IMPROVING PRESCRIBING PRACTICE AND COMPETENCE USING THE NATIONAL PRESCRIBING COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK

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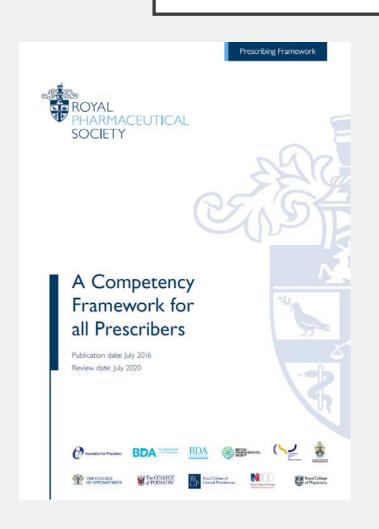
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THE COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK



Purpose and uses of the framework....

- 'Help healthcare professionals prepare to prescribe and provide the basis for on-going continuing education and development programmes, and revalidation processes. For example, use as a framework for a portfolio to demonstrate competency in prescribing.'
- 'Inform the development of education curricula and relevant accreditation of prescribing programmes for all prescribing professions.'

PRESCRIBERS COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK

- First framework published by NICE (formally National Prescribing Centre) in 2012. Updated in 2019.
- Generic framework for any prescriber (independent or supplementary) regardless of their professional background
- It must be contextualised to reflect different areas of practice and levels of expertise
- The framework contains a competency on prescribing professionally, however, prescribers must consider how their own professional codes of conduct, standards and guidance apply to prescribing
- The framework helps HCPs to be safe, effective prescribers able to support patients to get the best outcome from their medicines



THE CONSULTATION

- 1. Assess the patient
- 2. Consider the options
- 3. Reach a shared decision
- 4. Prescribe
- 5. Provide information
- 6. Monitor and review

PRESCRIBING GOVERNANCE

- 7. Prescribe safely
- 8. Prescribe professionally
- 9. Improve prescribing practice
- 10. Prescribe as part of a team

Within each of the ten competencies there are statements which describe the activity or outcomes prescribers should be able to demonstrate

PUTTING THE FRAMEWORK INTO PRACTICE

- A range of resources can be found on the RPS website to help stimulate use of the competency framework in practice, these have been developed following discussion of barriers to implementation during the public consultation process, these include:
- > FAQs
- Downloadable word template version of the framework
- PowerPoint presentation
- Practice examples from organisations and individuals who have been using the competency framework

NON MEDICAL PRESCRIBERS ANNUAL DECLARATION OF COMPETENCE

Area to self-certify	YES / NO	Comments / Evidence/ Action to be undertaken if required
Reviewed Scope in line with current role and responsibilities		Scope extension required?
Circumstances impacting upon prescribing practice over past year discussed and addressed with line manager and/or DMP, practice supervisor and/or NMP Lead e.g. long-term sickness, maternity leave, change in role		If circumstances have not been discussed or addressed an action plan is required.
Participated in prescribing related CPD activities e.g. in-house forums, presentations, conference attendance, literature read or reviewed, attended medicines related committee		
Applied professionalism to all aspects of practice in line with professional code, standards and guidance		
Received clinical supervision or opportunities to reflect in relation to prescribing / opportunities to discuss prescribing decision making		
Participated in clinical audit, quality improvement or service development activities relating to prescribing area		

I have reviewed my learning and development needs against the ten dimensions of the RPS Competency Framework for all Prescribers (2019) and I have documented one example below per competency dimension as evidence of competence and/or areas for development.

