QUALITY ASSURANCE IN EUROPEAN PHARMACY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In Europe, pharmacy education and training (PET) is changing due to the demands of the EU directive on sectorial professions, the Bologna process, changes in healthcare organization and economics, and changes in the pharmaceutical/biotechnological industries. In the face of this an EU QA system and network have to be developed in order to tune PET and ensure excellence in this area.

OUTPUTS.

1. Establishment of European network in QA for PET. This will provide a source of information on QA in any given HEI and / or country.
2. Survey existing QA systems used and produce report
3. Develop a model for QA for PET based on (2) and modified Delphi/TUNING interaction with partners. This will allow harmonization of the multitude of very diverse QA frameworks.
4. Test the model and readjust as required.
5. Propose a finalized model for application of QA in Europe and elsewhere. This will provide a basic harmonized model for QA for PET in Europe.
6. Disseminate and exploit the final model through EAFP and other channels so as to create the European QA in PET networking system and agency.

IMPACT.

PHAR-QA will impact on all European HEI staff and students but the final stake-holder will be the European patient who will benefit from a better pharmaceutical service using better medication.

PHAR-QA will impact on fundamental pharmacy education and training for basic community pharmacy practice as well as continuing education for advanced practice (hospital, industry and other), and CPD. It will bring an element of sectorial professionalism into education where existing QA systems that are more academically based at the present time.

PHAR-QA will look at pregraduation pre-registration PET and will also make recommendations for CPD in pharmacy. Several EU countries already subject renewal of license to practice pharmacy to proof of post-registration CPD. In this important area however, there are no EU recommendations. PHAR-QA will provide such recommendations.

Within the development of the EHEA, the application of the Bologna process to education for a sectorial profession (such as pharmacy) that is traditionally long (5 years) and a seamless tunnel will be difficult in some areas such as exit and entry at the end of the bachelor degree. PHAR-QA will survey ideas on this subject and make recommendations.

At the present time there is sufficient cooperation and exchange in the latter years of pregraduate PET but not in the earlier years. By tuning PET through PHAR-QA, this should improve.

QA is an essential step in the development of new curricula and the modernization of PET. PHAR-QA will make recommendations on the modernization of the curriculum for PET at present based on directive 2005/36 (annex) dating from the situation of the late 1980s. QA for more "modern" subjects such as pharmaceutical care and the biotechnological production of medications will be proposed. PHAR-QA will then monitor the development of such new curricula in European pharmacy HEIs.
The PHAR-QA (“Quality assurance in European pharmacy education and training”) consortium, funded by the European Commission, is producing a framework of competences for pharmacy practice. The PHAR-QA competence framework is in line with the EU directive on the sectorial profession of pharmacy but also takes into account the diversity of the pharmacy profession and the on-going changes in European healthcare systems - with an increasingly important role for pharmacists - and in the pharmaceutical industry.

PHAR-QA is asking academia, students and practicing pharmacists to rank the importance of the competences.

**WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU TO HELP IN GATHERING REPLIES IN YOUR COUNTRY.**

The web address for the competence questionnaire is: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/pharqasurvey1](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/pharqasurvey1)

**COULD YOU PLEASE SEND THIS MESSAGE, WITH THE WEB ADDRESS, TO UNIVERSITY STAFF MEMBERS, STUDENTS, COMMUNITY, HOSPITAL AND INDUSTRIAL PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACISTS WORKING IN OTHER AREAS SUCH AS CLINICAL BIOLOGY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES, IN YOUR COUNTRY, ASKING THEM TO REPLY TO THE PHAR-QA SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE?**

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**EAFP CONFERENCE**

**LJUBLJANA**

Parallel session

May 24, 2014

09.00 – 12.00