In 2012 the Department of Health in England announced that advanced practice physiotherapists and podiatrists in the UK will be the first in the world to be able to independently prescribe medicines without a doctor authorising their decision.

This will allow physiotherapists and podiatrists in Northern Ireland to prescribe any licensed medicine and to also mix medicines prior to administration. This means physiotherapists and podiatrists will have similar prescribing responsibilities to those of other non-medical professionals, like nurses and pharmacists.

This development will lead to major improvements in care, with patients being offered quicker and more direct access to the medicines and treatment they need. The opportunity to prescribe pain relief and other medicines will also help many patients to respond more quickly to their treatment, leading to faster improvements in movement, performance and function.

Giving physiotherapists the opportunity to prescribe independently will hugely improve the care that can be provided in the future for a wide range of illnesses such as respiratory diseases like asthma, neurological disorders, rheumatological conditions, women’s health issues as well as for chronic pain and mobility problems.

This development is consistent with the aims and objectives outlined in Transforming Your Care and will mean patients will be able to receive the right care, at the right time in the right location. It will lead to a more efficient service as an unnecessary burden will be removed from doctors, with physiotherapists and podiatrists taking full responsibility and accountability for the prescribing decisions they make.

Physiotherapists, podiatrists and other AHPs currently working as supplementary prescribers have observed huge benefits, with their patients experiencing less painful episodes, quicker treatment and faster recovery.

This conference will examine how the introduction of Independent Prescribing for AHPs in Northern Ireland along with the other developments in direct access to AHP services can help bring about the changes envisaged in Transforming Your Care.

Tom Sullivan
CHARTERED SOCIETY OF PHYSIOTHERAPY
Arthur House
Arthur Street
Belfast BT1 4GB
Tel 028 90446249
To reserve your place please RSVP to: mcerleanh@csp.org.uk

The media has been invited and a photographer will be in attendance at the event.
Conference Programme

Patient Centred Prescribing
Maximising the Value of Non-medical Prescribing and Early Intervention in Transforming Your Care
University of Ulster (Jordanstown)
Tuesday 29th April 2014

8:30am to 9:00am  Breakfast Twitter Clinic - Dr Steven Kinnear

Morning Sessions
9:00am to 9:30am  Registration & Coffee

Theme: The Big Picture
9:30am to 10.00am  Welcome and Keynote Address
                    Heather Moorhead, Director, NICON
                    Edwin Poots, MLA, Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety

10.00am to 10.20am  AHP Strategy - Improving Health and Wellbeing Through Positive Partnerships
                    Hazel Winning, AHP Adviser, DHSSPSNI

10.20am to 10.40am  The Value of Independent Prescribing – Improving Services, Improving Outcomes
                    Karen Middleton, Chief Executive, CSP

10.40am to 10.50am  Questions and Answer Session

10.50am to 11.20am  Tea/Coffee Break

Theme: improving Patient Care and Service Delivery- Sharing Best Practice
11:20am to 11.40pm  Self Referral - Opportunities and Challenges - South Eastern Early Implementer Project.
                    Shane Breen, AHP Consultant, Public Health Agency

11.40pm to 12:10pm  Independent Prescribing – The Nursing Perspective
                    Sally Lynch, Nurse Independent Prescriber, Southern Trust

12:10pm to 12:30pm  Independent Prescribing – Making it Happen
                    Cathy Harrison, Acting Senior Principal Pharmaceutical Officer, DHSSPSNI

12:30pm to 12.50pm  Panel Question and Answer Session

LUNCH & NETWORKING

Afternoon Session

Theme: The Patient at the Centre
1:50pm to 2:05pm  Transforming Your Care – Strategic Overview
                    Pamela McCreedy, Project Director, Transforming Your Care

2:05 to 2.25pm  Self-Management Project
                    Martina Blake, Self-Management Co-Ordinator, WHSCT

2:25pm to 2:45pm  Local Commissioning Services – “Right Service, Right Time, Right Location”
                    Sheelin McKeagney, Chairman, Local Commissioning Group (Southern)

2:45pm to 3:05pm  ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION (with rolling tea/coffee)

Theme: Making it Happen- The Next Steps
3.15pm to 3.35pm  AHP Prescribing in Action - The benefits of extending the AHP role
                    Kerry Clarke, UUJ & North West Pediatric Foundation
                    Matthew T. J. Fitzpatrick, Dean of Podiatric Medicine – College of Podiatry, University of Southampton
                    Diane McKeagney, Queen’s Nurse, Non-Medical Prescribing Lead, East Lancashire NHS Trust

3.35pm to 3.50pm  Panel Discussion

3.50pm to 4.00pm  Conclusions & Next Steps - Kerry Clarke

Who should attend?
Healthcare Commissioners, TYC Implementation Leads, GPs, Clinicians, Voluntary Sector Organisations and Patient Representatives.

This conference is supported by funding from pharmaceutical companies Napp and Pfizer