CPD planned learning form – military pharmacy

1. What are you planning to learn?

I was approached by the Regional Occupational Health Consultant for a summary of the potential benefits of a new anti-coagulant over traditional anti-coagulants for military personnel deploying to austere environments. There are strict rules governing military personnel’s fitness for deployment, and the new anti-coagulant is currently subject to additional monitoring, i.e. a black triangle drug. It is unusual for military personnel to be prescribed this type of drug. Therefore, there is currently no policy on deployment of personnel whilst taking this medication. My contribution to policy will be used nationally and internationally to assess individual’s fitness to deploy on military service in specific environments.

2. How are you planning to learn it?

- Review of:
  1) product characteristics
  2) NICE Technology Appraisals
  3) Patient notes of the specific patient that triggered the inquiry
  4) Internal policy documents on health grading and deployability
- Discuss the issues arising with military colleagues to gain their perspective on deployment.
- Draw together a briefing paper to discuss with Regional Occupational Health Consultant and Surgeon General’s department

3. Give an example of how this learning has benefited the people using your services.

The briefing paper I produced recommended that military personnel should not be considered for active deployments, but may be considered for deployment to firm base with suitable medical facilities. Policy for deployment for individuals taking this medication has been published. Occupational Health and Medical Officers now have clear guidance on if an individual taking this medication may deploy. The initial patient has not been exposed to unnecessary risk whilst deployed.