

Community Pharmacy Patient Safety Group

Our 2020 priorities



The Patient Safety Group is guided by both the principles of the WHO's Global Patient Safety Challenge - to reduce avoidable harm caused by medication by 50%, by strengthening safety mechanisms during prescribing, dispensing, administering and use of medicines and the NHS Patient Safety Strategy which outlines a national vision to improve patient safety.

Support the profession to embed patient safety principles at every level by; providing a forum for shared learnings; supporting contractors to implement and participate in safety improvements and engaging with schools of pharmacy, CPPE and other training providers.



Proactively monitor and investigate the safety implications of new and existing professional practice, processes, technologies and initiatives and encourage and influence reporting and the implications of reporting processes.



Influence national level mechanisms to improve patient safety by working with NHS England/ Improvement, NHS Digital and the MHRA to inform the development of and provide feedback on nationally developed safety systems and processes, such as the Pharmacy Quality Scheme, the Patient Safety Incident Management System, and technological changes and advancements.

Share patient safety messages widely across the sector and to charities and patient groups by using social media, blogs, the trade press, by attending external events and hosting a conference to champion the vital role that community pharmacy teams play in keeping people safe.



In 2020 PSG will carry out the activities outlined above to support the following areas:

- the reduction of 'look alike sound alike' errors
- antimicrobial resistance
- the use of opioids and controlled drugs
- medication safety in pregnancy
- sepsis detection
- allergies and anaphylaxis
- resilience and wellbeing