

# **Glossary of terms used in our standards**

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## About us

The General Pharmaceutical Council is the regulator for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and registered pharmacy premises in England, Scotland and Wales. You can learn more at [www.pharmacyregulation.org](http://www.pharmacyregulation.org)

## Glossary of terms used in our standards

**assemble** means putting a medicinal product in a container which is labelled before the product is sold or supplied. If the medicinal product is already in the container in which it is to be sold or supplied, assemble means labelling the container before the product is sold or supplied. The legal definition of assemble can be found section 132 of the Medicines Act 1968

**approval** is the process through which we recognise qualifications and programmes that meet our education and training standards.

**awarding body** is an organisation responsible for the standards of delivery and assessment and award of a qualification approved by us that is included in a national qualifications framework.

**body corporate** is a limited company or limited liability partnership that has been incorporated with Companies House.

**colleagues** includes any individuals who pharmacy professionals work with. This includes students, support workers and other professionals.

**competence** is the requirement for a pharmacy professional to properly perform their role. It is a combination of skills, knowledge, character and health.

**continuing professional development** is the process by which pharmacy professionals keep up-to-date through learning.

**conscientious objection** is the refusal to provide pharmacy services due to religious or moral beliefs.

**delegate** is when a pharmacy professional asks someone else, such as a colleague or student, to carry out a task on their behalf.

**dispensing** is the process from receipt of a prescription to the supply of the dispensed medicine to the patient.

**fit to practise** is when someone has the skills, knowledge, character and health to do their job safely and effectively. This should not be confused with being fit to work.

**internet services** includes the supply of medicines, pharmaceutical products, medical devices and the provision of other professional services over the internet, or arrangements for the supply of such products or provision of such services over the internet.

**learning hours** includes all the time needed to achieve a unit of study and includes directed study, homework, assessment time and preparation time.

**learning outcomes** include knowledge, skills, attitudes and values demonstrated at a defined level.

**manufacture** includes any process carried out in the course of making a medicinal product. The legal definition of manufacture can be found in section 132 of the Medicines Act 1968

**medical device** means an article which is intended to be used for human beings or animals for the purpose of

- diagnosis, prevention, monitoring, treatment or alleviation of disease,
- diagnosis, monitoring, treatment, alleviation of or compensation for an injury or handicap,
- investigation, replacement or modification of the anatomy or of a physiological process, or
- control of conception

and does not achieve its purpose by pharmacological, immunological or metabolic means. The legal definition of medical device can be found in section 132 of the Medicines Act 1968

**medicinal products and medicines** means any substance or article (which is not a medical device) which is given to human beings or animals for a medicinal purpose. This includes prescription only medicines (POM), pharmacy medicines (P) and general sales list medicines (GSL) and all medicines listed as controlled drugs (CD). Pharmacy medicines and general sales list medicines are sometimes referred to as 'over the counter' medicines (OTC). The legal definition of medicinal products can be found in section 132 of the Medicines Act 1968

**medicinal purpose** means

- treating or preventing disease,
- diagnosing disease
- ascertaining the existence, degree or extent of a physiological condition,

- contraception,
- inducing anaesthesia or
- otherwise preventing or interfering with the normal operation of a physiological function

The legal definition of medicinal purpose can be found in section 132 of the Medicines Act 1968

**owner** is

- an individual pharmacist (sole trader),
- a pharmacist partnership,
- a partnership in Scotland where only one partner must be a pharmacist,
- a body corporate that owns a retail pharmacy business, or
- a representative of the above in the event of death or bankruptcy.

In a hospital the owner may be a Trust.

**patient** is a person or animal who receives care or treatment from a health professional

**patients and the public** includes any individuals or groups, patients, customers, clients and their animals who use, or are affected by pharmacy services, advice or other services provided directly or indirectly by pharmacy professionals.

**person carrying on a retail pharmacy business** is the pharmacist or pharmacists that owns the business, or in the case of a body corporate, the superintendent pharmacist. In a hospital this may be the Chief Pharmacist.

**pharmacy professional** means a pharmacist or registered pharmacy technician

**pharmacy student** in the standards for initial education and training of pharmacists is an MPharm student studying on a pharmacy course accredited by us.

It does not mean a pharmacy technician studying on a course accredited by us who is a pre-registration trainee pharmacy technician.

**pharmacy services** means the activities, advice, products, treatment or care that is provided in a registered pharmacy

**position of authority** is when a pharmacy professional has management responsibilities in connection with carrying on a retail pharmacy business.

**pre-registration scheme** is the 52 weeks of professional training completed by prospective pharmacists called pre-registration trainee pharmacists.

**pre-registration trainee pharmacy technician** is a person who is undertaking education and training to become a pharmacy technician.

**pre-registration trainee pharmacist** is a person enrolled on our pre-registration scheme.

**pre-registration tutor** in the standards for initial education and training of pharmacists is a person who is acting as a pre-registration trainee pharmacist's tutor. A tutor must be registered as a pharmacist with us. Tutors sign off trainees as being fit to practise towards the end of the pre-registration scheme.

It does not mean a pharmacy student's university personal tutor or, in the standards for the initial education and training of pharmacy technicians, a pre-registration trainee pharmacy technician's tutor.

**professional services** means the activities, advice, products, treatment or care that pharmacy professionals provide.

**registered pharmacy** is a premises entered in the register

**responsible pharmacist** is a pharmacist who is responsible for pharmacy procedures of registered pharmacy for the purposes of the Responsible Pharmacist Regulations 2008. The responsible pharmacist is recorded in the pharmacy record of the registered pharmacy.

**retail pharmacy business** is a business which consists of or includes the retail sale of medicinal products other than medicinal products on a general sale list, whether medicinal products on such a list are sold in the course of that business or not. Some hospitals and trusts have retail pharmacies within them. The legal definition of retail pharmacy business can be found in section 132 of the Medicines Act 1968.

**superintendent pharmacist** is a pharmacist who is a superintendent of a retail pharmacy business owned by a body corporate. In hospitals this may be the chief pharmacist.

**training provider** is an organisation responsible for the delivery, assessment and award of qualification for a programme approved by us, or an organisation approved by an awarding body to deliver and assess a qualification included in a national qualifications framework approved by us. This can be a college or private training provider.