

The School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences

Seminar Series 2009/10

Biography

Dr David Wright

David graduated in 1991 from the University of Bradford with a first class honours degree in Pharmacy and became a community pharmacy manager for Lloyds Chemist in York. In 1992 he secured RPSGB funding for a PhD to research the value of providing clinical pharmacy services to care homes which involved monthly visits to 300 care home residents for a 2 year period. This experience gave him the desire to both develop the pharmacist's role within primary care as well as improve the quality of pharmacy education in the UK.

In 1996 David was given a lecturer post at the School of Pharmacy in Bradford where he assumed responsibility for managing the pharmacy practice element of the undergraduate degree course. Building up a teaching and research team David supervised PhD students in the areas of pharmaceutical care within care homes & primary care pharmacy services.

A small project in 2002 considering the administration of medicines to residents in care homes in the UK gained national media attention and set the focus for David's future research interests in medicines administration. Current NHS funded projects include the evaluation of the role of a dysphagia management pharmacist at discharge, evaluation of the value of multi-disciplinary medication review in care homes and development of evidence based guidelines for administering medicines via enteral feed tubes. More recently he has collaborated with colleagues from pharmaceutical technology to develop a swallowing aid and another colleague from pharmacology to work with an electronic tongue.

In 2003 David moved to the University of East Anglia to develop and manage the professional and clinical elements of the degree with the first new school of pharmacy in the UK for over 30 years. The school has achieved 100% student satisfaction within its first three graduated cohorts. David has more recently set up a postgraduate clinical diploma in collaboration with colleagues from the South and East of England, graduating its first cohort in 2009. He has recently received Strategic Health Authority funding of £440k to provide the course to 36 community pharmacists over 3 years and evaluate its impact.

David continues to practice as a community pharmacist to this day and is currently seconded to the Eastern region Strategic Health Authority for 50% of his time. His SHA remit is to develop a regional workforce and education strategy for pharmacy.