

Pharmacy Council Statement on Pharmacists Prescribers and Medicines Management Services

The Pharmacy Council has determined that Pharmacist Prescribers are eligible to provide Level B, C and D medicine management services without the requirement of additional training or education.

The Pharmacy Council also advises that accredited Level C pharmacists are eligible to provide Level B medicines management services without the need to complete a full Level B programme.

The Pharmacy Council's Medicines Management Competence Framework¹ outlines four levels of medicines management services, Levels A – D. The framework recognises the relationship between the levels of competency required and the complexity of medicines management related issues.

While the four levels of medicines management services can be provided within the Pharmacist scope of practice, additional education and training is required for the provision of Levels B, C and D services.

The Pharmacist Prescriber scope of practice is a separate scope and requires higher level competencies than those required for Levels B, C and D of the framework. The pre-requisite qualification for entry into the pharmacist prescriber programme is a Postgraduate Diploma in Clinical Pharmacy or equivalent. Pharmacists wishing to be accredited as Level C (Medicine Therapy Assessment - MTA) service providers must also provide evidence of successful completion of relevant and appropriate courses, e.g. Otago University's Postgraduate Certificate in Pharmacy (Medicines Management), Auckland University's Postgraduate Certificate in Clinical Pharmacy or must demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.

When endorsing the Medicines Therapy Assessment Standards, Council ratified the Standards Endorsement Committee's (SEC) recommendations that *holders of a postgraduate certificate should not have to undertake separate or additional Level B (Medicines Use Review – MUR) training as the requirements for MUR accreditation are more than covered in the certificate programme.*

Council therefore confirms:

- that pharmacists who have successfully completed the Council-approved post graduate course in prescribing are eligible to provide MUR and MTA services without the need to complete the MUR course or submit a portfolio for MTA services,
- MTA pharmacists are eligible to provide MUR services without the need to complete a full MUR course, and
- future Level D or similarly accredited pharmacists are eligible to provide MUR and MTA services without the need to complete the MUR/MTA course requirements.

¹The framework can be accessed on www.pharmacycouncil.org.nz/standards_guidelines