



NI Centre for
**Pharmacy Learning
& Development**

news

/Newsletter/March 2013/

Medicines use review

The HSCB intends to commission a Medicines Use Review (MUR) service in the first quarter of 2013/14 which, in the first instance, will target patients with long-term respiratory disease.

The aim of the MUR service is greater adherence to medicine-taking by identifying:

- whether or not patients understand how their medicines should be used and if they use their medicines as prescribed
- how patients actually use their medicines and issues that may affect correct use, such as timing of doses, formulation, etc.

- if patients know why they take each of their medicines and the condition for which each medicine is prescribed
- potential side-effects and drug interactions that may affect patient adherence
- medicines that are no longer used by the patient.

In preparation for this new MUR service NICPLD will be providing an online course aimed at pharmacists and support staff. The course will be available around mid-March and can be viewed without the need to first login, so that all pharmacy staff can access it.

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Medicines use review (continued)

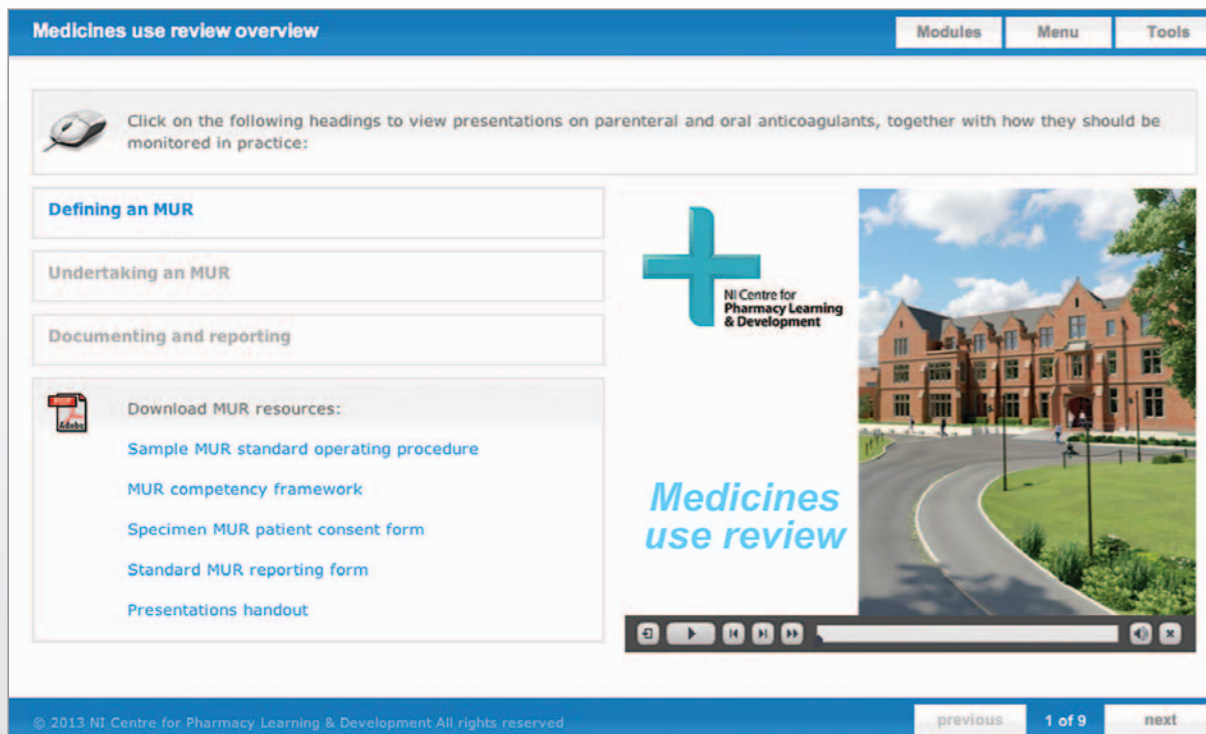
The course is based around a number of presentations and case studies. The presentations will:

- define what is meant by an MUR
- discuss how to undertake an MUR
- demonstrate how to document and report the findings of an MUR.