I have reflected on one of these competencies for discussion with my DMP/ Peer Equivalent NMP

	1.Assess the patient	Evidence of competence / Areas for development
The Consultation	2.Consider the options	Evidence of competence / Areas for development:
	3. Reach a shared decision	Evidence of competence / Areas for development
	4. Prescribe	Evidence of competence / Areas for development

	5. Provide information	Evidence of competence / Areas for development
Prescribing Governance	6. Monitor & Review	Evidence of competence / Areas for development
	7. Prescribing safely	Evidence of competence / Areas for development
	8. Prescribe professionally	Evidence of competence / Areas for development
	9. Improve prescribing practice	Evidence of competence / Areas for development
	10. Prescribe as part of a team	Evidence of competence / Areas for development

Declaration

- My job description includes a prescribing statement
- I have read the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (RPS) publication 'A Competency Framework for all Prescribers 2019'
- I have reviewed my competence and accurately reflected on my on-going development needs
- I have discussed this declaration and my reflection with my DMP or peer equivalent non-medical prescriber or practice assessor
- I will discuss this declaration at my annual appraisal
- I have the knowledge and skills to safely prescribe within the level of my experience and competence, and I will act in accordance with the professional and ethical frameworks described by my professional body
- I have read the RBHT Non-Medical Prescribing Policy
- I have attended the mandatory minimum of 50% of in house forums / CPD sessions
- Prescribers Signature:
- Date:
- DMP or Peer Name and Signature:
- Date:
- Acknowledged by Line Manager:
- Line Managers Printed Name:
- Line Managers Signature:
- Date:

USES OF THE FRAMEWORK

- Curriculum development
- Support CPD
- Preparation to prescribe
- Assess training needs
- Revalidation
- Governance
- Inform standards, guidance and advice
- Underpin professional responsibility
- Harmonise education in prescribing

CLINICAL GOVERNANCE



PRESCRIBING GOVERNANCE

- Dimensions 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the competency framework
 - Prescribe safely
 - > Prescribe professionally
 - >Improve prescribing practice
 - Prescribe as part of a team

ACCOUNTABILITY



Standards for competence for registered nurses

All nurses must:-

- be responsible and accountable for keeping their knowledge and skills up to date through continuing professional development. They must aim to improve their performance and enhance the safety and quality of care through evaluation, supervision and appraisal
- practice independently, recognising the limits of their competence and knowledge. They must reflect on these limits and seek advice from, or refer to, other professionals where necessary

WHAT IS COMPETENCY?

Competence may refer to:

- Competence (biology) the ability of a cell to take up DNA
- Competence (geology) the resistance of a rock against either erosion or deformation
- Competence (human resources) a standardized requirement for an individual to properly perform a specific job
- Competence (law) the mental capacity of an individual to participate in legal proceedings
- <u>Jurisdiction</u> the authority of a legal body to deal with and make pronouncements on legal matters and, by implication, to administer justice within a defined area of responsibility
- <u>Linguistic competence</u> the ability to speak and understand language.
- Communicative competence the ability to speak and understand language.

COMPETENCY

Definition;

Knowledge, skills, motives and personal traits

Collins English Dictionary;

'The condition of being capable, ability'

• What is a competency Framework?

A collection of competencies thought to be central to effective performance

COMPETENCY

- Demonstrating competence is familiar to HCPs
- Benner 'Novice to Expert'
- Medical model 'See one, do one, teach one'
- Development of skills
- Confidence

Benner P (1984) From Novice to Expert: excellence and power in clinical nursing practice

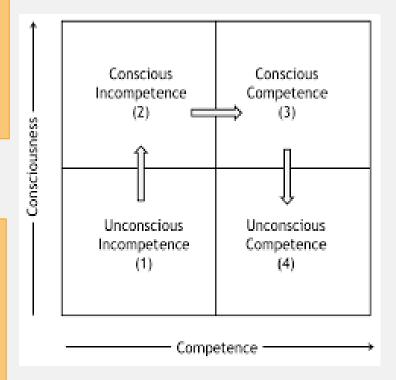
WHY IS COMPETENCY IMPORTANT?

