmacy support staff; standardising medicines optimisation training trust-wide and leading on all initial and post-graduate professional training. As a professional and personal development coach, Jason provides 1-to-1 coaching for NHS and Pharmacy staff who wish to move past challenges; empowering individuals to self-reflect and unearth answers from within themselves.

In his voluntary roles of CNWL Pride Network Policy Lead and Co-Chair of APTUK Pride Branch, Jason reviews trust staff policies for inclusive language, provides LGBTQ+ awareness training, delivers educational webinars to APTUK members and is an active participant in the NHSE London Pharmacy EDI Champions group.

Nikki Hayden - (she/her) - Nikki is a transgender woman working as an NHS therapist and co-chair of her Trust's LGBTQ+ staff network. Alongside her NHS clinical role, she runs the national online NHS Transgender Staff Support Group and is Co-chair of FLUX UK, the AIDS Health Foundation's trans and gender-diverse affinity group, creating inclusive spaces through community, visibility, and advocacy. In her free time she works as a campaigner, consultant, and public speaker, focusing on transgender visibility, lived experience, and LGBTQ+ inclusion. She has contributed to advocacy, media, and education work with organisations including the BBC, Channel4, the British Film Institute, The Independent, National Student Pride, the London Assembly, Transport for London and multiple NHS trusts. Drawing on her lived experience, she speaks openly about gender transition, identity, mental and physical health, barriers to care, and the impact of harassment and discrimination, using her platform to increase understanding and challenge stigma around transgender lives.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nhayden/>

Segdae Richardson-Read - Ségdae (they/them) is an Advanced Clinical Pharmacist in Cancer and Palliative Care at the Borders General Hospital in NHS Borders. They have been a pharmacist for nearly 20 years, having worked



across Mental Health, Primary Care, and Cancer Care. They are also chair of the NHS Borders LGBTQIA+ Staff Network and co-ordinate the Foundation Training Year programme for Pharmacists in NHS Borders.

David Webb - David Webb is the Chief Pharmaceutical Officer for England. He is Head of the Pharmacy Professions in England and the principal advisor on pharmacy and medicines use in the NHS, which includes supporting the Department of Health and Social Care.

David started this role in February 2022, having previously been Chief Pharmacist and Clinical Director for Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation at Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust in London.

He registered as a pharmacist in 1986 and has been the regional chief pharmacist for London, director of regional specialist pharmacy services for London, East and Southeast England, and also led the review of specialist pharmacy services for England in 2014.

David has held a number of academic appointments at University College London's School of Pharmacy, including that of visiting professor, and is a Fellow of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.

Liz Fidler - Liz Fidler has worked across various pharmacy sectors and is a leader in driving the pharmacy technician profession forward. Liz is the Senior Professional Advisor Pharmacy Technician Practice as part of the Chief Pharmaceutical Officers (CPhO) Office at NHS England and Chairs the CPhO Pharmacy Technician Professional Advisory Forum.

She has led many workforce developments and advised on where regulation, legislation and policy can enable the skills and expertise of pharmacy technicians as registered healthcare professionals to contribute effectively to healthcare services.

Liz is the immediate Past President of the Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK and has just completed an Executive Masters in Business Administration at the University of Greenwich.

Session Title:

Pharmacy Pride Panel Discussion: A Lived Experience Perspective

Session details

In the final session of the Pharmacy Pride: Inclusive Leadership and Learning Series, a panel of LGBTQ+ professionals will be sharing their lived experiences of working in healthcare and what drives them to bring about positive change for their communities. The panel will also share and discuss what it is like to live as a LGBTQ+ person in the U.K and provide an insight into how non-binary, trans and gay people experience society.

The panel will be open to answer questions that you (the audience) have regarding LGBTQIA+ topics, pharmacy practice, supporting mental health, education and leadership.

Lastly, we will be joined by The Chief Pharmaceutical Office, whereby David and Liz will provide the closing address for the PPILLS event. There we will reflect on what has been achieved throughout the PPILLS event and what is on the horizon for the pharmacy workforce in 2026/27.

[Register to attend here](#)

We welcome you to submit your questions to the panel prior to the webinar. We will endeavour to put your questions forward to the panel for discussion however this cannot be guaranteed due to limited time within the webinar. Please submit your questions by 18th June 2026 for consideration, Thank you.

[Please submit your questions here](#)



Access to these events is free for any member of the Pharmacy workforce, this includes registered staff and non-registered, Pharmacists, Pharmacy Technicians and Pharmacy Support Workers! A big part of this event is raising awareness of vital charities and LGBTQIA+ health inequalities, and so while all sessions are free to attend, we do ask kindly for your donations throughout which will be split equally between all partnering charities:

- Stonewall
- LGBT Foundation
- Switchboard LGBT+
- Mermaids
- OUTpatient



All donations collected are voluntary and will be split equally between the listed charities. 100% of the money donated will go directly to these charities. APTUK will not receive, handle, or retain any donated funds and is not affiliated with any of the listed charities. Please scan the QR code or visit [GiveWheel](https://www.givewheel.com)

For any questions relating to these events contact: pridebranch@aptuk.org