Because the course is delivered online you can review the presentations until you are confident you understand the key elements of the service. You could also use the course in your pharmacy to train staff on the MUR service.

The presentations are accompanied by downloadable resources, such as examples of a standard operating procedure for undertaking MURs in the pharmacy and the MUR reporting form. In addition the MUR competency framework is included to help you identify other training needs you may have to improve your effectiveness in delivering this new service.

The cases studies provide examples of the type of documentation and recommendations required. There is also an opportunity for you to complete the MUR documentation for one of the online cases.



The screenshot shows a webpage titled "Medicines use review overview" with a navigation menu (Modules, Menu, Tools). The main content area includes a mouse icon and text: "Click on the following headings to view presentations on parenteral and oral anticoagulants, together with how they should be monitored in practice:". Below this are three headings: "Defining an MUR", "Undertaking an MUR", and "Documenting and reporting". A section titled "Download MUR resources:" lists several documents: "Sample MUR standard operating procedure", "MUR competency framework", "Specimen MUR patient consent form", "Standard MUR reporting form", and "Presentations handout". On the right side, there is a video player showing a presentation with the NI Centre for Pharmacy Learning & Development logo and the text "Medicines use review". The video player has a progress bar and control buttons. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the copyright notice "© 2013 NI Centre for Pharmacy Learning & Development All rights reserved" and navigation buttons for "previous", "1 of 9", and "next".

To further support the roll-out of the MUR service in Northern Ireland, the NICPLD regional programme in April and May 2013 will focus on *MUR issues in asthma and COPD*.

Ballymena	The Leighinmohr Hotel	16 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Portadown	The Seagoe Hotel	16 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Belfast	Riddel Hall	18 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Omagh	The Silver Birches Hotel	18 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Coleraine	The Lodge Hotel,	23 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Enniskillen	The Killyhevlin Hotel	23 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Cookstown	The Glenavon House Hotel	23 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Londonderry	The Everglades Hotel	29 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Newry	The Canal Court Hotel	29 April, 7.30pm – 9.30pm

Return to practice

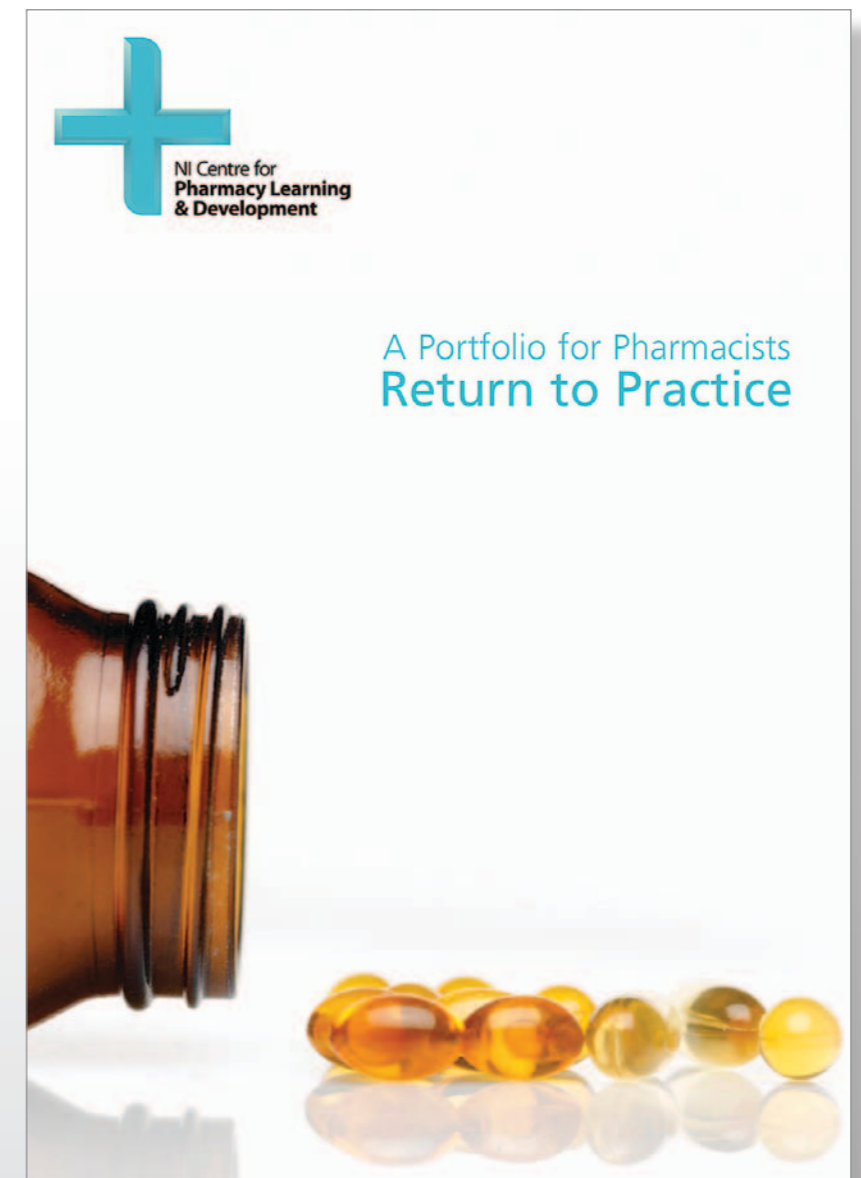
The next Return to Practice course will take place on 8th and 9th May 2013.

