

**East of England Teach and Treat clinical supervision pilot
FAQs for community pharmacists**

What is the Teach and Treat project?

NHS England has provided funding to the Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) in the East of England (EoE) to pilot a ‘Teach & Treat’ project. Our main aim is to provide community pharmacists with the opportunity to train as Independent Prescribers (IPs) and provide a future pipeline of IP supervision, but we also want to support pharmacists who have recently gained their IP qualification to develop the confidence & competence needed to fully embrace their new role.

What will the clinical supervision pilot involve?

Successful applicants will be offered a ‘pick & mix’ of mentoring, clinical placements (each for 6 months) & a community of practice (which will continue for the foreseeable future):

Mentoring & placements	
No. of places available	This will depend on whether successful applicants want mentoring <i>PLUS</i> clinical placements We estimate there will be approx. 48 places available, spread across the EoE
When will the pilot start?	We are aiming for the mentoring & clinical placements to start in July 2026 , & run for 6 months
Mentoring (in-person or virtual)	IPs will each receive 1 hour per month of one-to-one mentoring with an experienced prescriber
Clinical placements – purpose & contact hours	Purpose: to permit IPs to put their prescribing theory into practice in a supported prescribing environment with experienced prescribers, i.e. not just observing, but interacting clinically with patients & healthcare professionals Aim: To build confidence & competence of the IPs, including potentially extending their scope of practice Contact hours: 12 hours per IP over 6 months (delivery to be agreed between placement sites & IPs e.g. 2 x 6 hours, 4 x 3 hours, 6 x 2 hours etc)
Community of practice	
Messaging App	WhatsApp for quick announcements/messages (non-clinical)
Online forum	MS Teams channel for more in-depth comments/questions, including clinical issues
Online drop-in sessions	These will be fortnightly initially, reducing to monthly (with agreement of participants)
Membership	All current & past Teach & Treat trainees plus additional IPs who join the clinical supervision pilot. We will also invite Teach & Treat DPPs/mentors/placement providers to join the community of practice (plus other pharmacists who are IPs)



Why should I apply?

If you want to build your experience as an IP, & potentially extend your scope of practice, this is an opportunity to take part in a project that will provide you with clinical supervision – at no additional cost to yourself.

Am I eligible to apply?

The eligibility criteria are:

- **Availability:** You must be able to start the clinical supervision pilot **in July 2026** (the pilot will last for 6 months)
- **East of England Practice:** You must work as a community pharmacist within the EoE for at least three days per week
- **Employer Support:** Your employer must provide necessary support for your training, including appropriate cover during your absence (no backfill costs will be covered)
- **Recently qualified as an IP (or needing a refresher):** This pilot is aimed at 'legacy community pharmacists', i.e. not newly qualified pharmacists due to register with an IP qualification this summer

You would also need to agree to becoming a future DPP after consolidation of prescribing practice.

Who will the mentors be?

All mentors will be qualified & experienced prescribers (either a GP or a pharmacist) working in either general practice or community pharmacy.

Where will the clinical placements be located?

We plan to set up six Teach & Treat Clinical Learning Hubs across the EoE, two within each ICB footprint (Central East, Essex, Norfolk & Suffolk). These will be either in general practice or a community pharmacy. Details/locations are yet to be confirmed. Allocation of successful applicants to a placement site will be guided by the geographical proximity to the available sites (where possible). Each placement site will have a placement lead, who will either be a GP or pharmacist.

Is there anything I need to pay for?

You will **not** need to pay to be part of the Teach & Treat project; your mentor &/or clinical placements will be provided without a cost to yourself.

Please note, we are **not** able to cover backfill costs, so you will need your employer's support before applying. We are also unable to reimburse travel costs.

If selected, what will be expected in return?

As this is a pilot project, we need to collect information to evaluate the outcomes. You will therefore be asked to participate in an evaluation to share your thoughts & experiences. This may take the form of questionnaires or short online interviews/focus groups.



How can I apply?

If interested, please complete the online expression of interest (EOI) form by **midnight on Sunday 12 July 2026**: Link to EOI form: [Teach & Treat Community Pharmacist: Expression of Interest - Clinical Supervision Pilot – Fill in form](#)

or use the QR code below:



How will you decide who is successful?

We will apply scoring criteria to determine who is successful. Please note that we are keen to address the needs of communities who are underserved or marginalised, therefore would like to prioritise pharmacists working within deprived and/or rural communities for inclusion into the Teach & Treat project where possible. We are aiming to shortlist as soon as possible after the EOI closes; you should be informed of the outcome **on/before Friday 17 July 2026**.

Who can I contact for more information?

Cathy Geeson – Teach & Treat Project Lead: cathy.geeson1@nhs.net