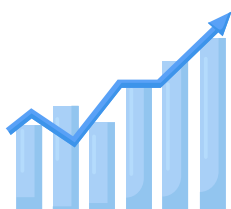


Pharmacy Technicians Report

In 2019, the PDA published an assessment of the UK pharmacy landscape. It was based on proposals to develop the skill mix around community pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to meet the needs of the NHS and the public. The report's recommendations included;



Unify pharmacists and pharmacy technicians behind a common vision and purpose, based on shared interests and mutual benefit



Create rewarding career frameworks, supported by skills and salary escalators and appropriate remuneration



Develop more rewarding, fulfilling roles for both groups, including enhanced clinical roles, which make more appropriate use of their respective skills



Establish a symbiotic, complementary and effective skill mix model in community pharmacy



Enhance patient care and safety, improve governance and regulation, develop the UK healthcare infrastructure and reduce the burden both on community pharmacy and other areas of the NHS such as GP surgeries and secondary care

The PDA strongly believes that if the workforce in community pharmacy could be appropriately reconfigured and developed, then this would enable the sector to take on many new, professionally fulfilling and exciting opportunities.

Pharmacy Technicians Report

The 2019 report sought to set a pragmatic vision for the future development of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in community pharmacy particularly, and proposed ways in which this can be done.

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the increasing pressure this has placed on the already stretched NHS, the PDA has revisited the report in this context.

Many of the challenges and opportunities remain the same, and fundamentally, there are several enablers which can facilitate the development of the scope of both roles.

Clarity and differentiation around professional and technical roles

Development of the initial education and training of pharmacy technicians

Public protection delivered through pharmacy regulation

Definition of areas of responsibility and accountability for technicians

Alignment of the interests of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians

Development of roles in community pharmacy utilising skill mix

Through careful planning and proper investment in some sectors of pharmacy, many of these areas have already been resolved, such as in the hospital setting.

The time has come for community pharmacy to have clarity on what the respective roles of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians could and should be.

The PDA's intention is to continue to promote wider engagement of the profession in a constructive debate that considers the broader factors, and encourages all stakeholders to reach a positive consensus on how to address the matters raised.

Our ambition is to make pharmacy better for patients, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

The report can be downloaded using this QR code or by visiting

www.the-pda.org/pda-release-their-pharmacy-technicians-report-in-its-entirety

