

Feedback from the June 2018 registration assessment

About this document

This document contains feedback drawn from candidate performance in the General Pharmaceutical Council's (GPhC's) June 2018 registration assessment. It is from the Board of Assessors, the body that sets and moderates the registration assessment. It is aimed at pre-registration trainee pharmacists, pre-registration tutors and anyone involved in pharmacist education and training.

The registration assessment framework

All questions in the registration assessment are derived from the assessment framework. The different outcomes have different weighting and candidates should use the framework as the basis for preparation. Many questions in the assessment will concern patients who have co-morbidities and these questions are mapped across multiple parts of the framework.

Part 1

Candidates performed well in questions testing the ability to calculate doses and quantities to supply.

Candidates performed less well in questions that related to:

- those involving the part 1 resource pack as some candidates omitted these questions
- those requiring rounding within the calculation

Normal mathematical rules about rounding apply to the registration assessment. Candidates must read each question carefully and consider for each question where any rounding should occur. In some questions, the rounding should occur at the end of the calculation, but in other questions rounding should occur earlier in the calculation. For example, when calculating the total amount of a medicine that should be supplied, rounding should occur for an individual dose before calculating a final amount. If a question asks for the number of vials required to provide a dose and the candidate calculates 3.2, then 4 vials are needed to provide the required dose. In some questions, specific rounding instructions are provided. For example, a dose may be rounded to the nearest mL for ease of administration or specific instruction may be given to round up or round down.

Candidates should check that each answer makes sense.

Part 2

Candidates performed well in questions testing:

- extraction of information on the frequency of side effects from the provided SPCs
- when to report an ADR using a Yellow Card except for questions about well-established but serious side effects
- the treatment of hypertension

Candidates performed less well in questions testing:

- decision making when a patient presents with symptoms in a pharmacy. Candidates are expected to know when evidence based treatment can be recommended and when patients should be referred.

Answer Sheets

Whilst most candidates filled in their answer sheets as directed, some candidates did not fill in the answer sheets clearly. Marks cannot be awarded if the answer is not clear. Candidates should ensure that numbers in part 1 are clearly written and that answers in part 2 are clearly marked on the answer sheet.

In these examples, from June 2018, the intended answer is not clear.

				1	2	.	5		

 % v/v 

				1	.				

 mL 

Numbers must be entered in the correct place using the pre-entered decimal point. For example, if the answer is 1292, the following is not correct and the candidate will not be awarded a mark:

1	2	9	2			.			

 mmol 

The feedback from previous sittings is available at:

<https://www.pharmacyregulation.org/51-registration-assessment-preparation>