It is primarily intended for community pharmacists who have taken a career break and now wish to take up practice again or those who wish to move to community pharmacy from another area of practice.

The programme consists of a two-day workshop, involving a practical component run in the pharmacy within the School of Pharmacy at Queen's University. This is followed by up to three days of learning in practice, supported by a mentor and completion of a practice portfolio. During programme development it was felt strongly by those who had returned to practice that their greatest concern was lack of confidence rather than lack of knowledge.

If you are anticipating returning to practice in the near future this course may be timely, as the course will not run again until after March 2014.

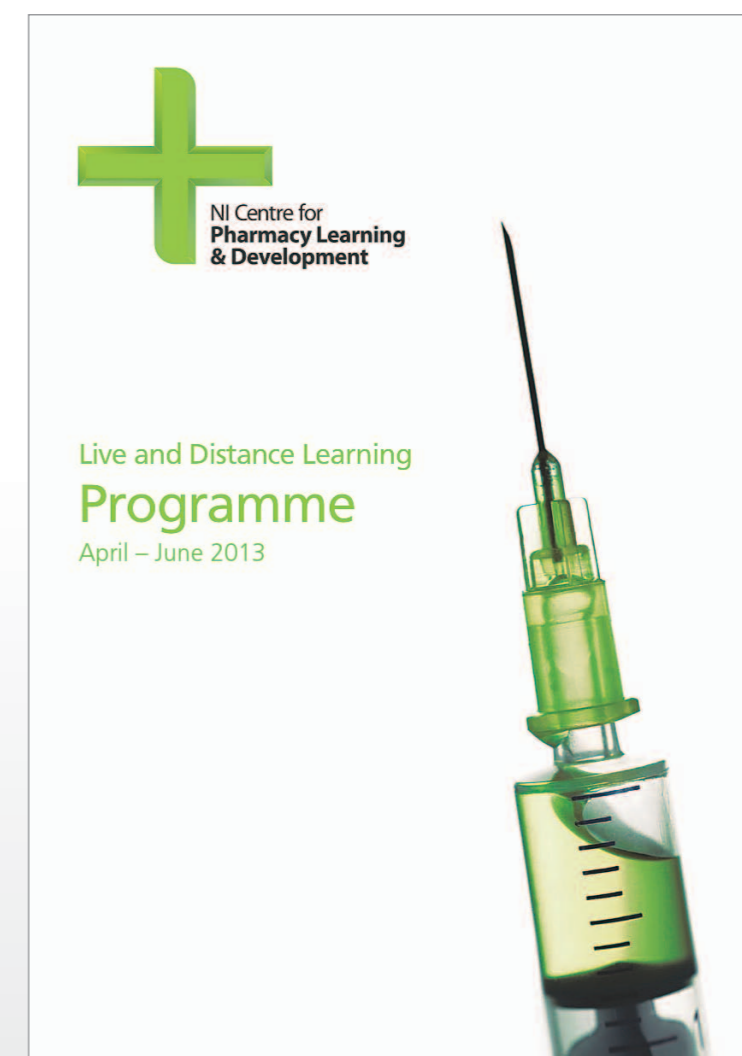
Full details of this programme will be available on the NICPLD website from mid-March 2013.



