

## Digital Pharmacy Expert Advisory Group (EAG) Agenda

**Wednesday 7 July 3-5pm**

**By Zoom**

### 1: Recognition

**Present** – Darren Powell (Chair), Angela Burgin, Penny Daynes, Dipak Duggal, Esther Gathogo, Stephen Goundrey-Smith, Alistair Gray, Mohammed Hussain, Rob James, Sean MacBride-Stewart, Maureen O’Sullivan, Karan Punni, Leon Zlotos

In attendance from RPS: Clare Morrison, Heidi Wright

**Apologies** – Jaime Acosta-Gomez, Anna Bunch and Euan Reid

**Declarations of interest** – Stephen Goundrey-Smith declared on interest in item 2.1 as an author of the standards

1.1	Introductions	3.00-3.30
<b>Description</b>	All group members to introduce themselves including their key areas of interest and relevant experience/expertise to contribute to the Digital Pharmacy EAG. Group members were selected to ensure a breadth of experience across different areas of digital pharmacy, including different career sectors and types of digital developments (pharmacy processes, digitally enabled care, data and systems).	
<b>Purpose</b>	For the group to get to know each other to inform future working.	
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introductions completed.</li><li>• Brief biographies for all group members to be included on RPS Digital Pharmacy EAG website (in process, to complete by the end of July).</li></ul>	

1.2	Terms of reference	3.30-3.40
<b>Description</b>	The terms of reference for the EAG (paper 1.2) were previously published.	
<b>Purpose</b>	To confirm understanding of the terms of reference. To discuss any potential amendments.	
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Typographical errors in point 7 of the terms of reference updated.</li><li>• The Group then confirmed the Terms of Reference. The updated document will be uploaded on the RPS Digital Pharmacy EAG website.</li><li>• A discussion took place about how Group members could communicate with each other. It was agreed that once RPS Connect is available in the autumn, that this will be the preferred method. In the short term, an email group will be established: all Group members are asked to send Carolyn Rattray their preferred email address and confirmation that they are happy for this to be shared with other EAG members.</li></ul>	

## 2: Relevance

- Consider tabled items, consider future areas of interest for the next six months and consider longer-term horizon scanning

2.1	PRSB Community Pharmacy standards	3.40-3.55
<b>Description</b>	The Professional Records Standards Body has asked RPS to endorse its updated community pharmacy standards (papers 2.1a,b,c). The RPS Endorsements Group would like advice from the EAG on whether to endorse the standards.	
<b>Purpose</b>	To provide advice to the RPS on whether to endorse the standards. To specifically comment on the relevance of the standards across GB (RPS is a GB-wide organisation but the standards appear to be for England only).	
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was confirmed that the standards are aligned to the English community pharmacy contract and not the Scottish/Welsh contracts, and therefore the standards are currently just for England.</li> <li>The Group agreed that RPS should endorse the standards but with caveat that they are only applicable to England at this point. It was also agreed that the RPS response should include a suggestion for PRSB to consider further work to enable the standards to be expanded to other GB nations.</li> </ul>	

2.2	Future areas of interest	3.55-4.10
<b>Description</b>	A key role for the group is to identify areas of interest that RPS should be aware of, in this agenda item for the next six-month period.	
<b>Purpose</b>	To identify areas of interest for the next six months to ensure RPS is informed about developments and areas of work, so that RPS is relevant for members. To provide advice to RPS on these areas of interest.	
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop plans to engage with the RPS membership to understand their needs in relation to digital pharmacy.</li> <li>Support RPS members' understanding of digital pharmacy through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creating resources such as a glossary of digital terms and explanations.</li> <li>Developing a bank of case studies on digital pharmacy services and transformational projects to share learning with other pharmacists.</li> <li>Both of above to be hosted on RPS Digital Pharmacy EAG website.</li> <li>Providing leadership, including EAG members contributing case studies and becoming digital pharmacy mentors via the RPS mentoring service.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Develop and position the EAG so that it has the same external influence as equivalent GP IT groups.</li> <li>Have an initial focus on shared care / integrated care records.</li> </ul>	

2.3	Horizon scanning	4.10-4.30
<b>Description</b>	A key role for the group is to identify areas of interest that RPS should be aware of, in terms of horizon scanning for the future.	

<b>Purpose</b>	To identify areas of interest for the longer term to ensure RPS is informed about developments and areas of work, so that RPS is relevant for members. To provide advice to RPS on these areas of interest.
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the digital skills/knowledge gap in pharmacy and promote the development of digital skills through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building digital skills into the RPS Advanced Practice Framework.</li> <li>Engaging with pharmacy schools on the curriculum around digital skills and innovation.</li> <li>Working with the Faculty of Clinical Informatics.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Create RPS standards for digital products and digital training. Mixed views on whether a kite mark approach could be useful (some support for this, but some thought it would be too onerous and is unclear how it would fit into existing NHS accreditation for digital products).</li> <li>Build relationships with key stakeholders in digital pharmacy (eg, digital product companies, data engineers) to support product development and product use.</li> <li>Understand the patient's journey in relation to the wider use of digital products and how pharmacy's use of digital products fits within this.</li> <li>Consider digital exclusion and how it can be addressed in pharmacy.</li> <li>Consider the development of artificial intelligence in pharmacy.</li> </ul>

### 3: Communication

<b>3.1</b>	<b>Messages for RPS members</b>	<b>4.30-4.40</b>
<b>Description</b>	Sharing information with RPS members is an essential role for RPS, and the EAG's advice on what information is useful and relevant to communicate is vital.	
<b>Purpose</b>	To decide what aspects of the EAG's work should be shared with members, and how best to share them. To make recommendations to RPS on other communication with members needed in the EAG's subject area.	
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Group agreed that an open and transparent approach to communication should be taken.</li> <li>Future meetings of the Group should have open and closed business, with the open business open to observers to join.</li> <li>The agenda for meetings should be published on the RPS Digital Pharmacy EAG website in advance of meetings, and updated to include the outcomes after the meeting.</li> </ul>	

<b>3.2</b>	<b>RPS Connect</b>	<b>4.40-4.55</b>
<b>Description</b>	A wider specialist interest community that will support the Digital Pharmacy EAG is via RPS Connect, both in terms of providing information for the EAG and disseminating the work of the EAG. An update about RPS Connect will be provided by the RPS Lead for this new service (Clare Morrison, RPS Director for Scotland).	

# ROYAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY

<b>Purpose</b>	To understand plans for RPS Connect. To consider how to use RPS Connect to interact with the wider community.
<b>Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Group supported the development of RPS Connect.</li><li>• It agreed to use RPS Connect to communicate with members in future, by creating a Digital Pharmacy network within RPS Connect. This will be open to all RPS members and Group members will participate in discussions in this network.</li><li>• It was agreed to discuss whether RPS Connect could be open to non-members in future.</li></ul>

## 4: Any other business

- RPS had been asked to complete a survey about the NHS England draft Data Strategy (received after the agenda for the meeting was circulated). A draft response has been produced by the RPS Policy & Practice Lead for England and will be sent to Group members for comment. Comments are requested by Monday 19 July.