

Dr Josie Solomon

Head of School

School of Pharmacy, University of Lincoln

by email: JSolomon@lincoln.ac.uk

Cc Dr Ian Heslop, Deputy Head of School/Director of Pharmacy Education, IHeslop@lincoln.ac.uk

29 April 2021

Dear Dr Solomon

## **Re: MPharm degree with preparatory year**

As you will be aware, from the current academic year onwards the GPhC will be accrediting Master of Pharmacy (MPharm) degrees with a preparatory year separately to the MPharm degree. This will allow us to have an increased oversight of the variations of the MPharm degree that lead to registration this us, and provide greater transparency and clarity to prospective students and other stakeholders. Prior to this, the GPhC has taken assurance that the 4-year MPharm degree that sits within this wider course is fully accredited by the GPhC.

As accreditation events occur on a cyclical basis, and therefore not all schools of pharmacy are due an accreditation event during the 2020-21 academic year, we asked for schools offering this course type, but not due an accreditation event, to provide a written submission against the standards for assurance of the course provision in the interim period.

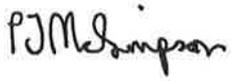
Thank you for providing submission documentation and accompanying evidence relating to the MPharm degree with a preparatory year provided by the University of Lincoln ('MPharm with Science Foundation Year'). Following review of this, I am satisfied that it remains suitable for you to continue offering this course until they can undergo accreditation at your next event. This versions of your MPharm degree continues to be a course accepted for registration as a pharmacist with the GPhC in the interim period.

From July 2021, the pre-registration training year will be replaced with the foundation training year, and initial changes will take place as a first step towards the full implementation of the foundation training year from 2026-27 onwards. Going forwards, to make sure that the title of your MPharm degree with preparatory year course is not misleading (given that GPhC-accredited 5-year MPharm degrees with integrated foundation training will be available), you may wish to consider reviewing the title of the course.

At the next event, your MPharm degree with preparatory year will undergo a formal accreditation process, alongside the reaccreditation of your MPharm degree. This will be to the **Standards for the initial education and training of pharmacists, 2021**.

I will be in touch in due course to discuss arrangements for your next MPharm accreditation event. If you have any questions in the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PJMcsimpson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot above the 'i' in 'Simpson'.

**Philippa McSimpson**

**Quality Assurance Manager**

**E [philippa.mcsimpson@pharmacyregulation.org](mailto:philippa.mcsimpson@pharmacyregulation.org) | T 0203 713 7974**