

Pharmacy Qualifications Support Team (QST)

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29 September 2026 (via Microsoft Teams)

Present

Angela Cannon	NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde
Jonathan Gillies	Qualifications Scotland
Jordan Gulland	Qualifications Scotland
Karen Liles	Public Services Delivery Scotland
Laura McClelland	Edinburgh College
Margaret Vass	Fife College
Suzanne Thompson	West College Scotland
Yvonne Bayne	Fife College

Welcome, introductions and apologies

Jonathan welcomed members to the meeting.

1. Actions from last meeting

All actions from previous meetings are closed or discussed within the agenda.

2. Final Accuracy Checking by Pharmacy Technicians (GL8P 47)

Jonathan confirmed the business case had been approved to revise Final Accuracy Checking by Pharmacy Technicians (GL8P 47) to ensure it is suitable for Pharmacy Support Workers (PSW) in advanced roles. Work will commence once budget has been allocated.

3. Procedures for Aseptic Checking (J832 35)

At the last meeting of the QST, members discussed the increased demand from employers for Pharmacy Support Workers to access the Procedures for Aseptic Checking (J832 35) unit. They agreed this unit was appropriate for PSW on the basis that they meet the entry requirements and are nominated by the responsible Pharmacist.

ASSIG have since advised this unit is not appropriate for PSWs. Employers wishing to enrol a PSW in this unit should contact ASSIG in the first instance to discuss suitability.

Actions agreed:

- Qualifications Scotland will raise this point via the PTET strategic group to ascertain their views.

4. Assessment and Supply of Individual Patients' Medicines (GW26 48)

Laura advised she had received a request from an NHS board to enrol PSWs in Assessment and Supply of Individual Patients' Medicines (GW26 48). It was confirmed the new PDA at SCQF level 8 is open to PSWs in advanced roles. It was also confirmed that RPL is not applicable should these PSWs progress to the Pharmacy Technician (PT) training programme. Any units achieved would need to be attained again as part of the PT training programme.

5. GPhC Pharmacy Support Worker recognition event

Jordan noted the GPhC Pharmacy Support Worker recognition event is due to take place on Thursday 22 April 2026.

6. Pharmacotherapeutics and the Human Body units

Suzanne confirmed work is underway to revise assessments for the 5 Pharmacotherapeutics and the Human Body units due to requests for both body systems to be assessed.

Delivering centres will meet to discuss the revision and rollout of these assessments. QST members will then confirm the appropriate date for revised assessments to go live.

Actions agreed:

- Delivering centres to discuss the revision and rollout of the assessments.
- Jordan to begin process for revising and recoding the appropriate units.

7. SVQs in Pharmacy Services (GT0E/GR2C) Guide to writing reflective accounts

Jordan advised that Suzanne and the Pharmacy EVs have produced a guidance document to support assessors and learners in writing reflective accounts. Jonathan circulated this document with members at the beginning of September and requested feedback.

Members were enthusiastic about the guide and highlighted it as a valuable resource. Suggestions for additions and amendments were provided via email and during the QST meeting.

Actions agreed:

- Suzanne to progress amendments following member feedback.

8. AOB

Jonathan highlighted the recent publication of GPhC's new IET standards for PTs, the anticipated review of Pharmacy NOS and the opportunity for the QST to feed into the upcoming review. Members agreed to review the current NOS and provide feedback to be collated and submitted on behalf of the QST.

Actions agreed:

- Members to review current Pharmacy NOS and send any feedback to Jordan by Friday 18 December.
- Engagement with employers to be planned for early 2027.

Next steps

It was agreed that the next meeting of the pharmacy QST would be arranged for January.

Action grid

Action	Date completed
Qualifications Scotland will raise the issue around PSWs enrolling in the Procedures for Aseptic Checking unit with the PTET strategic group.	
Delivering centres to discuss revision and rollout of the Pharmacotherapeutics and the Human Body assessments.	
Jordan to begin process for revising and recoding the Pharmacotherapeutics and the Human Body units.	
Suzanne to progress amendments to the guide to writing reflective accounts following member feedback.	
Members to review current Pharmacy NOS and send any feedback to Jordan by Friday 18 December.	