



Non-Medical Prescribing Resource

Guidance for programme leaders

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Health and Education Co-operative (HEC) Non-Medical Prescribing (NMP) Resource. The resource is hosted on our HealthVLE platform.

We have created this resource to meet the learning needs of all NMP programme students. Experienced NMP programme leaders from our member universities developed the content. Our own NMP students were consulted as part of the development process.

The resource gives an NMP student easy access to all the essential information they need. It also aims to further support their development by:

- highlighting key texts for further reading
- facilitating self-assessment and reflection
- supporting revision and ongoing learning.

NMP Programme Leaders can use the resource to:

- support directed study
- aid delivery of taught sessions
- inform directed or classroom based group work
- supplement and build upon existing programme content
- form part of an assessment process.

All resource content is aligned with the professional standards for prescribing practice as set by:

- the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
- the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
- the General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC)

It is also closely aligned to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) Competency Framework for all Prescribers (2016). We signpost competencies from this framework throughout the resource.

USING THE RESOURCE

There are a variety of ways to use the resource within your NMP programme. However you choose to use it, always give your students clear instructions for use within your programme.

Professional regulatory bodies will have accredited your programme. The way content is delivered and assessed will have been agreed as part of the accreditation process. This might impact upon the way you can use the resource. You may need to seek approval for a programme amendment to use it to its full potential.

The amount of content and number of activities contained within different modules varies. Please familiarise yourself with the resource contents before using it in your programme. This will help ensure you allow students adequate time to complete any work they are set.

You should also tell students which activities to undertake, and if they should submit or present any of the work generated from those activities.

Examples of how you might use the resource in your programme are:

DIRECTED STUDY TO PREPARE FOR A SESSION

You might direct the students to complete a module as the foundation for a later session. You may timetable directed study time for this work. Or you may include it in time allocated for wider reading.

You might choose to do this as a self-assessment exercise to encourage students to identify their own specific learning needs.

DIRECTED STUDY TO REPLACE A SESSION

Ask students to complete a module themselves rather than delivering a session. If you do this, allow time on the next taught day for students to ask questions about the work they have undertaken.

You might also direct students who have missed a session to complete the related module(s).

DIRECTED STUDY TO BUILD ON A SESSION

You may choose to deliver a shorter taught session and direct students to use the resource to explore key issues in more depth.

DIRECTED STUDY TO PREPARE FOR A DISCUSSION OR PRESENTATION

Some module activities ask students to reflect upon key issues and apply them to their own practice. Use these reflections as the basis for facilitated group discussions.

Other activities ask students to gather information and could develop into presentations. Assign different activities to students so a range of information is presented to the full group.

CONTENT FOR TAUGHT SESSIONS

You may wish to use some of the resource as part of the taught content of a session.

The scenario videos are particularly useful for generating discussion. Module quizzes could be undertaken as a group within sessions.

ASSESSMENT

You may choose to use the resource as preparation for assessment. For example:

- the Pharmacology module is good preparation and revision for the pharmacology examination
- the Consultation module is useful revision for the objective structured clinical examination (OSCE)

Assessed portfolios could include written work completed during module activities.

STUDENT-INITIATED USE

You can direct students to use the resource to support their own learning. This would be separate from any other usage you have specified. Uses you might suggest to students include:

- Revision for assessments
- Revisiting a subject to gain more understanding
- Developing a deeper knowledge of a topic
- Refreshing their knowledge on a topic after completing the course

Remember: it is important to give your students clear instruction on what they **MUST** complete and what is optional for your NMP programme.

ACCESSING THE RESOURCE

ACCESS FOR STUDENTS

As an NMP programme leader you will need to request access for your student cohorts. We have a standard template form you can use for this purpose. The template and instructions for completion are available here: [request cohort accounts](#)

Please let your students know when their accounts are being created. Each student will receive an email when we create the accounts. The email contains a link they can use to set their password and access the resource. Students should check their spam/junk email folders if they do not receive our email.

