



Clinical lead / mentor role for the Community Pharmacy Independent Prescriber Pathfinder Programme

The Community Pharmacy Independent Prescriber Pathfinder Programme is a nationally funded programme which aims to establish a framework for the future commissioning of NHS community pharmacy clinical services incorporating independent prescribing for patients in primary care.

Community pharmacy independent prescribers have been in place for several years, but have not, to date, been commissioned to deliver NHS services, and so have been supporting patients with prescribing on a private basis. This NHS England pathfinder programme recognises that harnessing the skills and workforce capabilities of pharmacist prescribers and enhancing pharmacy technician roles would expand capacity within primary care for patients needing access to prescription only treatments.

In NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria (L&SC), we have 7 pathfinder sites, and 13+ community pharmacy independent prescribers who will be commissioned to run clinics in their community pharmacies for patients accessing services for minor illnesses and also respiratory conditions. The clinical supervision of the community pharmacy independent prescribers is the responsibility of their employers, and each pathfinder site will have a Non-Medical Prescribing (NMP) policy in place to cover these aspects.

We are seeking an ICB Clinical Lead to provide clinical leadership, oversight, support, and consultation to the community pharmacy independent prescribers in the pathfinder programme. The Clinical Lead role will comprise maximum one session per week to 31st March 2025 to support improved quality of patient care through professional practice and reflection, help to develop insights, refine care standards and to increase confidence of the community pharmacy independent prescribers.

This is an exciting opportunity to be part of a ground-breaking pathfinder programme which will be instrumental in shaping the future of community pharmacy services, and the place of community pharmacy within primary care, as well as supporting and improving collaborative working between general practice and community pharmacy; we hope that Non-Medical and Medical Prescribers across Lancashire and South Cumbria will see the value in this opportunity and apply for the role.

To find out more information please contact: lauren.butler4@nhs.net or julie.lonsdale@nhs.net.

Please apply by sending your CV with a covering letter to julie.lonsdale@nhs.net using 'Application for IP Pathfinder Clinical Lead' as the email subject. In your application, please ensure you cover your experience in supporting education and clinical mentorship for pharmacy and/or general practice. The closing date for applications will be 16th September 2024. Interviews will be via Teams, either 27th or 30th September 2024.

Julie Lonsdale
Community Pharmacy Clinical Lead
NHS L&SC

Lauren Butler
Strategic Lead
L&SC Primary Care Training Hub