

## Benefits of a Clinical Pharmacist in Primary Care

Clinical Pharmacists bring a range of new skills to General Practice. As specialists in medicines they can support GPs and other members of the practice team. Typically the Clinical Pharmacist will be able to see patients, or contact by phone, and if qualified as an independent prescriber, can prescribe medicines too (the NHS England programme supports Clinical Pharmacists without the IP qualification to get it). The role is one of several new clinical roles designed to reduce workload, alleviate workforce shortages and add value to the practice and care of patients.

Typically Clinical Pharmacists can get involved in a wide range of tasks, depending upon the needs of the practice and the skills and competencies of the Clinical Pharmacist, including but not limited to:

- Medication reviews both face to face and telephone
- Medication queries
- Prescription Queries
- Repeat prescriptions
- Specialist clinics (diabetes, respiratory, hypertension, asthma)
- Signposting to other services
- Medicines optimisation audits
- Long term conditions management and minor ailments
- Nursing Home visits
- Hospital discharge reviews
- Screening and patient education, lifestyle advice e.g. healthy living smoking cessation
- Specialist monitoring such as DMARDS

In our experience, effective clinical pharmacists will:

- Create additional primary care capacity to deal directly with patients
- Assist with resourcing extended GP access
- Free up GP resources
- Improve patient understanding, concordance and safety of medication
- Improve quality of patient care, with excellent patient satisfaction
- Reduce medication waste
- Provide expertise to deal with complex medication issues requiring research and medication supply issues for GPs, Nurses and Administration and Reception staff
- Provides a valuable link to Community Pharmacy
- Provide a more comprehensive all round Primary Care service to benefit patients

There are reports with data to support the above, independently verified by the University of Nottingham.



To find out more about Clinical Pharmacy programmes in Nottinghamshire contact Samantha Travis at NHS England, or Gerald Ellis at PICS

[samantha.travis@nhs.net](mailto:samantha.travis@nhs.net) Mobile 07920 251512

[gerald.ellis@nhs.net](mailto:gerald.ellis@nhs.net) Mobile 07703 820976