

PHARMACISTS IN DISPENSING GP PRACTICES

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THE SMORGASBORD

- Practice Manager
 - GP surgeries are small businesses, hence the need for practice managers.
 - Practice managers are in charge of the day to day running of the business, allowing the Doctors more time to focus on the care and well being of patients.
- Responsibilities of the Practice manager:
 - Staff Management
 - Health and safety
 - Patient welfare (complaints)
 - Management of Practice finances
 - Management of premises

General Practitioner

- Role of the General Practitioner:
 - Ensure safe prescribing
 - Medication Review
 - Repeat Dispensing
 - Home visits

Practice Nurse

- Role of the Practice Nurse:
 - Supply and administration of medicines under a PGD
 - Vaccination
 - Minor Surgery
 - Family planning
 - Dressings
 - Phlebotomy
 - HRT

Dispensary



- Very well regulated with Dispense it software.
- No onsite Pharmacist or Pharmacy technician.
- Mostly for repeat dispensing, therefore less need for counselling as most patients have been on the same medication for a long period.
- Ordering repeat prescriptions.
- Good staff

Shortcomings

- Lack of adequate counselling
- Clinical intervention
- Up to date guidelines on monitoring
- Training

GP placements as part of Pre-registration training?

- An 8 week placement just as designed for this pilot
- An opportunity to experience first hand how repeat prescriptions are ordered.
- An opportunity to sit in with doctors and experience how they deal with minor ailments.
- An opportunity to sit in with receptionists and experience how they deal with queries from patients and pharmacies

Potential Benefits

- Liaising with other sectors with regards to medicines management.
- Diverting all appointments for medicines review and repeat dispensing to the Pharmacist Clinic.
- Managing polypharmacy.
- Implementing up to date monitoring guidelines.
- Providing adequate counseling.

Challenges

- Cost
 - General Practice being a business, cost is BIG factor because of the NHS cuts.
- Change
- Politics

Conclusion

- The placement was a very educative experience.
- There is a need for Pharmacists input in General Practice.
- Two to three days Pharmacist Clinics would be cost effective.