

Safer Consulting in Minor Illness – training opportunity

East of England Pharmacy Local Professional Networks

November 2019

The Essex and East Anglia pharmacy LPNs, having successfully bid for funding, have commissioned from Anglia Ruskin University an online course especially for community pharmacists. Pharmacists in Essex and East Anglia have had the opportunity to have a place on the course for the last year and following the recent NHS merger with Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes we would like to offer pharmacists in those areas the chance to access the course as well.

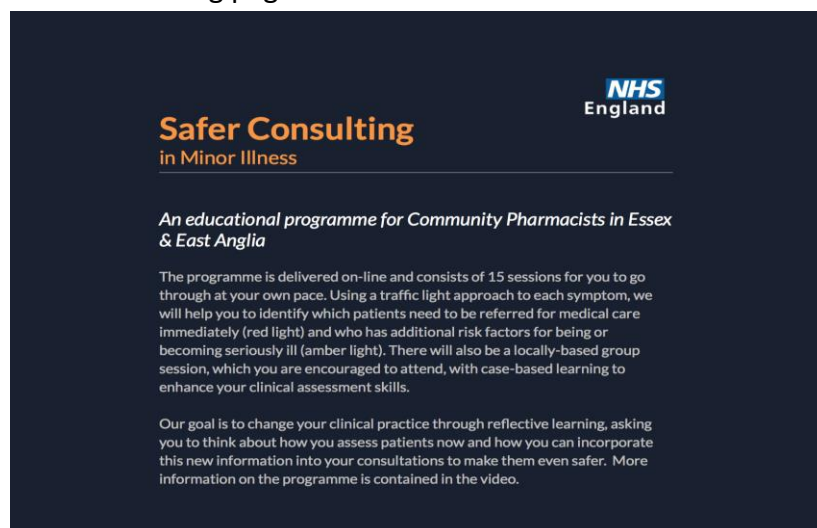
The learning from this course will assist in meeting the competence for the Community Pharmacy Consultation Service.

Pharmacists who have completed the course tell us it has increased their confidence in deciding whether the patient has a minor illness or the early symptoms of a serious illness. The course is all about systematic assessment and always providing safety netting advice, it also includes a module on what to write in a referral note to a GP or other clinician if required.

We believe it is quite different to other courses on the same topic as it approaches minor illness from a risk assessment and management perspective to inform clinical decision making.

The course modules are all online though it is recommended there should be a local learning session held in the evening for you to attend where you can work through a number of set case studies with other pharmacists and a local GP. There is a slide set provided for facilitator who could be someone from the CCG, LPC, PCN or other pharmacist or a GP.

The web landing pages look like this:



The screenshot shows a dark blue background with the NHS England logo in the top right corner. The main heading is 'Safer Consulting in Minor Illness' in orange and white text. Below this is a subtitle: 'An educational programme for Community Pharmacists in Essex & East Anglia'. The main body of text describes the programme as an online educational programme consisting of 15 sessions, delivered at the learner's own pace. It uses a traffic light approach to assess symptoms, identifying patients who need immediate referral (red light) or those with additional risk factors (amber light). It also mentions a locally-based group session for case-based learning. The final paragraph states the goal is to change clinical practice through reflective learning and provides information on where to find more details.



You can hear a summary of the training programme content by clicking on the start button on the website. Any pharmacist working in a community pharmacy in Essex, East Anglia, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire Luton or Milton Keynes can register by clicking on the LPN button.

There are a limited number of places on this course so to start with we want to offer places to pharmacists working at least three days a week in community pharmacy. Locums meeting in this requirement are welcome to apply.

Please do not apply if you cannot commit to completing the 15 sessions and attending the locality training as we do not want to waste a funded place.

The LPN will notify Anglia Ruskin University the details of the pharmacists to be enrolled who will then each receive an email with an activation link. When they click on this link they will be directed to the platform and asked to set up a password. The next time they visit the platform they will be able to login by using their email and password and can then access the material and start the training.

This is a unique opportunity to gain new skills that can really help you to be confident in your skills as a clinician and show patients that community pharmacy is the best place to go with minor illnesses.

To find out more visit the link: <http://bit.ly/saferconsulting> To register follow the links from the website or email england.eastpharmacyLPNs@nhs.net

If you have any queries on the course, after reading the website material, please contact us at england.eastpharmacyLPNs@nhs.net

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