Abstract & Biography

Deborah Robertson

**Ensuring Competence and Confidence in Prescribing Practice**

Scope of the presentation

* improving non-medical prescribing practice
* implementing the national competency framework
* the new Designated Prescribing Practitioner Framework
* ensuring you have the history-taking, clinical assessment and diagnosis skills to prescribe appropriately and effectively
* keeping your prescribing knowledge up to date: accessing education, training and resources
* difficult issues: pharmacology & prescribing decision making, understanding co-morbidity issues and drug interactions
* understanding your limits of practice and competence

Further information around prescribing frameworks can be obtained from:

* Royal Pharmaceutical Society (2016) A competency framework for all prescribers. Available at: <https://www.rpharms.com/Portals/0/RPS%20document%20library/Open%20access/Professional%20standards/Prescribing%20competency%20framework/prescribing-competency-framework.pdf>
* Royal Pharmaceutical Society (2019) A competency framework for Designated Prescribing Practitioners. Available at:

<https://www.rpharms.com/Portals/0/RPS%20document%20library/Open%20access/Professional%20standards/DPP%20Framework/DPP%20competency%20framework%20Dec%202019.pdf>

* DH Website- <http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/index.htm>
* NPC/NICE site- <http://www.nice.org.uk/mpc/>
* Journal of Prescribing Practice - <https://www.magonlinelibrary.com/loi/jprp>

Biography

Dr Deborah Robertson joined the School of Health and Society at the University of Salford, Manchester in March 2018 to teach across pre and post registration programmes including the NMP programme. Before this she worked in the faculty of Health and Social Care at University of Chester since 2004, to help teach NMP, as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public Health and Wellbeing. Deborah would describe herself as an RGN first and foremost but she also holds a BSc (Hons) and a PhD in Pharmacology. She worked for 3 years as a postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Dundee and published her work in the area of stress and depression.

She has been teaching on the Non-Medical Prescribing Course for more than 13 years and her teaching areas on the programme focus on her areas of expertise, namely Pharmacology, Legal Aspects of Prescribing and Public Health. She has been part of the North West Collaborative of Higher Education Institutions in NMP since 2004 and has been involved in the development and continued provision of e-learning resources for NMP education. Deborah holds a postgraduate diploma in professional education and her pedagogical interests involve e-learning and the delivery of the Non-Medical Prescribing Course.

Deborah is co-author, with Paul Barber, of a popular textbook, *Essentials of Pharmacology for Nurses* now in its fourth edition, published by McGraw- Hill. She has also published her first solo textbook *Essentials of Medicines Management in Mental Health Nursing.*

For the past 6 years Deborah has been consultant editor for the journal *Nurse Prescribing, now the Journal of Prescribing Practice* a role which is challenging but one she thoroughly enjoys.