Workshops April – June 2013

The new course brochure will be mailed to you in mid-March 2013, at which time you will be able to register for the following workshops on the NICPLD website:

- Accredited checking pharmacy technician (ACPT) programme
- ACPT mentor programme
- Advanced clinical practice: Osteoporosis (in 4 venues)
- Behavioural change
- Compression hosiery and lymphoedema
- Hospital quality management systems – operational challenges
- Managing medicines in care homes
- Medicines management: Asthma and COPD
- Medicines management: Bipolar disorder
- Promoting male health
- Return to practice
- Travel health
- An introduction to the VISION clinical system
- Writing effective reports and proposals.



Can we remind you to un-enrol if you are unable to attend a workshop so that the place can be used by someone on the waiting list. If you do not un-enrol at least three working days before the workshop or fail to attend, a £30 fee will be charged to cover costs.

Updated distance learning course

Managing medicines in older people

Aim

To assist the healthcare professional in maintaining and enhancing the quality of care and services provided for older patients.

Learning outcomes

Having completed this course you should be able to:

- discuss the ageing process and its impact on drug therapy
- describe the general guidelines for prescribing for older patients

- list and describe the common prescription and non-prescription medication-related problems experienced by older patients
- provide practical steps to improve medication compliance in this patient group.

Pharmacists who have already completed the original 2008 course as part of their Managing Your Medicines training *are not* required to complete this revised course to maintain their accreditation.



This new course provides 14 hours of learning and can be requested via the NICPLD website



