

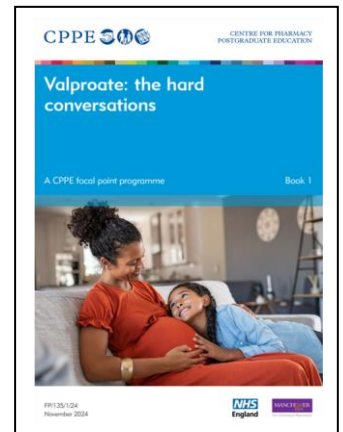
East of England team

Online workshops

New from November **Valproate: the hard conversations** – focal point – People taking valproate have told us that they want to have conversations with pharmacy professionals about valproate. We are often the most approachable and readily available point of contact for them. However, these same people have told us that pharmacy professionals can be reluctant to engage with them.

This workshop will support you to engage with people taking valproate. It has been developed using lived experience scenarios and will explore the following questions:

- What is the role of pharmacy professionals in managing valproate risk?
- What are the specific risks of taking valproate in pregnancy? Out of 100 babies exposed to valproate in pregnancy, how many of these will be born with a major birth defect or developmental disorder?
- Can you convey this information to a person and signpost them effectively using a person-centred approach to care?



Dates for this workshop include 18th (currently full) or 25th November, 3rd or 11th December, 7-8:45pm – [book here](#)

January – March - New dates for online workshops running from January to March 2025 will be released on 4th November - [click here](#) to access details of all online workshops.

New - CPPE Podcast Pharmacy Conversations is now live!

Pharmacy Conversations is dedicated to bringing you insightful discussions with leading experts and innovators who are shaping the future of our profession. Each episode covers a range of topics critical to the evolving role of pharmacy professionals. Episode one delves into the crucial topic of leadership with Jane Brown and Nicola Stockman, whilst episode two focuses on developing the role of pharmacist prescribers.



To listen to both of these new episodes, and to ensure you don't miss any of the upcoming episodes in the series, **subscribe via** [Apple podcasts](#), [Android](#) or [Spotify](#).

Did you know?

Each month CPPE will be celebrating diversity – [click here](#) to find a list of November's cultural and identity-linked celebrations and awareness days and some useful background information. Consider the relevance of these events to your own pharmacy practice.

We draw our listed events from The University of Manchester's diversity calendar. This calendar covers the six major faiths in the UK. We acknowledge that the calendar does not include every possible significant event, celebration and observance day.

If you would like to contribute a few words on implications for pharmacy practice about an event in the calendar or suggest an event that it does not cover, please contact sneha.varia@cppe.ac.uk.

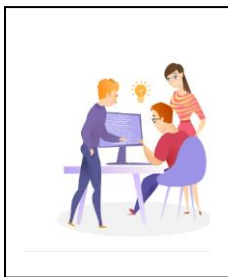
New learning programmes

- [Introduction to overprescribing](#)

The aim of this learning programme is to support you to identify overprescribing in your own area of practice and help you empower people to be more involved in decisions about their care.



New - A new website page has been launched for [Consultation skills for pharmacy practice](#)



The website is the new home for the Medicines Related Consultation Assessment Tool (MR-CAT), a tool that can be used in any area of practice and has been developed by CPPE. On the website there is e-learning on how to use the MR-CAT for direct observation of practice and as a self-assessment tool. The e-learning includes videos of two consultations and pharmacy professionals assess these using the MR-CAT and then there is a sample answer. This supports pharmacy professionals to conceptualise what good consultation skills practice looks like and gives assessors confidence in assessment decisions. We are currently working with several universities to evaluate the MR-CAT, so reach out to us via info@cppe.ac.uk if you would like your institution to

get involved.

Recent release programmes- reminder

- [Common clinical conditions](#) e-learning
- [Care homes: supporting people, optimising medicines](#) e-learning
- [CPPE resources for the NHS Pharmacy First service](#)
- [NHS Pharmacy First: Clinical assessment and examination skills](#) full-day workshop
- [Genomics in pharmacy: an introduction to person-centred consultations](#) e-learning

Optimise – new topics coming soon

This learning format provides you with clinically focused learning from experts across the country to help you optimise treatment in different topic areas. For more information click [here](#)

New topics coming soon include *Asthma biologics*, *Acute kidney injury*, *Research – getting started* and *Clinical decision making – atrial fibrillation*.

Community pharmacy technician: advancing your role: CPPE.

Our funding for this programme has been extended to March 2025 for 80 places. This programme is also open to pharmacy technicians working in the Health and Justice sector.

Accuracy checking pharmacy technician programme (ACPT)

From 1st August 2024, NHS England has funded CPPE to offer the ACPT programme for pharmacy technicians working in community pharmacy, NHS hospitals, and in Health and Justice. A total of 80 NHS-funded places are available, with 10 places on the course each month. NHS England funding for places on the ACPT programme will end when all 80 places have been allocated or by the end of March 2025. 50% of the funding has been allocated for community pharmacy and 50% for other sectors.

The ACPT programme is open to pharmacy technicians who are registered with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC), work in premises in England and who meet the entry criteria. You can check the entry criteria [here](#).

Newly qualified pharmacist programme (NewQual)

Funding has been confirmed for additional cohorts of the Newly qualified pharmacist programme. Applications for the November cohort are still open and will close on 30th November.

This programme is designed to focus on the career aspirations and learning needs of newly qualified pharmacists. Education supervisors work closely with pharmacists to identify development needs and career aspirations, creating a personalised learning pathway. Whether pharmacists are looking to change their area of practice, become Independent Prescribers, or take on leadership or managerial roles, the programme is tailored to support their goals.

Primary Care Pharmacy Education Pathway (PCPEP) update

The October newsletter can be accessed [here](#):

The latest cohort 17 began in September 2024 with 250 pharmacists and 110 pharmacy technicians. Since May 2024, we have been able to offer any remaining places to non-PCN pharmacy professionals working in GP practice or care home roles after all the PCN funded pharmacy professionals have applied. We are expecting there to be places remaining in the January cohort so, if you have pharmacy professionals who are not funded using the PCN ARRS funding please consider encouraging them to apply.

In addition to the nearly 7000 pharmacy professionals who have completed one or more of our pathways over the last 8 years, we have another 600 plus learners due to complete in the next few months.

Other updates covered in the newsletter include details of Health Innovation West Midlands Virtual Polypharmacy Workshop, RPS advanced practice pilot, plagiarism of PCPEP assessments.

Chief Pharmaceutical Officer's Pharmacy Leaders development programme

Online applications for Cohort 8 are now open and can be made by [completing this application form](#). The closing date for applications to join cohort 8 will be midday on Monday 16 December.