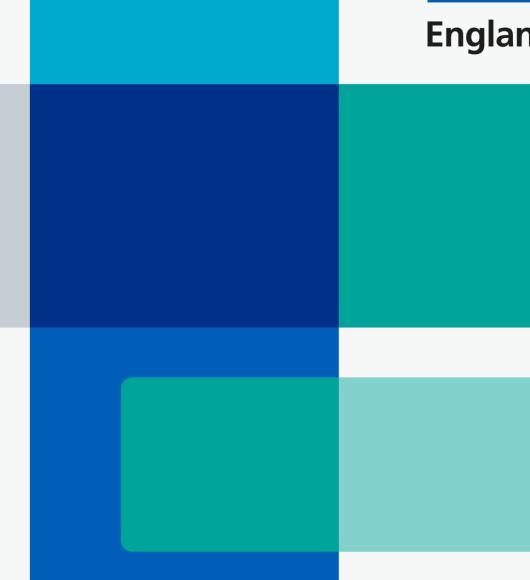


Lived experience: Pharmacists as DPPs



Annant Damani – Specialist adult cystic fibrosis pharmacy, Frimley Park, part of Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust



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How did you start getting involved?

Someone approached me who had a generalist role, so was finding it hard to find a consultant to be their DMP. The pharmacist had an interest in cystic fibrosis so thought I would take it on.

What are the benefits and challenges of being a DPP?

Being a DPP develops the profession and promotes pharmacy to the multi-disciplinary team. It's also really nice watching a colleague develop and grow. Prescribing pharmacists tend to be motivated students too!

What resources have you found to be useful as a DPP?

The RPS prescriber competency framework is a good reference point. The University of Reading have an online programme which I found very useful.

How do you maintain your DPP competency?

I'm an active prescriber so do clinics most days. Being a DPP is now part of my job description and part of the appraisal process for me.

What advice would you give to someone considering taking on the DPP role?

Being a DPP can be enjoyable and fulfilling.

Most pharmacists will be prescribers in a few years, but currently there are few pharmacist DPPs, so being a DPP can help you stand out from the crowd at the recruitment stage.

Kayt Blythin – Principal clinical pharmacist for medicines optimisation for care homes at Sussex Community NHS Foundation



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How did you start getting involved?

We have pharmacists undergoing the CPPE
Primary Care Pharmacy Education
Programme. Because I had more than three
years' experience, I was able to support them.

What are the benefits and challenges of being a DPP?

The biggest benefit is supervising people within my team. It is a natural extension of a clinical supervision role. Being a DPP for pharmacists not directly part of the team can be challenging.

What resources have you found to be useful as a DPP?

The RPS prescribing competency framework.

I have turned this into a RAG document.

How do you maintain your DPP competency?

I maintain my DPP competency by attending introductory DPP briefing provided by the University and also via the e-learning course HealthVLE - My Courses

What advice would you give to someone considering taking on the DPP role?

It is a natural extension of a clinical leadership role within pharmacy workforce, and it is where pharmacy is going. It is great fun and incredible rewarding.

Maureen Aruede – Community pharmacist in Dover, Kent



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How did you start getting involved?

I volunteered to be a DPP due to the challenges of finding one for a locum pharmacist. I have previous experiences of being a 'pre-reg tutor' and mentoring other community pharmacists.

What are the benefits and challenges of being a DPP?

Being a DPP allows you to support others, therefore is both satisfying and rewarding. Challenges are time pressures for both the DPP and learner.

What resources have you found to be useful as a DPP?

The RPS prescribing competency framework.

I familiarised myself with the competencies for the course because this was slightly different for each university.

How do you maintain your DPP competency?

The RPS prescribing competency framework.

I have also kept my own portfolio.

What advice would you give to someone considering taking on the DPP role?

It is a rewarding role. Helping and supporting others to become prescribers is something you can be proud of.

Sarah Trust – Prescribing support pharmacist at Chapel Street Surgery, Newhaven, East Sussex



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How did you start getting involved?

I was approached to be a DPP by a former colleague who knew I was a prescriber. I had previous experiences of being a 'pre-reg' tutor.

What are the benefits and challenges of being a DPP?

Being a DPP is rewarding and immensely gratifying. I feel that I am influencing the direction of the pharmacy discipline. The challenge is not working directly with the pharmacist, but we have overcome this.

What resources have you found to be useful as a DPP?

The <u>RPS prescribing competency framework</u>. My own experience of working in hospital and

now in primary care – plus my previous broad experience and connections.

How do you maintain your DPP competency?

I regularly review my own clinical competency.

I have kept a portfolio from when I first qualified as a prescriber till now.

What advice would you give to someone considering taking on the DPP role?

It's very rewarding!