Module Title; Introduction to Health and Social Care	*Module Code; LCHS4003*
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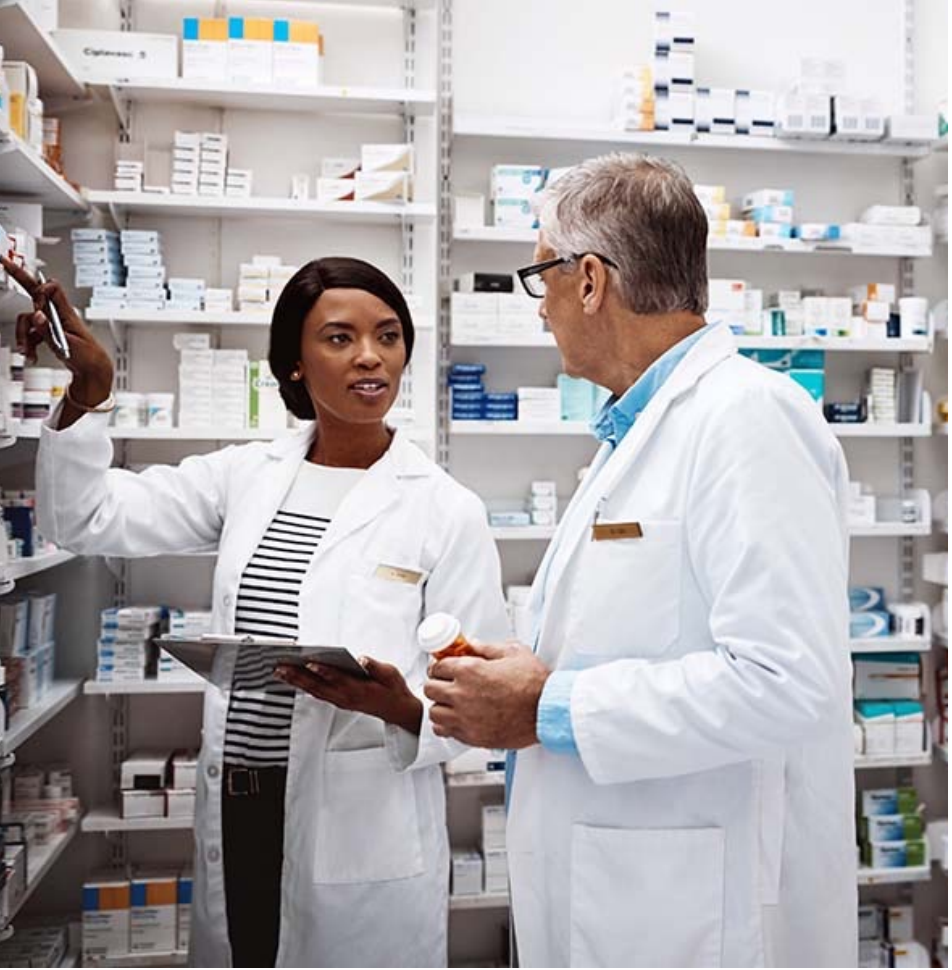
Pharmacy Services

