



Pharmacy Quality Scheme – Summary of the training requirements for the 2025/26 Scheme

This resource provides a summary of the training requirements which are included in the 2025/26 Pharmacy Quality Scheme (PQS).

Validity of training

There is a requirement in the 2025/26 Scheme that may mean that pharmacy professionals are required to repeat training and e-assessments that they have completed previously, depending on the stated validity period and when pharmacy professionals completed the training and e-assessments. The table on page 2 details the validity periods and the dates in which the training and e-assessments must have been completed within.

New staff or staff returning from maternity leave

Where new pharmacy professionals who have recently joined the pharmacy or staff returning from long term leave, for example maternity leave, have not undertaken the required training and assessment by 31st March 2026, the pharmacy owner can count them as having completed the training and assessment, if the pharmacy owner has a training plan in place to ensure they satisfactorily complete the training and assessment within 30 days of the day of the declaration or by 31st March 2026, whichever is the later. This training plan and demonstrable evidence of completion of the training and assessment, within 30 days of the day of the declaration or 31st March 2026 (as appropriate), must be retained at the pharmacy to demonstrate they are meeting this criterion.

Evidence of meeting the training criteria

An electronic certificate of completion of the training will be provided following the completion of each of the e-assessments. Pharmacy owners must keep a copy of the personalised certificate for each member of staff as evidence that the training and e-assessment has been completed. **This evidence must be retained for three years for post-payment verification purposes.**

Since there is no e-assessment for the CPPE Consulting with people with mental health problems, pharmacists will need to confirm completion of the e-learning in their CPPE record. When a pharmacist has confirmed completion, they will be able to download a certificate of study.

Pharmacists will need to locate the CPPE Consulting with people with mental health problems e-learning programme, select 'Certificate of study' and confirm they have completed the e-learning programme to download the certificate.

Summary of the 2025/26 PQS training requirements (full details of the requirements are published in the Drug Tariff)

Domain	Training and assessment (where applicable)	Who needs to complete it?	Pharmacists	Pharmacy technicians	Trainee pharmacists	Trainee pharmacy technicians	Period in which training & assessment must have been completed
Medicines optimisation	<u>CPPE Consulting with people with mental health problems e-learning</u> (there is no e-assessment)	Pharmacists	✓		Recommended but not required		1st April 2022 – 31st March 2026
	<u>CPPE Emergency contraception e-learning and e-assessment</u>	All pharmacists and any pharmacy technicians intending to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service	✓	✓*	Recommended but not required	Recommended but not required*	1st April 2023 – 31st March 2026
Pharmacy First	<u>CPPE sepsis e-learning and e-assessment</u>	Registered pharmacy professionals	✓	✓	Recommended but not required	Recommended but not required	1st April 2024 – 31st March 2026

*Only pharmacy technicians intending to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service need to complete this training. Trainee pharmacy technicians who are intending to provide the Pharmacy Contraception Service when they qualify as a pharmacy technician can choose to complete the training but this is not a requirement of the scheme.