

Pharmacist, Ravi Sharma

Pharmacist in General Practice

Overview

A team of 48 experienced Pharmacists existing across London who support GP Practices to deliver their new models of care. **(48 Practice Pharmacists – 18 Senior Pharmacists & 30 Junior Pharmacists)**

This team works in over 50 **GP practices**, serving a **patient** population of **over 700,000**. This team provides **training**, development and upskilling of pharmacists to take on these extended roles within GP Practices.

This team also supports the development of **pre-registration trainee placements** in general practice in collaboration with HEKSS (CEPN Pharmacy Project)

Challenge

Recognised workforce challenges in primary care are:

- Workforce capacity in general practice, GP near retirement. lack of nurses in the community, effective use of skill mix
- Increasing demand on primary care services
- Collaboration between general practice and pharmacy to share learning & expertise

Findings

Aim of the work

- Improve patient health outcomes, increase access to health care for patients, improve screening diagnosis, treatment and management of chronic and common ailments, reduce medicine wastage and overuse, reduce A&E admissions and attendances, improve patient safety and care.
- Model of care nominated for HSJ award in Primary Care and General Practice Innovation Award

Pharmacist offer

- Management of chronic conditions - health checks, early screening diagnosis treatment initiation, monitoring, follow ups and annual review.
- Home visits – particularly regards care of the elderly
- Greater efficiency of repeat prescribing process
- All medicine reviews
- Safer management of patients on high risk medications e.g. MTX and NTI drugs
- Act as a liaison between all healthcare interfaces
- Develop Junior Pharmacist roles with general practice



Alignment to workforce key findings

Outcomes

- Prescribing targets exceeded
- Improved Chronic condition outcomes, particular diabetes outcomes
- Reduced A&E visits
- Mental health care plans
- Reduced GP workload up to 30%-40% per week
- Prescribing errors reduced
- Better integration with Primary and Secondary care

Future

- Established and recognised careers pathways for Clinical Pharmacist,
- NHSE investment in pharmacy pilot
- Sharing working care models
- Inter professional learning for all
- An integrated model between primary and secondary care
- Engage more with commissioners, providers HCPs, patient & voluntary organisations to promote the role of pharmacy

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