

## APPENDIX 1

# Procedure For Non-Medical Prescribers Application And Post Qualification Requirements

## 1. Eligibility for Non-Medical Prescribing Training

1.1 To be accepted for entry onto the non-medical prescribing programme the NMP applicant must have agreement of the service manager and line manager and be able to demonstrate that their post is one in which they will have the need and opportunity to act as either an independent or supplementary prescriber. They must have completed a NMP Proposal Form (See [Appendix 3](#)) signed by the Divisional NMP Lead. All applicants must have a DBS completed in the previous 3 years starting the course.

### 1.2 Nurses

1.2.1 These are first level nurses registered with the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) working in a role where there is a need to prescribe regularly as an independent prescriber from an identified formulary or as a supplementary prescriber in a post where they will have the opportunity to work in partnership with an independent medical practitioner using a CMP.

1.2.2 Nurses must have:

- At least 3 years post registration clinical experience or part time equivalent, of which at least one year immediately preceding their application to the training programme should be in the clinical area in which they intend to prescribe.
- Be band 6 or above to prescribe
- Have identified medical practitioner who is willing to contribute to and supervise 12 days of learning practice
- Support from their manager for CPD as described in the policy
- Prior competencies in the therapeutic area/areas in which they will prescribe

### 1.3 Pharmacists

1.3.1 Eligible Pharmacists registered to practice with the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC) in a post where they will have the opportunity to prescribe regularly as an independent prescriber from an identified formulary, or as a supplementary prescriber in a post where they will have the opportunity to work in partnership with a DMP using a CMP.

1.3.2 Pharmacists must have:

- 3 or more years post registration experience
- 2 years post registration experience or part time equivalent in the field they are going to prescribe in (See [Appendix 3](#))

- A post graduate qualification in mental health or equivalent experience in mental health if working in this area
- An identified medical practitioner to contribute to and supervise 12 days of learning practice
- Support from their manager for CPD
- Prior competencies in the therapeutic area/areas in which they will be expected to prescribe

#### 1.4 Allied Health Professionals

1.4.1 Chiropodists / podiatrists, physiotherapists and therapeutic radiographers may complete additional post-registration training to become supplementary and independent prescribers.

1.4.2 Allied Health Professionals must have:

- At least 3 years post registration clinical experience or part time equivalent, of which at least one year immediately preceding their application to the training programme should be in the clinical area in which they intend to prescribe.
- Be band 6 or above to prescribe.
- Have identified medical practitioner who is willing to contribute to and supervise 12 days of learning practice.
- Support from their manager for CPD as described in the policy.
- Prior competencies in the therapeutic area/areas in which they will prescribe.

## 2. Application Process

2.1 The Trust will use 3 key principles to prioritise potential applicants for NMP:

- Service user safety
- Maximum benefit to service users in terms of quicker and more efficient access to medicines
- Use of professional skills

2.2 The service manager and the nominee for the NMP course will develop the case for NMP within their service. NMP Proposal Form (See [Appendix 3](#)) must be completed by the service manager, DMP and NMP nominee and forwarded to the NMP Lead for the Trust who will take the proposal and consider if it can be supported in practice. Following confirmation of selection for the NMP course by the Trust NMP Lead, the potential NMP nominee will then complete and pass the online numeracy assessment. Access to the online numeracy assessment is via the Trust NMP Lead. Access to the application packs to apply to the higher education institutes (HEI) should also be accessed from the Trust NMP Lead. Completed application forms should be returned to the Trust NMP Lead for final approval and signature. The Trust NMP Lead will then forward the application form to the chosen HEI and inform the Trust Learning and Development Department.

2.3 An application for funding if applicable should be made through the Trust Learning and Development Department.

### **3. Preparation for Independent/supplementary (V300) Prescribing for Pharmacists/nurses/physiotherapists/chiropractors/podiatrists/therapeutic radiographers**

3.1 A total of 26 days at a HEI ( higher education Institution), this can be either face to face or by open learning, plus 12 supervised days in practice with a DMP is the requirement for training. Successful completion of the course will lead to independent/supplementary prescriber annotation to the register of the GPhC or NMC register.

- Observe prescribing in action
- Have in depth discussion and analysis of clinical management using real cases from practice to enable prescribing behavior to be fully examined
- Learn by encouraging critical thinking and reflection with the use of the student's professional portfolio or learning log
- Carry out consultations and suggest clinical management plans and prescribing options which can then be discussed and agreed with the DMP
- Learn and practice in relation to the medical conditions and clinical specialty in which the NMP student is working.

3.2 Doctors who are to act as medical supervisors can seek guidance on the expectations required when performing this role from the Trust NMP Lead, and prior to commencing the role of DMP will receive details of the programme and learning outcomes. A DMP is only required throughout the duration of training but all NMP's must have a suitably qualified prescribing supervisor identified post training.

### **4. Post Qualification of NMP**

4.1 Non- Medical Prescribing in Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust

- Once a nurse, pharmacist or allied health professional has successfully completed the NMP course, the HEI will inform the relevant professional body and the newly qualified NMP must supply a copy of their qualification to their line manager and Trust NMP Lead.
- It is the responsibility of the newly qualified NMP to register their qualification with their own professional body.
- The job description of a newly qualified NMP should be reviewed to reflect his or her prescribing responsibilities in the scope of practice. This is the responsibility of the NMP and their line manager (See [Appendix 6](#)).
- NMP's should not commence prescribing until contact is made with the Divisional NMP Lead and an Approval to Practice / Registration Form as an NMP is completed (See [Appendix 5](#)). The Chief Pharmacist will sign and approve the form for pharmacists and the Head of Nursing for nurses; a copy will be held by the Trust NMP Lead. Copies will be circulated to the NMP, Pharmacy Department, Divisional NMP Lead and Line Manager.
- NMP's will also need to complete an Declaration of Competence to Practice Form at this time (See [Appendix 7](#))
- Following qualification there will be a period of preceptorship. The length of time of the preceptorship will be agreed with the line manager, the independent prescriber NMP Supervisor and NMP Divisional Lead

## **5. Supplementary Prescribing**

- 5.1 Diagnostic radiographers and dietitians may complete additional post-registration training to become supplementary prescribers. Nurses may complete the Community Practitioner Nurse (V150) Prescribing Course. All applicants should have 2 years relevant post qualification experience.

## **6. To be eligible to prescribe within Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust the NMP will be a first level registered nurse, registered pharmacist or registered allied health professional who has:**

- Successfully completed a validated prescribing training programme
- Their name recorded on the appropriate professional register
- A job description that includes the prescribing role (See [Appendix 6](#))
- Their name recorded on Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust's NMP register
- Access to appropriate clinical and prescribing supervision
- On going annual Declaration of Competence (See [Appendix 7](#)) is submitted in a timely manner to the NMP co-coordinator