New eLearning course

Evidence-based management of diabetes

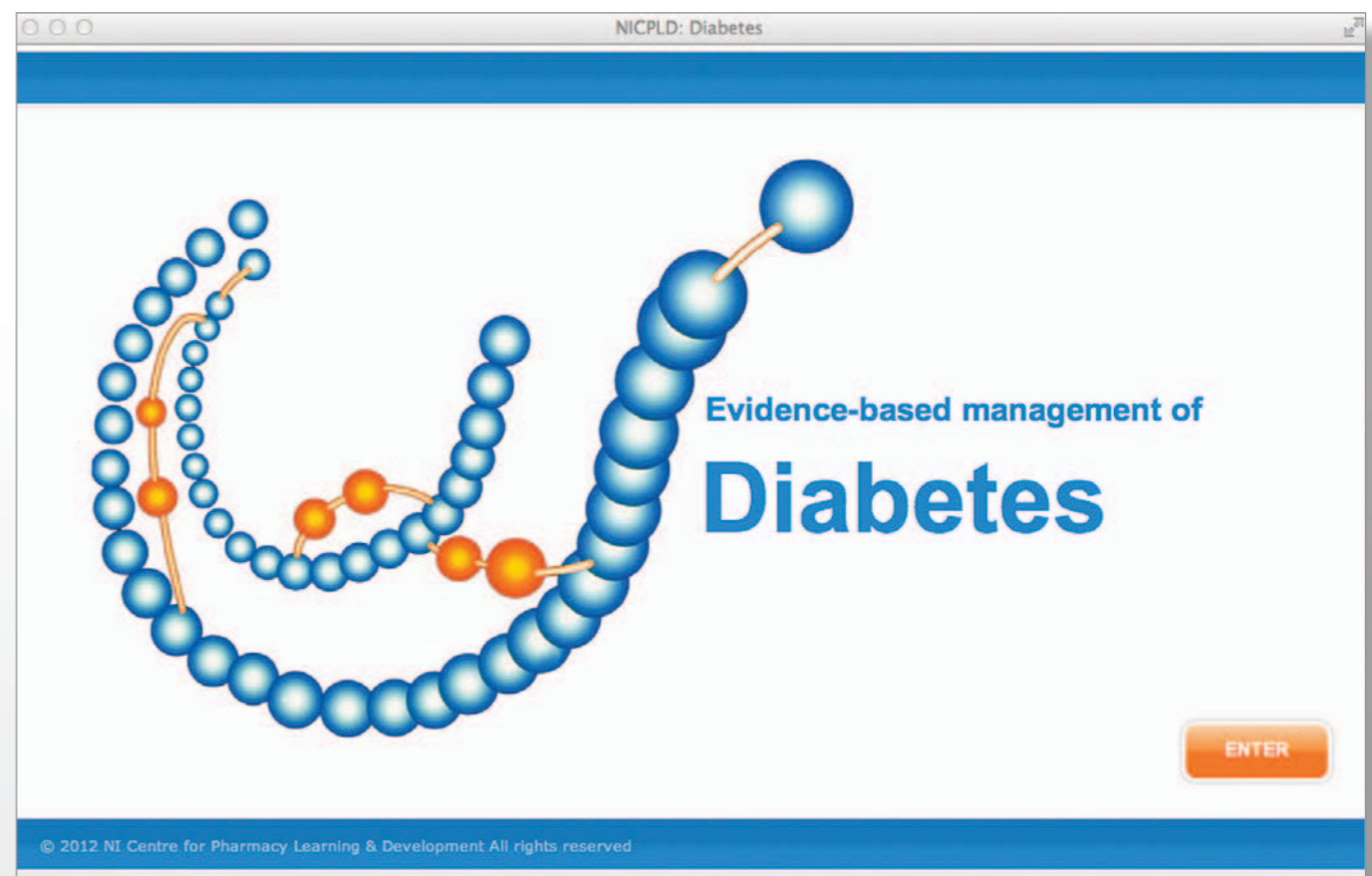
Aim

To enable healthcare professionals to provide effective care for people with diabetes mellitus.

Learning outcomes

Having completed this course you should be able to:

- identify risk factors associated with developing diabetes
- distinguish between type 1 and type 2 diabetes
- describe best practice in managing patients with type 1 and type 2 diabetes
- recognise the various parameters that are used to judge metabolic control
- make recommendations to prevent the complications of diabetes or manage them should they occur
- provide guidance on monitoring diabetes in special cases, such as pregnancy
- enhance the contribution you make to the care of people with diabetes.



This new course provides 16 hours of learning and can be accessed from the NICPLD website

Advanced practice development

The next Advanced Practice Development module will start in April 2013. The module, part of the MSc in Advanced Pharmacy Practice, is now open to other hospital pharmacists, medicines management advisers from the HSCB and pharmacist prescribers working in primary care.

A combination of workshops, self-directed learning and practice activities will enable pharmacists to develop the competencies of the Advanced and Consultant Level Competency Framework (ACLF – but excluding research and evaluation) to 'Excellence' level. An outline of the module content and dates of associated workshops is given below:

1. Developing as an Advanced Pharmacist Practitioner (18 April 2013)

- Expert professional practice
- Building working relationships
- Managing patients in a multidisciplinary environment
- Developing an individualised Personal Development Plan (PDP)
- Developing a portfolio of evidence

