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# Expression of Interest –Information about the NHS England East of England Pharmacy Technician Leadership Group

1. **Introduction and Purpose** 
   1. The NHS England (NHSE) East of England (EoE) Pharmacy Technicians Leadership Group (PTLG) is to provide support to experienced pharmacy technicians, focusing on areas such as professional development, workforce recruitment issues, national guidance and developments and any other issues relating to patient care and medicines optimisation
   2. It will provide a forum for NHS England to directly engage with pharmacy technicians in senior and leadership positions to seek opinion and build engagement, with the aim of becoming more inclusive of pharmacy technician expertise and opinion.
   3. The group will act in an advisory capacity and will seek to utilise the professional views and opinions from the pharmacy technicians in the region to inform the NHSE Chief Pharmaceutical Officer’s Pharmacy Technician Professional Advisory Forum
   4. The forum will be chaired by Alishah Lakha and supported by Shingie Fundira and Michaela Aylward and will include invited members and those selected through this expression of interest process.
   5. Members will represent the broadest spectrum and diversity of pharmacy technician practice and be based on registration, subject matter expertise, inclusivity and leadership experience

# Objectives of the Pharmacy Technician Leadership Group

2.1 To draw on professional expertise and experience to advise regional pharmacy boards and individual regional groups on significant issues affecting pharmacy technicians and support staff

2.2 To help create coherent professional views and opinions on matters affecting pharmacy technician professional development to the NHSE Chief Pharmaceutical Officer’s Pharmacy Technician Professional Advisory Forum

2.3 To maximise the regional impact and uptake of pharmacy initiatives or policy changes to effect real change through a co-ordinated and informed Pharmacy Technician leadership group.

2.4 To provide a strategic forum for pharmacy technicians in the East of England, where opportunities and challenges for the pharmacy technician profession can be shared, discussed and communicated with wider regional and national groups.

2.5 To support the sharing of learning to help support pharmacy technicians in their place of work in embedding good practice, delivering the medicines optimisation agenda and ensuring patient care

2.6 To support the pharmacy technicians in the region in identifying educational and training needs pertinent to their workplace setting

2.7 To broaden diversity and opinions to help inform an inclusive approach to pharmacy technician practice.

2.8 To embed equality, diversity, and inclusion principles including diversification of the forum to reflect the composition of characteristics in the pharmacy technician workforce in the region

2.9 To communicate the work of the Pharmacy Technician Leadership Group to internal

and external stakeholders

2.1 To innovate and influence change, both within the region and on a national level

2.2 To support pharmacy technicians in their careers by providing opportunity to network and share best practice

2.3 To support professional empowerment of all pharmacy technicians as an integral part of the pharmacy team

2.4 The group will also support the delivery of the professional pharmacy aspects of the NHS Long Term Plan in the East of England

# 3. Membership Roles

3.1 The time commitments for the role be meetings of up to 2 hours held virtually using. Microsoft Teams. There may be some pre-reading of documents prior to meeting and requests for review and feedback. Members will not be given actions.

3.2 Membership and representations required as follows;

ICS pharmacy technicians ( max 2 per system)

HEE pharmacy technician representative

Pharmacy technician commissioning lead

PCN pharmacy technician lead

Mental Health pharmacy technician lead

Community services pharmacy technician representative

Health and Justice pharmacy technician representative

Pharmacy technician workforce lead

NHS England Representative

Secondary care pharmacy technician lead

Community pharmacy technician lead

Ambulance service representative

CSU representative

APTUK regional representative

Consideration will be given to other specialist and sectoral colleagues either on an ad-hoc basis as required or as members of the group.

If you have any questions, please regarding this group please contact;

Alishah Lakha - [alishah.lakha@nhs.net](mailto:alishah.lakha@nhs.net)

# 4. Application Information

4.1 Application will be through submission of the expression of interest form via the MS Forms – [here](https://forms.office.com/e/DQa2n7TEX4)

4.2 The closing date for applications will be COP **Friday 6th October 2023.** Successful expressions of interest will be followed up by **31st October 2023**

4.3 Successful applicants will be invited to accept their place on the forum by **10th November 2023** and the first meeting is due to take place **21st November via Teams 1-2.30pm**

4.4 Please note, the process of selection will be by appointment by a panel compromising;

Bianca Payton- Senior Pharmacy Programme (Pharmacy Leadership) NHS England, Chair of the Midlands pharmacy technician leadership group

Alishah Lakha – Regional Pharmacy and Medicines Project Manager, Chair of the EoE pharmacy technician leadership group

Shingie Fundira – Workforce, Training and Education Pharmacy Technician Lead for EoE – NHS England

Michaela Aylward – Controlled Drugs Pharmacy Specialist