

# Improving Prescribing Data Skills of Primary Care Pharmacy Teams

Primary care prescribing data is more readily available now than ever through a vast range of sources, and is an important tool in monitoring trends and informing future priorities, however many primary care pharmacy and medicines optimisation teams lack the necessary skills and training to confidently navigate and interpret this.

A medicines optimisation stakeholder meeting identified the need for a robust and comprehensive 'how to' guide for primary care pharmacy teams to detail the availability of the data, how to navigate the various resources and explain the terminology used in prescribing data.



## Objectives

The aim of the project was to improve understanding of prescribing data amongst primary care medicines optimisation and pharmacy teams, through development of a comprehensive 'how to guide' as an e-learning package, a hybrid between a webinar and traditional e-learning package, allowing for convenient access for all teams.



## What we did

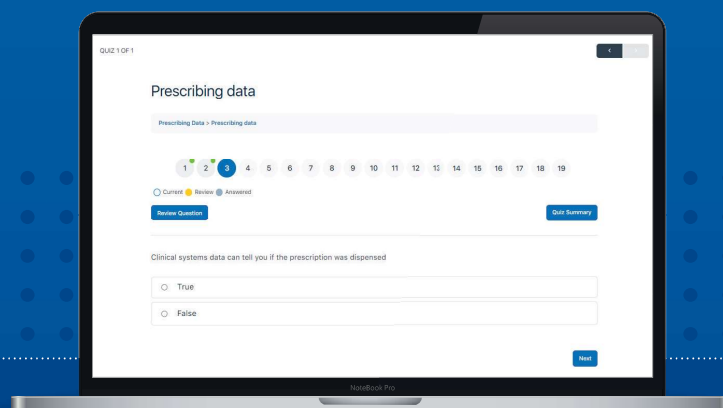
An e-learning programme detailing what is available from where, what the data can tell us and highlighting comparable resources was developed. A blended learning approach was used, combining narration, interactive screens, self-directed reading and case studies, as a hybrid between traditional e-learning and webinars.

The programme was developed through collaboration between the AHSN and NECS, and is easily accessible to all healthcare professionals via the NECS Learning website. Users have the option of completing an assessment which will generate a certificate of completion. The programme was piloted with a number of stakeholders prior to launch.



## Discussion

Initial anecdotal feedback from the e-learning and the stakeholder meeting which led to the programme being developed has highlighted the importance of developing and improving prescribing data skills for primary care pharmacy teams. The blended, interactive approach applied to this programme has been well received and embedded case studies have helped pharmacy teams to apply the learning to real-world situations. Our initial feedback suggests the programme is an effective approach to tackle an issue that affects many primary care pharmacy teams.



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