



Dear Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacy Technicians and Educational Supervisors,

We understand that you have questions and concerns about your current pre-registration training, as well as any potential delays to your registration that may result from the COVID 19 pandemic.

We know that both trainees and educational supervisors are working extremely hard in very challenging circumstances to help the pharmacy team and patients and the public. We would like to **thank you all for your significant contribution**.

### Managing the impact on pre-registration training and registration

Please be assured we are working hard, in collaboration with employers, education providers, awarding organisations and apprenticeship organisations, to aid decision making about any reasonable adjustments that may need to be made to allow for any breaks in training that are **fair to trainees and recognise the significant pressures that community pharmacies and hospitals are under** now and in the months to come.

Before making any final decisions, we need to make sure we have considered fully the implications of any potential actions.

We will provide updates as soon as we possibly can but in the meantime, we would encourage you as much as possible to try not to worry and to **focus on the important role you are playing in supporting patients** during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Your training plan and GPhC training requirements

We fully understand that as a pre-registration trainee, during the pandemic you will often not be able to follow your training plan, attend study sessions and complete your weekly activities and meet objectives. We also understand that you may be working in a different location or being supervised by staff and healthcare professionals other than your educational supervisor.

We would **encourage educational supervisors and training managers to take a flexible and proportionate approach in relation to training plans**. We would also highlight the **[recent joint guidance on pre-registration training](#)** issued by Health Education England, Health Education and Improvement Wales, and NHS Education Scotland which may help educational supervisors to support trainees.

We realise that you may have to self-isolate and take a break from your training if you think you may have COVID 19 and, if you do, this will not affect the validity of your training plan. Should you need to do this, keep in touch with your educational supervisor while you are in isolation.

Should you have any questions, we would encourage you to submit these to the **<https://healtheducationyh.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/draft-pre-registration-pharmacist-questions-covid-19-tra>**. This will help with ensuring that all of your concerns are addressed.

We want to reassure you that we are taking all of these issues into consideration as part of our work to manage the impact of the pandemic on your training.

Once again, thank you for all your hard work, and be assured that **we will update you as soon as possible**.

Best wishes



Duncan Rudkin  
Chief Executive & Registrar

General Pharmaceutical Council



Liz Fidler  
President

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