

School of Health & Social Work
Department of Nursing, Health and Wellbeing

Non-Medical Prescribing Programme Information

University of
Hertfordshire **UH**



Welcome

On behalf of the Non-Medical Prescribing (NMP) Team thank you for considering applying to the University of Hertfordshire (UH) NMP Programme. This document contains information about the programme and application process that we hope you will find useful.

Our Multi-Disciplinary NMP programme is designed to enable appropriately qualified practitioners to develop the skills, knowledge and attributes required for safe, appropriate and cost-effective prescribing practice within the context of their specialist professional roles and the legislative and professional frameworks that govern their specific role. Our Programme involves blended learning strategies to facilitate effective inter-professional learning and the sharing of differing professional perspectives and expertise. Reflective discussions and prescribing analyses are held to enable students to integrate their learning within the context of their professional practice and to ensure that the specific requirements of the professional and statutory regulatory body (GPhC, HCPC and NMC) are fully addressed.

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Admissions Process

Admission to the NMP Programme is achieved through a comprehensive process, that has been designed to ensure that all [General Pharmaceutical Council \(GPhC\)](#), [Health & Care Professions Council \(HCPC\)](#) or [Nursing and Midwifery Council \(NMC\)](#) standards as applicable are met. As part of this process applicants are required having completed their initial online application to submit an additional Supplementary Admissions Form (SAF) that provides the team with the evidence that applicants have:

- met the essential entry criteria for the programme required by their regulatory body (GPhC, HCPC or NMC) outlined on the following slides
- identified an intended scope of prescribing practice
- the appropriate and required support available to enable them, to successfully develop as safe and appropriate prescribers within their intended scope of prescribing practice.

We will not be able to progress your application and confirm your place on the Programme until you have completed your online application and submitted your fully completed SAF.

Criteria for Entry to the NMP Programme for Allied Health Professionals (Page 1 of 2)

1. Registration with the HCPC in one of the relevant allied health professions.
2. Professionally practising in an environment where there is an identified need for the individual to regularly use independent /supplementary prescribing (physiotherapists, podiatrists and therapeutic radiographers only) or supplementary prescribing (diagnostic radiographers and dietitians).
3. Ability to demonstrate support from their employer/sponsor including confirmation that the entrant will have appropriate supervised practice in the clinical area in which they are expected to prescribe.
4. Ability to demonstrate medicines and clinical governance arrangements are in place to support safe and effective supplementary and / or independent prescribing.
5. Practice Educators must be a qualified prescriber, on the register of their statutory regulator with annotation(s) for prescribing where applicable and with the relevant skills, knowledge and experience to support safe and effective learning.

Criteria for Entry to the NMP Programme for Allied Health Professionals (Page 2 of 2)

6. Normally at least 3 years relevant post-qualification experience in the clinical area in which they will be prescribing (or equivalent in part time employment).
7. Working at an advanced practitioner or equivalent level.
8. Ability to demonstrate how they reflect on their own performance and take responsibility for their own Continuing Professional Development (CPD) including development of networks for support, reflection and learning.
9. Evidence of current DBS clearance (enhanced disclosure) i.e. obtained within the last three years.

Criteria for Entry to the NMP Programme for Nurses & Midwives (Page 1 of 2)

1. Current registration as a first level nurse, midwife and/or specialist community public health nurse with the Nursing and Midwifery Council. The applicant's registration status must not be subject to any cautions or interim suspension orders
2. A minimum of one years' experience (or equivalent in part time employment) as a practising nurse/midwife/specialist community public health nurse
3. Evidence of the ability to study at the academic level of the module to be studied i.e. level 7, (postgraduate level)
4. Evidence of current DBS clearance (enhanced disclosure) i.e. obtained within the last three years
5. Applicants must also provide:

Written confirmation of support to undertake the prescribing programme from their employer, including NHS and non-NHS employers. The support available must include time to attend scheduled study days at the University, access to appropriate learning opportunities in practice and protected time to engage in practice development activities with an identified practice supervisor and practice assessor.

Criteria for Entry to the NMP Programme for Nurses & Midwives (Page 2 of 2)

Written confirmation from their employer that the applicant can demonstrate safe and effective practice within their intended field of prescribing practice in relation to:

Clinical/health assessment

Diagnostics/care management

Planning and evaluation of care

If the applicant is self-employed a comprehensive professional reference must be provided which details the applicant's level of proficiency in practice. A separate statement must be provided by the applicant confirming the arrangements made for practice supervision and assessment.

Written confirmation from the practice supervisor and assessor, providing evidence that they meet the required eligibility criteria and that they agree to collaborate to provide the required term of supervised practice and its assessment.

Criteria for Entry to the NMP Programme for Pharmacists (Page 1 of 2)

1. Current registration as a pharmacist with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) or, in Northern Ireland, with the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (PSNI).
2. Demonstration of good standing with the GPhC and/or PSNI and any other healthcare regulator with which they are registered.
3. At least two years' appropriate patient-orientated experience post registration, in a relevant UK practice setting.
4. An identified area of clinical or therapeutic practice in which to develop independent prescribing practice together with relevant clinical or therapeutic experience in that area, which is suitable to act as the foundation of their prescribing practice while training.

