

Indicative syllabus

The patient

The unique role of the pharmacist in ensuring that the patient benefits from pharmaceutical intervention.	
Principles and methodologies of the social and behavioural sciences relevant to pharmacy.	
Health and illness: definitions and perceptions.	
Theory and practice of personal and inter-personal skills, including written and verbal communication skills, and study skills.	
The ideas and approaches of compliance or concordance in health care provision, particularly as they apply to medicines-taking.	
The pharmacist's contribution to the promotion of good health and disease prevention.	
7. Normal and abnormal bodily function: biochemistry, genetics, microbiology, nutrition, immunology, physiology, pathology, pathophysiology and infective processes.	
8. Aetiology and epidemiology of major diseases and the principles of their drug treatment.	
9. Symptoms recognition and management, the principles of differential diagnosis, important diagnostic methods and tests, and medical terminology.	
10. Disease management and care planning, including application of clinical guidelines, prescribing and medication review.	
11. Complementary therapies.	
12. Drug and substance misuse, and physiological and psychological dependence. Clinical toxicology associated with drug over-dosage, drug or substance misuse or accidental	

exposure.	
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Medicines : drug action

13. Molecular basis of drug action and the actions of drugs within living systems; molecular, cellular, biological, and physical aspects.	
14. Clinical therapeutic uses of drugs and medicines in man, including contraindications for, adverse reactions to, and interactions of drugs, and their relevance to treatment.	
15. Drug absorption, distribution, metabolism and excretion and influences thereon, including formulation, route of administration, dosage regimen, ageing and disease.	
16. Clinical evaluation of new and existing drugs and medicines, and post-marketing surveillance. Good Clinical Practice.	
17. Prospects for new approaches in therapeutics.	

Medicines : the drug substance

18. Sources and purification of substances used in medicine of biotechnological, chemical synthetic, immunological, mineral and plant origin.	
19. Physico-chemical aspects of drugs and biological systems, including thermodynamics and chemical kinetics.	
20. Specifications of substances used in medicine, including physical and chemical tests.	
21. Analytical methods: principles, design, development, validation and application.	
22. Prediction of drug properties, including chemical compatibilities, from molecular structure.	
23. Drug design and discovery: principles, approaches and future prospects.	

24. Cell and molecular biology, including genomics, proteomics and gene therapy, relevant to pharmacy.	
25. Biological methods of measuring drug activity and biological standards.	
26. Biotechnology and biotechnological processes.	

Medicines : the medicinal product

27. Sale and supply of medicines, including evaluation and management of risk and provision of advice.	
28. Medicines: licensing of medicines; consumer protection, including product liability and unlicensed medicines; legal classifications of medicines, including controlled drugs and their sub-classes.	
29. Materials used in formulations and devices for the delivery of drugs, their biological, chemical and physical properties, and the development and application of standards.	
30. Biopharmaceutics, developmental pharmaceutics, pre-formulation and formulation studies; design and standardisation of medicines for administration to the body by different routes and for delivery to specific target sites.	
31. The influence of manufacture and distribution on product quality with respect to biological safety, bioavailability (including bio-equivalence), dosage uniformity and stability.	
32. Packaging and labelling; purpose, design and evaluation.	
33. Quality assurance of pharmaceutical products and processes, including Good Laboratory Practice, Good Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Practice and the role of the Qualified Person.	
34. Microbiological contamination: sources, determination, consequences and control.	

35. Sterilisation processes and aseptic procedures in the preparation of pharmaceutical products and medical devices; monitoring of sterilisation processes.	
36. Environmental control in manufacturing facilities and in the supply chain.	
37. Degradation of medicines; evaluation and control of biological, chemical and physical degradation.	
38. Immunological, biotechnological and radiopharmaceutical products.	
39. Dressings and other wound management products.	
40. Medical devices: their types, regulation and, particularly, their usage for the measurement and maintenance of physiological function or medicine delivery.	
41. Statutes and main regulations related to medicines and poisons.	

Healthcare systems and the roles of professionals

42. Health care systems: NHS community, primary, secondary and tertiary care; private health care; the pharmaceutical industry; scientific and medical publishing; all including the roles of pharmacists, and other healthcare professionals and other scientists. (To include coverage of concepts of medicines management and pharmaceutical care.)	
43. Public health and the role of the pharmacist.	
44. The duty of care to the patient and the wider public: concept, scope and application of professional ethics, the code of ethics of the RPSGB.	
45. Codes, standards and systems of governance and practice; risk management; and personal accountability, to include the need for, and	

means of, continuing professional development.	
46. Professional and multi-professional audit. Managing and learning from errors.	
47. Present and potential use of information technology in pharmacy and more widely in healthcare.	

The wider context

48. The political and legal framework, requirements and processes relevant to pharmacy.	
49. Health policy and economics, including particularly pharmacoeconomics.	
50. Scientific, clinical, health services and social services research; methods and results relevant to pharmacy.	
51. Laboratory, other workplace and environmental safety and protection, including health and safety at work, the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health, Chemicals Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply, and waste disposal.	