

Pharmacy Qualifications Support Team (QST)

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 11 June 2026 (via Microsoft Teams)

Present

Angela Cannon (NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde), Colin Sinclair (NHS Fife), Jonathan Gillies (Qualifications Scotland), Jordan Gulland (Qualifications Scotland), Karen Liles (Public Services Delivery Scotland), Laura McClelland (Edinburgh College), Margaret Vass (Fife College), Michael McKenna (Qualifications Scotland), Susan Menzies (Edinburgh College), Suzanne Thompson (West College Scotland), Yvonne Bayne (Fife College)

Welcome, introductions and apologies

Jonathan welcomed members to the meeting and introduced Jordan Gulland as the new Qualifications Officer for Pharmacy and Susan Menzies as a new representative from Edinburgh College.

1. Actions from last meeting

Previous action discussed in item 4.

2. GPhC annual data request

Jonathan thanked members on the call who had submitted relevant candidate data to GPhC.

Jonathan advised GPhC highlighted some centres had advised the requested data was not available and asked centres to ensure this data was captured for current and future cohorts.

Suzanne asked for confirmation that the current template provided by GPhC is the final version so this can be populated during the session.

Actions agreed:

- Jonathan/Jordan to confirm the current GPhC template for data collection will be used going forward.

3. SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6

Jonathan advised the SVQ in Pharmacy Services at SCQF level 6 has been accredited by Qualifications Scotland for a further 3 years until 31 May 2029.

4. Final accuracy checking for advanced PSW

Jonathan advised the National Pharmacy Technician Group Scotland confirmed a revised PDA in Final Accuracy Checking by Pharmacy Technicians (GL8P 47) was the appropriate qualification for Pharmacy Support Workers in an advanced role.

After some discussion, members of the QST agreed the structure of the qualification should remain the same, however minor tweaks to content were necessary and a change of title to remove specific mention of Technician.

Actions agreed:

- A business case should be submitted to the BCG to make the necessary amendments to the PDA.

5. Pharm 29 (PC 10)

Suzanne raised concerns regarding inconsistent interpretation of Performance Criteria 10 in Pharm 29 by work-based assessors with specific reference to the question around the sharing of medicines.

Members of the QST agreed candidates only need to ask the relevant questions and take appropriate action. They are not required to seek out a patient who meets the criteria.

Actions agreed:

- Members will cascade this information to partners and work-based assessors in their centres.

6. GPhC Pharmacy Technician recognition event

Jonathan confirmed the Pharmacy Technician training programme had been reaccredited at the GPhC Pharmacy Technician Recognition event in March for a further 6 years.

No recommendations were provided, however, standardisation events for delivering centres were mentioned in the report.

Members of the QST agreed QST meetings were the appropriate forum for standardisation purposes.

7. AOB

Laura raised the increased demand from employers for Pharmacy Support Workers (PSW) to access the Procedures for Aseptic Checking (J832 35) unit. Members of the QST confirmed this unit was appropriate for PSW on the basis that they meet the entry requirements and are nominated by the responsible Pharmacist.

Next steps

It was agreed that the next meeting of the pharmacy QST would be arranged in September.

Action grid

Action	Date completed
Jonathan/Jordan to confirm the current GPhC template for data collection will be used going forward.	
A business case should be submitted to the BCG to make the necessary amendments to the PDA in Final Accuracy Checking by Pharmacy Technicians (GL8P 47).	
QST members to cascade correct interpretation of Pharm 29 PC10 to partners and work-based assessors in their centres.	