

## The implementation of non-medical prescribing across Wales

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Developing the roles of healthcare professionals is key to modernizing the National Health Service and Non-Medical Prescribers (NMP) are a relatively new innovation which is key to this modernization. Since their introduction 14 years ago, 29,000 nurses, 3875 pharmacists and several hundred allied health professionals across the United Kingdom have become qualified to prescribe. Independent prescribers have the most extended prescribing rights in the world and can prescribe practically any medicine for any condition provided that it is within their area of competence. There is growing evidence that NMPs contribute to improved services in a number of ways including greater choice and access for patients,

better use of time and skills within the healthcare team and improved patient care. There is a lack of evidence available with regards to the extent to which NMPs have been embedded within organizations across Wales. This presentation will provide an overview of non-medical prescribing across Wales and discuss the facilitators and barriers to the implementation and sustainability of this development. The presentation will also include developments in this area elsewhere in the UK.

### Biography

Karen Hodson has completed her BSc, Pharm, MSc in Clinical Pharmacy and PhD. She is the Program Director for the Cardiff University and since its initiation in 2006, and the Program Director for the Pharmacist Independent Prescribing program. In addition to these, she is also involved in delivering the MPharm and other post-qualification programs. She has been actively involved in many research activities from practice based undergraduate projects to supervising over 50 MSc projects, as well as larger scale projects. Her current research interests include technology to enhance communication between the primary/secondary care interface and non-medical prescribing.

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