



## Hypertension Case finding Service Update: Training of pharmacy staff to provide the service

From 1 December 2023 the Hypertension Case finding service specification allowed suitably trained pharmacy staff to provide the service to patients. This change provides an opportunity to review the skill mix for service delivery and going forward may free up registered pharmacy staff to provide other services.

### Actions required

- Watch the [CPE webinar](#) which focuses on how to make greater use of the whole pharmacy team and maximise uptake of ambulatory blood pressure monitoring (ABPM). It provides a brief review of the service requirements and the changes from 1st December 2023.
- Ensure staff read and understand the service specification
- Train staff in the use of your Ambulatory Blood Pressure Machine (ABPM), information will be provided by the manufacturer.
- Train staff in the use of your clinic blood pressure monitor and how to take a blood pressure reading. See Annex B in the specification.
- Ensure staff read and understand the relevant NICE guidelines NG136
- Review your branch SOP to ensure it aligns to the new specification and train staff in the SOP.
- Ensure staff can log onto the PharmOutcomes recording module and understand how to enter information to ensure accurate transfer of clinical data to the GP practice.
- Ensure staff training and competence is documented and held in the pharmacy

### Training Required

- Once staff have completed their training it may be helpful to allow them to practice on willing members of the pharmacy team.
- Ensure that staff understand how to use the correct cuff size when taking clinic readings.
- There are some useful process flows in the specification – see Annex A, B, C and D. Consider putting these in your consultation room in a file for staff to refer to.
- For ABPM fitting it's important that staff are aware of the need to fit the patient with the device before 2pm so that enough readings can be taken during waking hours usually by 10pm. Use material on the [CPE website](#) to promote your service.