

Summary of Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland's correspondence during COVID

27 November – Joint statement to pharmacy workforce from the CPOs and Regulators

General supporting letter confirming that there is expectation that employers, statutory education bodies, professional bodies, national NHS and health and social care organisations to be flexible in terms of their approach to pharmacists making judgements during COVID. Healthcare professional regulators, including the GPhC and PSNI, have committed to take into account factors relevant to the environment in which the professional is working, including relevant information about resources, guidelines or protocols in place at the time

14 September – CPD Requirements for CPD year 2020/21

Update on number of hours required for CPD for 20/21

31 July – Pre-Registration update

Details of planned second examination

29 July – Letter to Pharmacists concerning the sale and supply of COVID-19 rapid antibody testing kits

Reminder of MHRA position

9 July – Trevor Patterson, CEO and Interim Registrar, has made the following announcement concerning CPD submissions for 2019/20

Confirming three month delay in submission date

19 June – Health and Well Being reminder

Links for support

17 June – Registration Examination – Tuesday 11 August 2020

Application process open

1 May – Registration Examination process 2020

Confirmation of August examination date

30 April – Application process to Register as a Pre-registration Trainee Pharmacist in 2020-21 now open

Confirmation of training date starting 1 July 2020

24 April – Covid-19 Temporary Register application process (for pharmacists) now open

Details of options for registration during COVID

23 April – Use of powers for temporary registration of persons under the Pharmacy (NI) Order 1976, as modified by the Coronavirus Act 2020

Detailed explanation of powers under Pharmacy Order as modified by Coronavirus Act 2020 (temporary registration)

10 April – Covid-19 Pre-registration Update

Notification of n going discussions on possible way forward.

09 April – Welcome for RPS Ethical Decision-Making Framework

Link to RPS decision-making framework during COVID impact

09 April – Statement on Collection and Delivery Services

Notification of considerations to be taken when using volunteer support

08 April – Clarifying Statement – Regulatory Approach

Statement clarifying previous statement (18 March) on RP position during COVID

03 April – Covid-19 Temporary Register Now Operational

Notification that 250 previously registered pharmacists now on temporary register

31 March – Delay in Pharmacist Retention Process 2020

Extension of registration year to 31 August with corresponding shortening of 20//21.

30 March – Our approach to Fitness to Practise during the Covid-19 Pandemic

Details of how cases will be managed and a restating of general approach of regulators during COVID

30 March – Joint statement on Social Distancing in pharmacies

Statement directing pharmacists to assess provisions for social distancing in workplace

30 March – Personal Protective Equipment PPE Update to service

Copy of letter from CMO re PPE

27 March – Pre-registration Training and Covid-19

Confirmation that PSNI recognise that pharmacists will need to make professional judgements in relation to training and assessment and that PSNI will take a pragmatic view on submission.

26 March – PSNI GPhC Joint Statement – Pre-registration Training 2020

Notification of postponement of June/October exams. Date to be confirmed.

25 March – Pre-registration Training and Covid-19

Statement encouraging tutors to use professional judgement in respect of training and assessment.

24 March – Covid-19 Temporary Register

Notification of intention to set up temporary register

19 March 2020 – Postponement of 2020 CPD Submission

Confirmation that the June submission date is postponed, and a new date will be confirmed. Confirmation too that the introduction of new CPD framework is deferred to 2021

19 March 2020 – FAQs – Postponement of 2020 CPD Submission

Short set of FAQs (5) on CPD submission

19 March 2020 – Coronavirus (Covid 19) and Pre-registration Training

Notification that matter is under consideration

19 March 2020 – Pre-registration Tutor Course 2020 – Postponement

Tutor course postponed

18 March 2020 – Joint statement from the GPhC and the Pharmaceutical Society NI

Statement in respect of RP subsequently corrected.

03 March 2020 – Joint regulators' statement Covid19

Joint statement from 11 regulatory bodies confirming that the regulators recognise that the individuals on registers may feel anxious about how context is taken into account when concerns are raised about their decisions and actions in very challenging circumstances. The statement confirmed that where a concern is raised about a registered professional, it will always be considered on the specific facts of the case, taking into account the factors relevant to the environment in which the professional is working. Regulators would also take account of any relevant information about resource, guidelines or protocols in place at the time.