Student access to the course will expire on the date their course ends. Each student also has the option to create a personal account on the HealthVLE. Personal accounts include 12 months access to the resource to support students after they qualify.

ACCESS FOR ACADEMIC STAFF

You and your colleagues will have ongoing access to the resource. Please send an email to support@hecooperative.co.uk to request an account for a new colleague.

NAVIGATING THE RESOURCE

GETTING STARTED

The resource comprises many nested modules. This is the same as any standard folder structure.

Each top level module covers a key topic area. Sub-modules sit within the appropriate top level module. The course content or pages sit within the sub-modules.



Modules are identified by a folder icon



Content is identified by a book icon



When completed the folder or book icon is replaced by a tick

The first two modules in the resource are **Course Overview** and **Scenarios**. We recommended you ask students to view these in their entirety when they first use the resource.

Course Overview provides a broad introduction to the resource including:

- Structure
- Content
- Navigation
- Monitoring progress
- Reporting problems

Scenarios contains five short videos. We reference the video scenarios throughout the resource. Watching them before starting will make these references much more meaningful.

MODULE CONTENT & STRUCTURE

Modules (apart from Course Overview and Scenarios) follow a standard format:

Module Description

All modules start with a description. At the top level this includes the module aims. At the sub-level it includes the learning objectives for the module.

Each sub-module addresses several competencies from the RPS Competency Framework for all Prescribers. A table in each sub-module description lists the competencies addressed.

Module Content

A list of content headings is visible below a sub-module description. Content combines text, images, video and audio files, as well as links to external websites. Activities also appear throughout the content.

Module Quiz

All sub-modules include a short quiz to test student knowledge and understanding. Students must score at least 75% to complete the quiz. They can take a quiz as many times as they like.

Module Summary

This is a short summary of both the content and the expected learning outcomes. There is also a list of references used within the module.

MOVING THROUGH THE RESOURCE

We developed the resource to work through from start to finish. We ordered the content to aid learning. That said, you do not have to use the whole course, or work through all the content in sequence.

When viewing content for the first time you will see a button labelled 'Mark as complete and go to next resource'. If you click the button the system will mark that content as complete. Your course completion percentage climbs as you complete the content.

If you return to already completed content you see two buttons:

- Next sequential resource - this option allows revision of modules
- Next incomplete resource - this option takes you to the earliest incomplete content

Wherever you are in the course breadcrumbs are available to take you back to the start (Home):

Breadcrumb links -

[Home](#) → [Pharmacology](#) → [Pharmacodynamics](#) → [Types of Receptor](#)

Also, clicking 'View Course Map' will display a table of contents you can use to jump to any part of the course.

PROGRESSION & CERTIFICATES

Students can always see their overall course completion percentage. If the course is 100% complete a course completion certificate becomes available. Students can download a course completion certificate from their profile.

Certificates for completed modules and sub-modules (those displaying a green tick) are also available. Students can download these from the course overview screen. Access this screen by clicking 'Back To Overview'.

HELP & SUPPORT

REPORTING PROBLEMS

You can contact us to report any problem in one of two ways:

- use the Report an Issue button, available everywhere in the resource at the bottom of the screen.
- send an email to support@hecooperative.co.uk

The NMP programme leads who developed the content also maintain and update it. If you notice anything we need to review please do let us know.

You should also let us know about any account or access related issues. Students can let us know about any issues they encounter in the same way.

GIVING FEEDBACK

We welcome feedback on all aspects of the HealthVLE and NMP resource. Your feedback helps us identify changes and improvements we can make.

Use the Give Feedback button to contact us anonymously. We cannot respond to anonymous feedback so **please do not use this option to report a problem.**

OTHER SUPPORT

Our NMP programme leads have many years' experience using the resource in their own prescribing programmes. They will be happy to share their knowledge and discuss different ways to use it.

If you would like to speak to any of them please let us know by sending an email to support@hecooperative.co.uk.