

# Primary Care: The potential benefit of the consultant pharmacist role

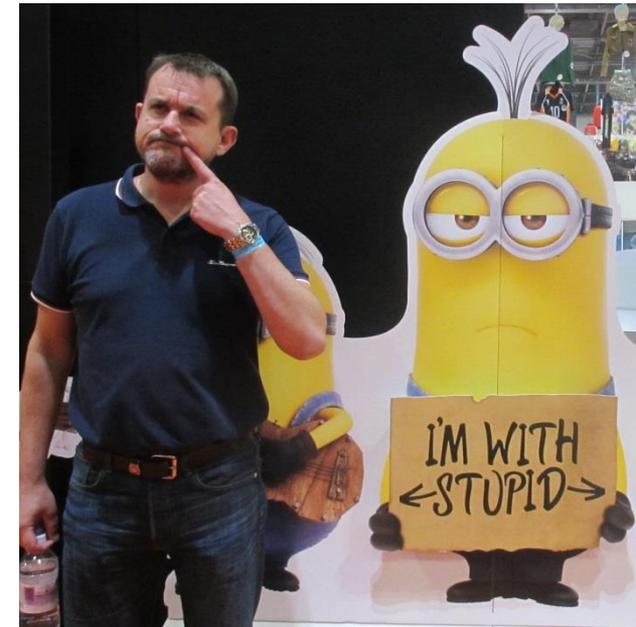
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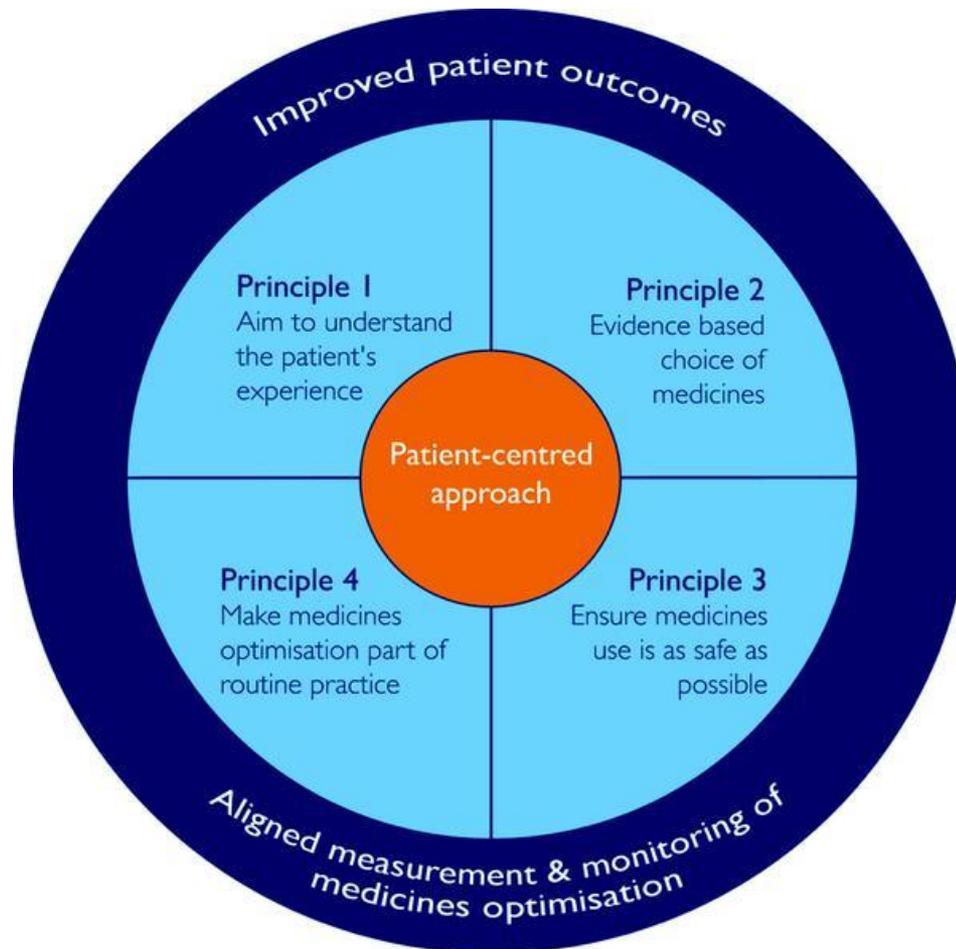
# The Primary Care Consultant Pharmacists role today

- Few in post
- Not on the radar for many CCGs

But....



# Vision of medicines optimisation



# Getting there – steps to realise the vision

- What does gold standard look like?
- How can this be championed within Primary Care?
- How do we help develop the workforce?



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Guidance for  
the Development of  
Consultant Pharmacist Posts

*Our aim in establishing consultant pharmacist posts is to:*

- Ensure that the highest level of pharmaceutical expertise is available to those patients who need it
- Make the best use of high level pharmacy skills in patient care
- Strengthen professional leadership
- Provide a new career opportunity to help retain experienced pharmacists in practice

# Benefits: Could this help as (part of) a solution to (some of) our problems?

- Pharmacist clinical skills not fully utilised
- NICE MO Guidelines: need more research and evidence base for interventions
- Medicines safety: Insufficient primary care reporting
- Leading the shift to care outside of hospitals
- Therapeutic areas require specialist clinical pharmacist support:
  - Antibiotic stewardship
  - Anticoagulation and cardiovascular medicine
  - Respiratory medicine
- Recognition of a specialist primary care role
- Limited career options for clinical pharmacy roles in primary care

# Employing or commissioning?

- Benefits of a service that employs a consultant pharmacist over one that doesn't
- Benefits of a CCG team that employs a consultant pharmacist over one that doesn't
- Co-commissioning...



# What might the consultant Pharmacist post look like?

- Expert practice
- Research, evaluation and service development
- Education, mentoring and overview of practice
- Professional leadership



# What might the consultant Pharmacist post look like?

- Clinical primary care appointments to support patient care
- Engaged with research and services to support the medicines optimisation principles
- Working with a school of pharmacy
- In a senior professional leadership role as a member of GP practice



# GP Federations

- A primary care Consultant Pharmacist in medicines optimisation?
  - Delivering high quality pharmaceutical care independently in clinics and as part of an MDT
  - Specialist clinics on behalf of a federation / primary care as a specialism
  - Ensuring good clinical governance processes are in place and followed to support patient safety and practice efficiency
  - Developing and engaging with research into primary care medicines optimisation
  - Leading and supporting GP practices with further development of the primary care / GP practice-based medicines optimisation role for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians

# Next steps: local implementation

- Is this part of a local vision?
- Do we have the right people already?
- Do we have these posts already?
- Working with RPS network to help shape this as a robust model

