

## LTC12D013

**Title:** MSc Pharmacy Practice (+ Postgraduate Diploma Pharmacy Practice)  
(Shortened Fast Track proposal)  
**Circulation:** Learning and Teaching Committee – 24 October 2012  
**Agenda:** LTC12A001  
**Version:** Final  
**Status:** Open

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### Issue

Changes to the Postgraduate Diploma in General Pharmacy Practice

### Recommendation

Recipients are invited to note the changes to the Postgraduate Diploma in General Pharmacy Practice (with effect from November 2012)

### Resource Implications

None

### Risk Implications

None

### Equality and Diversity

The proposed changes have no adverse implications

### Timing of decisions

The proposal was approved by the School Director of Teaching and the Head of School 15 August 2012, and by the Faculty Associate Dean LTQ 24 August 2012

### Further Information

Postgraduate Diploma Course Director: Mrs Lindsay Morgan [Lindsay.Morgan@uea.ac.uk](mailto:Lindsay.Morgan@uea.ac.uk)  
MSc Course Director: Professor David Wright [D.J.Wright@uea.ac.uk](mailto:D.J.Wright@uea.ac.uk)

### Background

The School has developed a framework with stakeholders and will signpost learning to it in accordance with best educational practice and according to the recommendations of the 2012 Independent Review of Competency Frameworks in Post-Graduate Pharmacy Education. In line with other Universities, the School has shortened the course duration from 32 to 24 months. To encourage students to continue their studies at UEA, the School is emphasising that the programme is an MSc, with exit options at PG Cert and PG Dip.

### Discussion

N/A

**PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR AN AWARD OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA**

**PART 4:** This part is only to be used in the following circumstances:

- **Change to an existing degree title**
- **Change to School(s) of registration**
- **Change to Stage weightings for degree classification (provided these are within the combinations permitted under the relevant Regulatory Framework)**
- **New PgR provision without resource implications (provided this does NOT involve a new award)**

<b>1</b>	<p><b>BACKGROUND, CONTEXT AND RATIONALE FOR CHANGE</b> (Please summarise)</p> <p><b>Proposed changes to the Postgraduate Diploma in General Pharmacy Practice (Route code currently T2B230301)</b></p> <p><i>UEA School of Pharmacy has been running a post-graduate course for pharmacists for 4 years, in conjunction with the Joint Programmes Board (JPB). Completion of the course to diploma level has become practically a mandatory requirement for a hospital pharmacist to apply for more senior posts. This course is centrally funded through the SHA education contract and all Schools of Pharmacy in the region are equally supported. The current course runs over 32 months but other Schools of Pharmacy run an equivalent course over 24 months which students and employers see as more attractive so in order to compete we must offer the course over a shorter period.</i></p> <p><i>Our links to the JPB lead us to underpin our course with a professional competency framework called the General Level Framework (GLF). The 2012 Independent Review of Competency Frameworks in Post-Graduate Pharmacy Education commissioned by the DoH (authored by David Wright and Lindsay Morgan of UEA) indicates the need to move away from the GLF in its current operational format to a new underpinning framework to guide professional development.</i></p>
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<b>2</b>	<b>DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL</b>				
	<p>(Please summarise e.g. give new degree title)</p> <p><b>New degree title: MSc Pharmacy Practice (+ Postgraduate Diploma Pharmacy Practice) - new students to be registered on the Postgraduate Diploma then transferred to the MSc if appropriate</b></p> <p><i>The award has always been MSc, with exit awards at the level of PG Cert and PG Dip and this is also the convention at other universities. However because most employers only require their pharmacists to have the PG Dip, this is where most pharmacists exit. And so the course has always been colloquially known as ‘the diploma’ both inside and outside the university despite the fact that it is an MSc programme, and was marketed as such.</i></p> <p><i>In line with other universities, and to encourage students to continue their studies with us, we want to emphasize that the programme is an MSc, with exit options at PG Cert and PG Dip. The majority of our students will continue to exit at PG Dip however because of funding and the requirements of their professional role.</i></p> <p><i>We want to reduce course duration of PG dip from 32 months to 24 months, as above.</i></p> <p><i>We have developed such a framework with our stakeholders and will now signpost learning to this in accordance with best educational practice and according to the recommendations of The 2012 Independent Review of Competency Frameworks in Post-Graduate Pharmacy Education, and signpost student learning and development to this.</i></p>				
<b>3</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION THAT THERE ARE NO RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>				
	<p>Are there any resource implications associated with this proposal? (Please tick as appropriate – if ‘Yes’ a full programme document should be completed)</p>	<b>Yes</b>		<b>No</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>4</b>	<b>EVIDENCE OF CONSULTATION OF STUDENTS AND WRITTEN CONSENT OBTAINED</b>				
	<p>Please briefly describe what consultation has taken place and what responses there have been. Is there full support from all members of the relevant student cohort(s)?</p> <p><i>Full consultation with Course Management Committee consisting of local stakeholders (pharmacist employers, Education and Training pharmacy leads and Chief Pharmacists of acute trusts). Approval of proposed changes given on 9<sup>th</sup> July at CMC meeting. Changes proposed for new students only.</i></p>				

<b>5</b>	<b>INFORMING APPLICANTS</b>	
	<p>What arrangements have been made (for informing applicants who may be affected by any change(s)? Written notification, including advice about any alternative options that may be given, must be sent to applicants holding unconditional/conditional firm or conditional insurance offers.</p> <p><i>No applications have been accepted yet.</i></p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	
	<p>Please give effective date of introduction of the proposed change(s), normally the start of an academic session. If the change affects existing students and/or new entrants, please make this clear (e.g. new degree title effective from 2009-10 for new entrants to Year 1 only OR new degree title effective from 2009-10 for new entrants to Year 1 and all continuing students).</p> <p><i>Updated program effective from 2012-2013 for new entrants to level 1.</i></p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>APPROVALS, SIGNATURES AND COMMENTS</b>	
	<b>DATE</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF LEARNING, TEACHING AND QUALITY</b>		
Professor David Wright	15 August 2012	
<b>HEAD OF SCHOOL</b>		
Professor Mark Searcey	15 August 2012	
<b>FACULTY DEAN</b>		
n/a		
<b>FACULTY ASSOCIATE DEAN (LTQ)</b>		
Dr Ben Milner	24 August 2012	