Criteria for Entry to the NMP Programme for Pharmacists (Page 2 of 2)

5. A Designated Prescribing Practitioner (DPP) who has agreed to supervise their learning in practice. The DPP must:
 - be a registered healthcare professional in Great Britain or Northern Ireland with legal independent prescribing rights who has been prescribing regularly for a minimum period of three years.
 - be suitably experienced and qualified to carry out this supervisory role as defined in Royal Pharmaceutical Society (2019) A Competency Framework for Designated Prescribing Practitioners and
 - have demonstrated CPD or revalidation relevant to this role.
6. Evidence of current DBS clearance (enhanced disclosure) i.e., obtained within the last three years.

Additional Entry Criteria Information Required for Nurses and Pharmacists working exclusively in Aesthetic Practice

We accept applicants onto the Programme who are Registered Nurses or Pharmacists working exclusively within the field of aesthetics providing they are able to demonstrate:

- active and compliant membership of a Professional Standards Register (related to cosmetic/aesthetic medicine) or practice from a private healthcare environment that is regulated by the CQC
- applicants are working full time within the field of aesthetic medicine for least 2 years (or part time equivalent)
- applicants have completed an accredited level 7 Post Graduate Certificate in cosmetic and/or aesthetic medicine

Accessing funding to undertake the NMP Programme

Whilst we do accept self funding students onto the programme the majority of our students will either be sponsored/supported to attend by their employing health or social care organisation. Therefore applicants will need to communicate with their employing organisations Education Lead or equivalent in the first instance.

Students who are being sponsored/supported to attend by an employer will need to provide the following information on their application form:

- Name of sponsor
- Name of contact at sponsor,
- Telephone number of contact at sponsor
- Email address of contact at sponsor
- Address of sponsor
- PO number

If applicants do not provide this information this may result in them becoming personally liable for the cost of the programme.

Programme Occurrences

Each NMP Programme runs over a 6-month period with UH offering 3 Intakes/Cohorts in academic year 2021-22 commencing on:



September 14th 2021 (September Cohort)



January 20th 2022 (January Cohort)



March 1st 2022 (March Cohort)

Programme Modules

NMP Students apply to study **one** of the following available five 30 credit modules which are accredited by either the [GPhC](#), [HCPC](#) or [NMC](#) as appropriate to their specialist discipline.

AHP Independent Prescribing Module (Physiotherapists, Paramedics, Podiatrists & Therapeutic Radiographers) (Level 7)

AHP Supplementary Prescribing (Diagnostic Radiographers & Dietitians) (Level 7)

Nurse Independent Prescribing (V300) (Nurses and Midwives) (Level 7)

Pharmacist Independent Prescribing (Pharmacists) (Level 7)

Nurse Independent Prescribing (V300) (Nurses and Midwives) (Level 6)

Programme Structure

Students are required to complete **26 mandatory days** of blended theoretical learning incorporating a combination of:

- 14 live online multidisciplinary days (using Microsoft Teams or Zoom) delivered between 09.30-16.00 on Tuesdays (September and March Intake) or Thursdays (January Intake)*
- online discipline specific small group tutorials led by an identified Personal Tutor
- a small number of on-campus sessions at either our [College Lane](#) or [De Havilland](#) Campuses in Hatfield, Hertfordshire (dependent upon social distancing restrictions)
- 1 live online assessment and diagnostic development day (Pharmacist and Supplementary AHP NMP students only)**
- 1 on-campus physical skills development day in a simulation laboratory on our [College Lane Campus](#) (Pharmacist and Supplementary AHP NMP students only)**
- guided study

Alongside theoretical sessions students are also required to complete a compulsory additional period of **90 hours** of practice learning. A minimum of **25/90 hours** should be spent with your DMP, PA or DPP as applicable.

*The GPhC, HCPC & NMC require at least 85% monitored attendance at live sessions which amounts to a maximum of 2 absence days.

**The GPhC requires that Pharmacist students attend the mandatory assessment and diagnostic skills day

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Programme Assessment

In accordance with regulatory body requirements students are required to successfully complete the following five assessments to complete the programme:

1. Practice Portfolio (incorporating demonstration of the student's achievement of the competences outlined in the [Royal Pharmaceutical Society \(RPS\) Competency Framework for All Prescribers](#))
2. Prescribing Consultation (written assignment)
3. Unseen Applied Pharmacology Examination
4. Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)
5. Numeracy assessment



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Programme Completion & Award

Students who successfully complete the NMP Programme at UH receive either a **'Practice Certificate in Independent Prescribing'** or **'Practice Certificate in Supplementary Prescribing'** (as applicable) from the University's Awards Office and a certificate is issued.

Students are then required to register their qualification with their regulatory body and ensure all regulatory body and employing organisational requirements are met prior to commencing prescribing.

Thank you, Next Steps and Contact Information

There is an ongoing very high demand for places on this Programme with limited places available. Therefore we strongly encourage applicants to apply at the earliest opportunity to avoid disappointment.

We hope this document has provided useful information and answered many questions you may have however please do not hesitate to contact either our CPD Health Team cpdhealth@herts.ac.uk or Mark as our Interim Programme Leader and Admissions Tutor if we can provide further information and/or support you with your application process.

As a team we very much look forward to welcoming you onto the NMP Programme at the University of Hertfordshire.



Mark Millar

Interim NMP Programme Leader
& Admissions Tutor

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Sarah Watkin

September
NMP Cohort Leader



Hayley Hassett

January
NMP Cohort Leader



Dr Sultan Cetiner

March
NMP Cohort Leader



Shabnam Mamaghaniyeh

Senior Lecturer
Clinical Pharmacy

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