- Maintains standards
- Measurable
- Facilitates good practice
- Patient safety
- Organisational accountability/liability
- Professional accountability

CONSCIOUS COMPETENCE

STAGE 2: after observation, is able to articulate & focus on achieving gaps in learning i.e. what they don't know. Action planning, assignments, simulated & supervised practice & critical reflection will enable achievement of learning & competence

STAGE I: unable to articulate learning needs & gaps in learning as unfamiliar with competencies required for prescribing. Exposure to complex knowledge & skills of prescribing theory & observation of prescribing practice will develop better awareness of the expected competencies



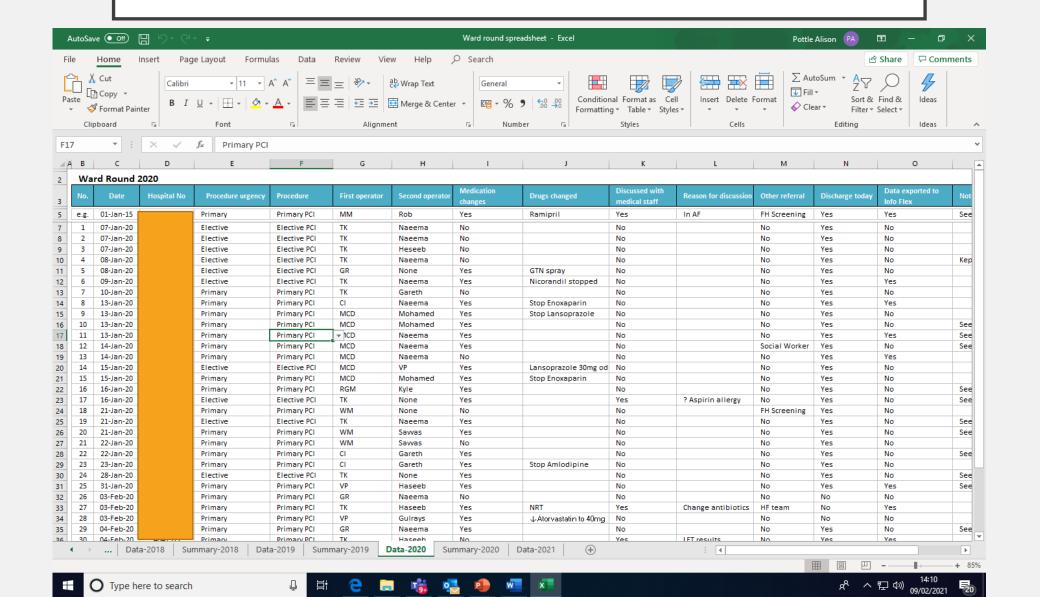
STAGE 3: demonstrates attainment of prescribing knowledge, skills & learning outcomes. Works safely & competently within own prescribing boundaries & within required legislation, standards & competencies. Is fully conscious of own ongoing CPD requirements as a future NMP

STAGE 4: non-medical prescribing practice is internalised & demonstrates that this is more easily integrated into their holistic practice within own professional & prescribing boundaries

ASSESSING COMPETENCE

- How can this be measured?
 - Competency statements
 - > Performance review
 - > DMP/DPP discussion
 - **≻**Audit

AUDIT



DEVELOPING CONFIDENCE IN PRESCRIBING PRACTICE

'Self reported confidence in prescribing skills correlates poorly with assessed competence in fourth-year medical students'

(Brinkman et al 2015; Clinical Therapeutics Vol 37; e1)

INFLUENCES ON PRESCRIBING

• 'Prescribing is a complex skill that is high risk and error prone, with many factors influencing its practice, whether contextual of psychological'

(Lewis et al 2014)

- Confidence
- Time since qualifying
- Training
- Continuous practice
- Multidisciplinary support
- Use of formularies or guidelines

SUPPORTING NURSE PRESCRIBERS TO USE THE FRAMEWORK

- Lead by example
- Role of the DMP/DPP;
- Critical and highly responsible for educating and assessing NMPs
- Ascertains whether the trainee NMP has met the necessary learning outcomes and acquired competencies and continues to practice to the correct level

MY PRESCRIBING STORY

- PGDs
- Qualified as non medical prescriber 2005
- Initially supplementary prescribing
- Independent prescribing

