Learning points from the June 2016 registration assessment

About this document
This document contains learning points drawn from candidate performance in the General Pharmaceutical Council’s (GPhC’s) June 2016 registration assessment. It has been released by the Board of Assessors, the independent 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 a basis for preparation.

Part one learning points
Candidates performed well in questions testing the ability to calculate doses and quantities to supply, particularly in relation to oral medicines.
Candidates performed less well in questions that related to infusion rates and in questions where dose rounding was required to calculate an individual dose before calculating the total supply needed.
Sometimes candidates gave answers that were incorrect by a factor of 10.

Part two learning points
Candidates performed well in questions testing:

- calculation ability
- pharmacy legislation
- identification of skin conditions
- side effects of common medicines

Candidates performed less well in questions testing:

- consequences of drug interactions
- knowledge of when clinical tests are indicated
- the equivalent dose of different opiates when a patient is changing from one opiate to another
- the differences between an adverse drug reaction and an allergy, particularly in relation to antibiotic prescribing
- understanding of statistical terms
- when and how adverse drug reactions should be reported
- rationale for considering when medicines should be discontinued
- hierarchy of evidence on which to base clinical decisions

The learning points from previous sittings are available at
www.pharmacyregulation.org/education/pharmacist-pre-registration-training/trainees/registration-assessment/assessment

**Answer sheets**

Most candidates filled in the answer sheets correctly.

Guidance on completing the answer sheets is available at
www.pharmacyregulation.org/sites/default/files/gphc_registration_assessment_example_answer_sheet_part_1.pdf