

Update February 2014

The purpose of this update is to keep you informed about the Health+Pharmacy initiative as it develops. Whether you are in phase one of training, phase two or yet to apply to the initiative we hope you will find this bulletin useful. The update is aimed at all members of the pharmacy staff, so please circulate internally or display prominently in a staff area where everyone can get a chance to read.

Health+Pharmacy

Health+Pharmacy is a scheme which will accredit those pharmacies which can demonstrate they provide a consistent level of service in relation to health promotion, prevention and protection. A defined list of standards must be met to be awarded Health+Pharmacy status; these cover premises, staff development and community engagement. These standards are being finalised at present.

The staff, including non-pharmacists, will be trained as active health promoters within their own pharmacy and beyond. The pharmacy will be both a provider of and sign-poster to quality services of health promotion, prevention and protection.

The pharmacy premises will reflect this having a dedicated health promotion area, a consultation area and visual materials indicating that they have been awarded Health+Pharmacy accreditation.

This will be backed up by an awareness campaign which will put the Health+Pharmacy concept firmly in the public consciousness.

You will find more information and previous communications about Health+Pharmacy on a dedicated page within the FPS Pharmaceutical Services section of the BSO website (www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2443.htm).

Training allocation

Pharmacies were first invited to participate in the Health+Pharmacy initiative in June 2013. There was an overwhelming response with over 350 pharmacies applying. Following a selection process, one third of these pharmacies were allocated a place in the first wave of training taking place between October 2013 and March 2014.

The second wave of training will commence in September 2014; if you have been allocated a place in the second wave of training you will receive further correspondence over the summer months. This is later than originally hoped for, but as an evolving project this will allow a short period of time to evaluate the training and the project progression to date.

It is envisaged that once the initial cohort of applicants have been trained that NICPLD will provide ongoing training on a rolling basis. The exact format and likely start date has not been decided at this stage; and will depend on a number of factors including the project evaluation, resources and demand from pharmacists.

Live course

The live course is a two day event and both days should be attended by a pharmacist and a non-pharmacist member of the healthcare staff (the Health and Well-being adviser) from the pharmacy. It will not be possible to receive accreditation if this does not happen.

The pharmacist named on the initial application form should register for this course on the NICPLD website (under Accredited Courses). There is no need for the Health and Well-being adviser to register but they should attend with the pharmacist on both days.

The majority of places are now filled, however if you have not already registered you need to do so as soon as possible. If you have not registered by 10th of February 2014 it will be assumed the pharmacy does not wish to take part in the first wave of training and the place will be reallocated.

Distance Learning Course

The Distance Learning Course should be completed by the **Health and Well-being adviser**, who will receive the Royal Society for Public Health Level 2 Award in Understanding Health Improvement on completion. For the first wave of training, the printed material component of the course has been sent to the address NICPLD has on record for the pharmacist on the application form. Please ensure this is passed on to the Health and Well-being adviser as soon as possible, if not already done so.

In order to complete the course you must complete an online assessment. Details of how to register were included in the pack. If you have difficulty registering contact the C+D in the first instance (pharmacytraining@chemistanddruggist.co.uk or phone 0207 921 8425); if you still have problems please contact NICPLD for assistance.

The course should be commenced before attending the two day live course, although you may want to wait until after the live course before completing the online assessment.

Staff changes

Pharmacist:

If you need to change the name of the pharmacist attending the live course from the one on the initial application form you should email the details to the **HSCB** at healthpluspharmacy@hscni.net. Your details will be forwarded to NICPLD who will make the necessary changes to their database to allow the new pharmacist to enrol in a Health+Pharmacy course. The new pharmacist may need to re-enrol in the course and should do as soon as possible as space is limited.

Health and Well-being adviser

Please email the details to healthpluspharmacy@hscni.net to update our records. Distance learning course materials are limited to one pack per pharmacy and should be transferred to the new adviser. If someone has already registered on the C+D website but not completed the course you will need to discuss with the C+D directly. (pharmacytraining@chemistanddruggist.co.uk or phone 0207 921 8425)

Accreditation

The accreditation process is being finalised and is expected to begin in April 2014. There will be detailed communication with those pharmacies which meet the training criteria (i.e. both members of staff have attended the live course and the Health & Well-being adviser has completed the distance learning course)

It is expected that it will take approximately six months for your pharmacy to become fully accredited, although an extension to this can be considered. For those who attended phase 1 of cohort 1 training there is a deadline of March 2015 for accreditation.

Once accredited, promotional materials such as posters and window stickers will be made available to the pharmacy. These materials will be developed alongside a communications and publicity strategy for the initiative. There may also be scope for displaying Health+Pharmacy status on pharmacy websites, within certain constraints to ensure integrity of the scheme is maintained; this element is to be considered further in the coming months.

Further information

For routine enquires you may find the information you require on the dedicated page within the FPS Pharmaceutical Services section of the BSO website at www.hscbusiness.hscni.net/services/2443.htm .

If you require any additional information or assistance please make contact via healthpluspharmacy@hscni.net . If you would prefer to discuss directly please provide your telephone number and a brief outline of the issue so the query can be passed on to the appropriate person to deal with it.

Path to a Health+Pharmacy



*Second wave applicants will be contacted in July/August 2014 and will then follow a similar path to accreditation.