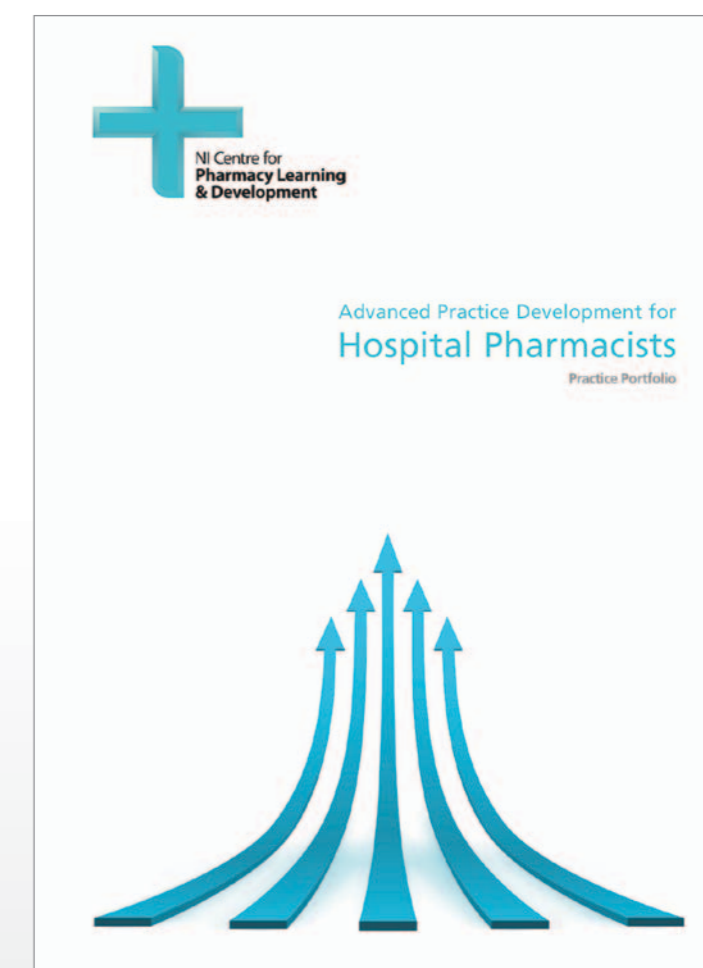
2. Education, training and development of others (24 May and 20 June 2013)

- Promoting a learning culture
- Designing effective learning programmes
- Evaluating the effectiveness of learning programmes
- Supporting individual learners
- Assessing the performance of learners using a range of methods

3. Leadership and management (19 and 20 September and 12 November 2013)

- Leading and managing an advanced / specialist pharmacy service
- Contextual considerations – local, national and international
- Developing a vision for the service
- Managing change
- Leading and managing a team
- Managing risk

Following each workshop, pharmacists will undertake self-directed learning to meet their individual learning needs, and practice activities to apply their knowledge and skills. Individuals will develop a portfolio of evidence to demonstrate their competence as an Advanced Pharmacist Practitioner at ACLF 'Excellence' level.





Pharmacogenomics

We recently emailed a survey for community pharmacists which was being conducted by a final year student (Rebecca Kennedy) from the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Ulster, Coleraine, under the co-supervision of Professor Valerie McKelvey-Martin and Dr Ruth Morrissey.

The aim of the survey was to determine the attitudes of community pharmacists on their potential involvement in the provision of pharmacogenomics-based healthcare. Current knowledge of pharmacogenomics, the potential role of pharmacists in this specialist area and their associated educational needs were all explored.

Results indicated that respondents had been registered pharmacists for an average of 12 years

with approximately half either having received no pharmacogenomics teaching as undergraduates or having no recall of having such, indicative of this being a new specialist area. Average reported perceived knowledge was low (3.4 ± 1.9 out of a score of 10), but there is willingness amongst community pharmacists to learn more about this area and even specialise, with a short accredited course being the preferred method of acknowledged qualification.



The response to this survey was very good with 134 pharmacists completing the survey. Those who did so then had the opportunity to enter a draw to win an iPad.

Congratulations to Gavin Gallagher from County Fermanagh who was the winner of the iPad.

The project team wish to take this opportunity to thank those who responded to the survey.