MY PRESCRIBING PRACTICE

- Rapid Access Chest Pain Clinic
- Ward rounds
- Preadmission clinics
- Post PCI clinics
- Day case unit
- Lipoprotein apheresis unit
- Other outpatient clinics

CASE STUDY

- 60 year old man admitted with acute anterior MI
- PMH smoker, hypertension, raised cholesterol (not on treatment)
- Reviewed on ward round 36 hours after admission
- Current prescription;
- > Aspirin 75mg od
- ➤ Ticagrelor 90mg bd
- ➤ Bisoprolol 1.25mg od
- Ramipril 1.25mg od
- > Atorvastatin 80mg od
- > Amlodipine 5mg od
- ➤ GTN spray PRN

CASE STUDY

- BP 140/90, heart rate 65bpm
- Changes to medication;
- ➤ Increase Bisoprolol to 2.5mg od
- ➤ Increase Ramipril to 2.5mg od
- Stop Amlodipine
- Ask GP to up titrate Ramipril and Bisoprolol further
- Education regarding need to continue medication

PRESCRIBING GOVERNANCE

- Prescribing safely
- Prescribing professionally
- Improving prescribing practice
- Prescribing as part of a team

CASE STUDY

- 52 year old male reviewed on the ward round
- Admitted with lateral STEMI 24-hours previously
- PMH lateral STEMI 2013, ex smoker, raised cholesterol
- Current medication
- > Aspirin 75mg od
- > Ticagrelor 90mg bd
- > Atorvastatin 80mg od
- Ramipril 2.5mg od
- ➤ Bisoprolol 1.25mg od
- ➤ Omeprazole 20mg od

RELATING THE FRAMEWORK TO PRACTICE

- Discussion with patient regarding his medication
- He stopped taking all previously prescribed medication 2-years ago
- Patient views on medication explored
- Myths busted!
- Medication plan agreed

The Consultation

- I. Assess the patient
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IMPACT OF NMP ON PATIENT CARE

- Improved access to medications
- Timely prescribing
- Developing/advancing nursing and AHP roles
- Nurse-led services
- Ability to devolve medical care
- Improved patient experience
- Improved adherence to guidelines?

IMPACT OF NMP ON MY ROLE

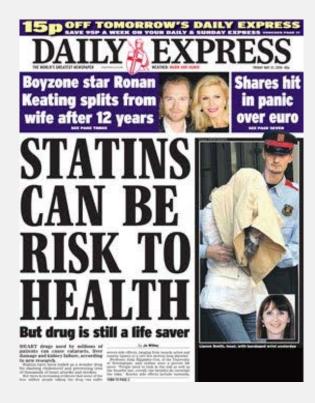
- Autonomy
- Enables total patient management
- Affect on workload
- Improvement in knowledge
- Facilitated the expansion of other nursing roles

MEDICINES ADHERENCE

- Drugs will only work if they are taken!
- Adequate information regarding the role of medication is essential
- Patients believe what they read in the newspapers
- Must take patients view into account
- Partnership between the prescriber and the patient

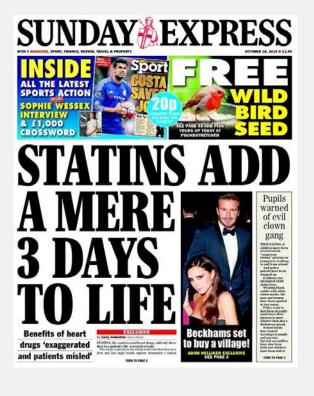
What the newspapers say

- 'Statins have 'no consistent evidence' of improving heart attack patients' survival: Taking a pill every day for five years adds just FOUR DAYS to your life'
- 'Are statins overprescribed? Study warns the risks of the controversial drugs outweigh the benefits for millions of heart patients'









SUMMARY

- The single prescribing competency framework can be used throughout the prescribing journey
- The framework is also a useful tool for revalidation and ongoing governance
- Competencies surrounding governance are equally important to those around the consultation
- Prescribing competency needs to be monitored and reviewed on a regular basis



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