



## What do Community Pharmacists do?

- Work closely with GPs, nurses and other healthcare professionals to advise how to choose the correct medicine
- Ensure that new medicines are safe to use for each patient and with any medication they already take
- Make sure that patients know how to use their medicines safely and with the maximum benefit
- Provide information about potential side effects from medicines
- Monitor the effects of medicine treatment to ensure that it is safe and effective
- Advise on health conditions including those with medicine treatment for sale without prescription
- Help patients manage their long term conditions e.g. asthma, blood pressure and diabetes
- Provide NHS and private services available in the pharmacy, such as emergency hormonal contraception service, smoking cessation advice and therapy, blood pressure testing, flu vaccination, travel vaccination.
- NHS Pharmacy First is a service focused on increasing access to community pharmacy as the first port of call for managing self-limiting illnesses. During a consultation with the pharmacist or one of the pharmacy team we assess and respond to symptoms and recommend an action which may include self-care advice, the supply of an appropriate treatment or referral to another healthcare professional.

## What do I need to study pharmacy?

- To study for a Masters degree in pharmacy in Scotland at Strathclyde or Robert Gordon University, you will need good Higher grades in Chemistry, Maths, English and another science.

## What can I expect to earn as a community pharmacist?

- After completing a pre-registration year, a newly qualified pharmacist in 2020 can expect a salary in the region of £35K or above. Dependent on experience, further qualifications and geography, a community pharmacist salary can be £50k
- **Further info at:** [www.thecca.org.uk](http://www.thecca.org.uk), [www.npa.co.uk](http://www.npa.co.uk), [www.rgu.ac.uk/study/courses/883-mpharm-pharmacy](http://www.rgu.ac.uk/study/courses/883-mpharm-pharmacy), [www.strath.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/pharmacy/](http://www.strath.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/pharmacy/)

## What skills and personal characteristics do I need to be a Community Pharmacist?

### You need to be able to:

- Be accurate and methodical with strong numerical skills
- Understand and apply the law
- Be responsible, professional and of the highest integrity
- Be interested in people's health
- Supervise others and show great leadership skills
- Have good interpersonal communication and social skills including listening
- To multi-task and prioritise

## 5 reasons to become a community Pharmacist.

1. I want to help people to get well and work directly with patients
2. I want to be an important member of the healthcare team
3. I would like to be a highly respected member of my community
4. I can enjoy a wide range of career opportunities
5. I can have job mobility, stability and a good salary



## Patient

### Why should I go to the pharmacy?

- To get the medicines my doctor says I should take. The pharmacy team can advise how I can get the best from any medicines I take.
- To ask for advice on a health worry I have. The pharmacy team will advise me what to do to get better. They may provide treatment, advice or they may help me know if I need to see a doctor
- To access pharmacy services such as help with stopping smoking or sexual health advice and support



## Pharmacist

### What do I do in the pharmacy?

- I provide expert advice how to get the most benefit from taking medicines
- I advise patients how to help manage their health condition
- I provide healthcare services to support patients
- I can provide appropriate advice and treatment for minor illnesses
- I make sure medicines are supplied to high standards for safety and quality
- I support patients by contacting other health professionals when required



## Pharmacy Technician

### What do I do in the pharmacy?

- I assist the pharmacist, working in a team in a healthcare environment to support patients get medicines safely and effectively.
- I am a professional, regularly in contact with patients and other professionals
- I am responsible for my own safe practice, and keep my skills up to date
- I have a leadership role with the pharmacy team
- I manage dispensary medicine stock including ordering, and recording.
- I provide guidance to patients and support access to NHS health services



## Community Pharmacy



## Pharmacy Dispenser

### What do I do in the pharmacy?

- I select the correct medicines for patients, and prepare the correct quantity
- I produce medicine labels using the computer system
- I help manage dispensary medicine stock
- I speak to patients with information about their medicines
- I work closely with my team to ensure medicines are supplied safely



## Healthcare Assistant

### What do I do in the pharmacy?

- I am often the first member of the pharmacy team to greet patients
- I listen and ask questions to understand how best to support patients and customers
- I have the essential knowledge to be able to supply medicines for common minor conditions
- I work under the supervision of the pharmacist
- I can help people access the health services that the pharmacy provides