



news

inside

- + 5th All Ireland Pharmacy Conference
- + Independent Prescribing recruitment news

/Newsletter/September 2010/

Keynote lectures

Cardiovascular disease: drugs in focus

The theme for this term's keynote lectures will be drugs used in the management of cardiovascular disease. Each lecture will examine their mode of action, indications for use, side-effects and why some drugs are recommended in preference to others.

Statins (October 5)

Beta-blockers (October 12)

ACE inhibitors and angiotensin-II receptor antagonists (October 19)

All three lectures will be given by Professor Denis Johnston, Consultant, Belfast City Hospital and Queen's University Belfast.

Lectures will be held at NICPLD, School of Pharmacy and will run from 8.00pm – 9.30pm. Full details of these lectures can be found on www.nicpld.org and in the latest course brochure.

Car parking is available at NICPLD on the Medical Biology Centre (MBC) site and is accessed via Jubilee Road. Click **HERE** to view the location map for NICPLD.

www.nicpld.org



5th All Ireland Pharmacy Conference

Ballymascanlon House Hotel, Dundalk

February 7th and 8th 2011

The Ballymascanlon House Hotel, Dundalk is the venue for the 5th All Ireland Pharmacy Conference on 7th and 8th February 2011.

The Conference is jointly funded by the Northern Ireland Centre for Pharmacy Learning and Development (NICPLD) and the Irish Centre for Continuing Pharmaceutical Education (ICCPE). Its focus is to share good practice in pharmaceutical care across the primary and secondary care sectors: pharmacists,



technicians and qualified assistants will be encouraged to exchange ideas for pharmaceutical service development in the North and in the Republic of Ireland.

On the evening of Monday 7th February the conference dinner will take place at 8.00pm and provides an opportunity to network with colleagues. The main conference proceedings will start at 9.30am on Tuesday 8th February with a keynote address on The Role of Pharmacy in Managing Chronic Disease. The remainder of the conference will involve parallel oral sessions and poster presentations.

Continued over

Call for Abstracts

Abstracts are invited that deal with a broad range of pharmacy practice, including (but not limited to) the following areas:

- Continuing professional development (CPD)
- Good practice initiatives
- Medicines management
- New directions in pharmacy
- Patient education and empowerment
- Patient safety
- Technician initiatives.

Abstract Format

Abstracts must be no longer than one A4 page which should be submitted as a Word document using the template that can be downloaded from the NICPLD and ICCPE websites. Abstracts from

the Republic of Ireland should be emailed to info@iccpe.ie, and those from Northern Ireland should be emailed to nicpld@qub.ac.uk

Applicants should clearly indicate the corresponding and presenting author(s) and whether they wish their abstract to be considered for poster or oral presentation (10 minutes plus 5 minutes for questions).

The closing date for receipt of abstracts is 29 October 2010 and authors will be notified regarding acceptance by 30 November 2010.

Conference costs

The cost of the conference dinner on Monday 7th February 2011 will be covered by sponsorship. The day delegate rate for the conference is £40 (€50) and the cost of overnight accommodation, if required, is €90 single and €75 sharing. The conference costs for the main presenter of each oral presentation will be covered by NICPLD/ICCPE. For those presenting posters, the day delegate fee only will be covered.

Application forms will be available after 30 November 2010.





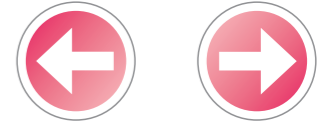
Independent Prescribing

Recruitment starts for the next intake

The next independent and supplementary prescribing course for pharmacists will start in April 2011. The closing date for applications is 6th December 2010 and there are some arrangements that you will need to make prior to starting the course.

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Independent Prescribing

How do I become an independent prescriber?

Pharmacists who wish to become independent prescribers must undertake an accredited training course. The course must follow the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (PSNI) outline curriculum and consist of a minimum of 27 days training (approx. 9 day workshops and 18 days distance learning) plus a minimum of 12 days in-practice training.

Full eligibility criteria can be downloaded from the non-medical prescribing section of the NICPLD website, however in summary, all entrants to the course must:

- be registered with PSNI as a practising pharmacist in Northern Ireland
- have at least two years post registration experience in patient orientated practice in hospital, community or primary care
- identify a clinical area in which to practise as a prescriber
- have up-to-date clinical knowledge in the area they wish to prescribe.

What does the course involve?

In Northern Ireland NICPLD provides the course on independent prescribing, which is free of charge to pharmacists. On successful completion of the course, pharmacists are awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Independent Prescribing from Queen's University, Belfast and this allows pharmacists' names to be added to the PSNI annotated register of prescribers.

The curriculum consists of six modules that will be delivered by eLearning, print- based distance learning and live workshops, over a six-month period. There is continuous assessment throughout the course, but no final examination.

How does in-practice training work?

Completion of training is dependent upon a minimum period of 12 x 7.5 hour days mentorship by a designated medical practitioner (GP or hospital consultant). This need not be completed in one block of time, but you must maintain a portfolio of your activities during the in-practice training.

The closing date for applications is 6th December 2010.

[Click here for more information and downloadable application forms](#)



Communication

Like many organisations, NICPLD increasingly relies on email communication. Thus, it is important that the email address we have for you is up-to-date. Could we ask, therefore, that if you are changing your email address that you update it in the My Account menu on the NICPLD website.

Most community pharmacists have already completed at least one accredited course (e.g. PMRs). You can find out which accredited courses you have completed on the Accredited Courses link. When you complete all parts of an accredited course we automatically send an email informing you of this.

It is important that the Health and Social Care Board, as commissioners of healthcare, are informed when a pharmacist has been accredited to provide a pharmaceutical service. Under the Data protection Act, we cannot give this information to the Board without your permission. But, in the link to My Accredited Courses you can give permission for your name to be added to the register of service providers, which can then be accessed by staff from the Health and Social Care Board.