Assessment 1

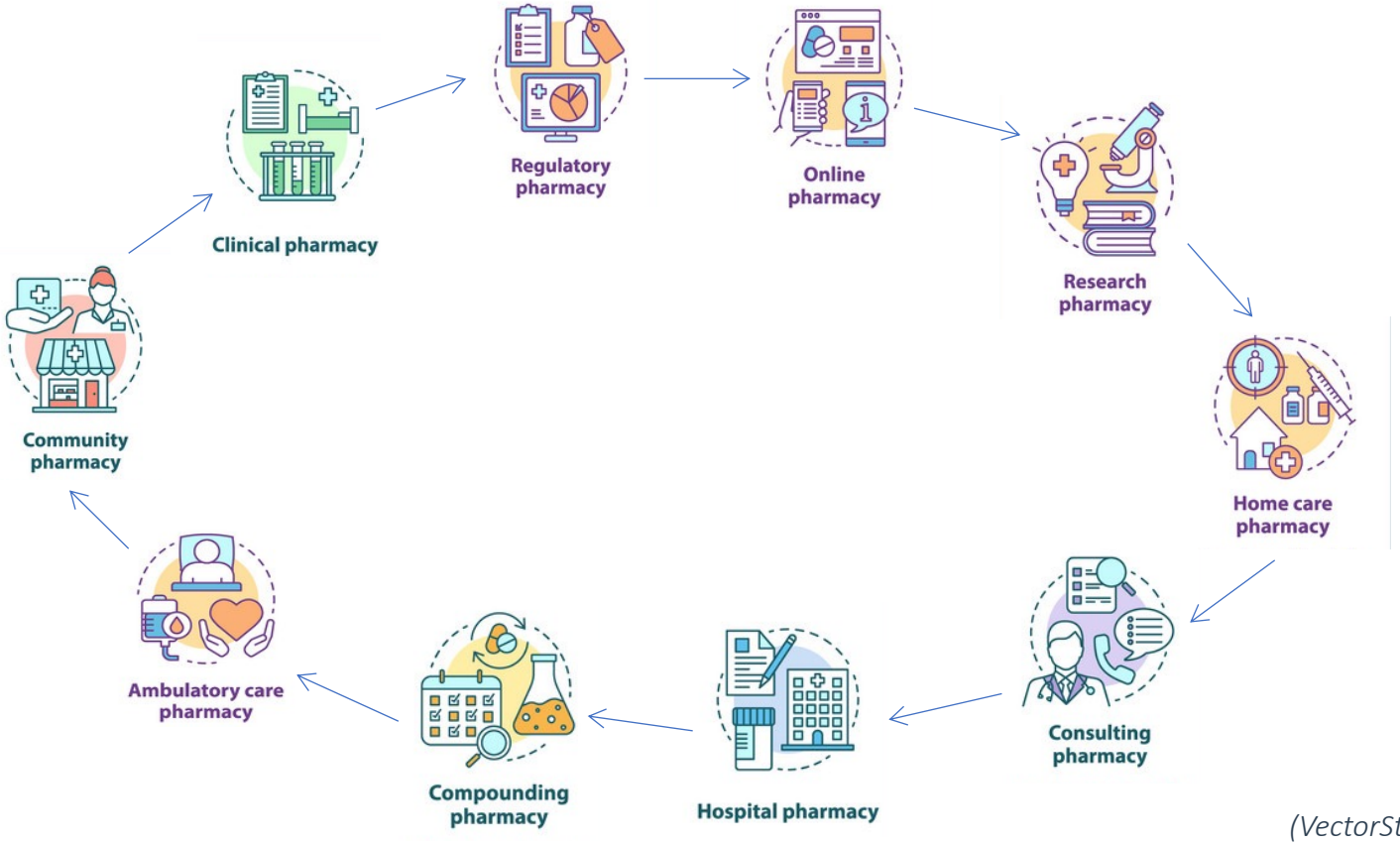


Introduction to Pharmacy Services

Pharmacy services are usually run by a variety of highly trained healthcare professionals. These pharmacists can provide you information about any query's you may have regarding your health and they may also administer therapy and certain medications over the counter without you needing to see a medical doctor.

Pharmacists play a vital role in patient care by ensuring that medications are used appropriately to achieve the best possible outcomes. (nhs.uk, 2024)

Types of Pharmacies in todays day and age



(VectorStock, n.d.)

Types of Pharmacy services

- *Medication Dispensing*
- *Medication therapy management*
- *Patient counselling*
- *Chronic disease management*
- *Health and wellbeing education*
- *Tele pharmacy*
- *Immunization Services*
- *Health screening and preventive care*
- *Compound Services*

Pharmacy services in the 19th Century

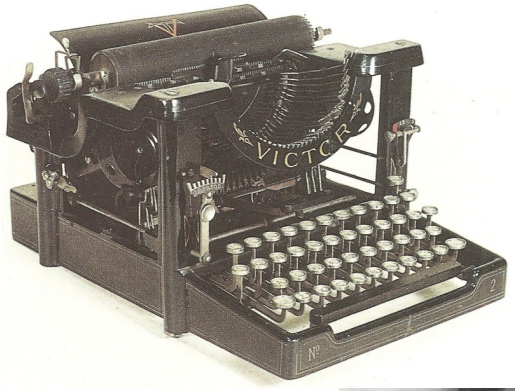
In 1948, Pharmacy services were significantly different compared to the present day, below are a few critical elements of pharmacy services during that period;

***Compounding**; Most medications were created specifically to fit the needs of each patient, it was common to create most medications by mixing raw ingredients together, hence why most medications were not pre-manufactured the way they are today.*

***Dispensing;** Most medications were dispensed in glass bottles and over the counter drugs were very limited, almost all drugs were prescribed by professional doctors.*

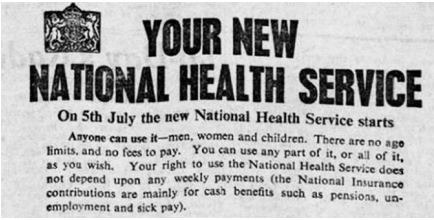
***Role;** Pharmacist's played an important role in public health, they were the first point of contact for medical advice and treatments in areas where doctors were less accessible.*

***Equipment and Technology;** During this time the technology was relatively simple, they used mortar and pestles for compounding, balances for measuring ingredients and manual typewriters for labels and records. (Connelly, 2018)*



Evolution of the NHS

How it has developed



YOUR NEW NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

On 5th July the new National Health Service starts

Anyone can use it—men, women and children. There are no age limits, and no fees to pay. You can use any part of it, or all of it, as you wish. Your right to use the National Health Service does not depend upon any weekly payments (the National Insurance contributions are mainly for cash benefits such as pensions, unemployment and sick pay).

1 1948

The birth of National Health Service (NHS) is introduced by Aneurin Bevan providing free prescriptions to everyone.

2 1958

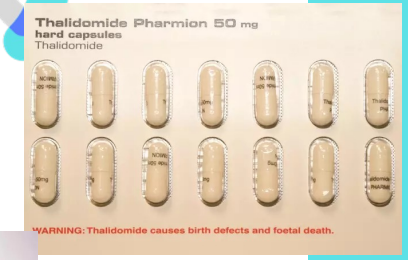
Pharmacists gain responsibility over safe and secure handling of medicine throughout the whole hospital, not just the pharmacy department.

3 1963

Stronger drug safety is involved to prevent another disaster known as 'thalidomide' which was instantly taken off the market in 1961 due to causing birth defects.

4 1986

Pharmacy on - call system is introduced after the Nuffield Report recommended a 24 hour cover in Clinical Pharmacy service.



5 1991

Nicotine gum was introduced as the first replacement therapy available in pharmacies.

6 1999

National Institute for clinical excellence is founded, with the role of creating constant guidelines.

7 2001

Levonelle; the first emergency hormonal contraception available expanding the importance of women's health.

8 2003

Non medical prescribing to improve patient care.

9 2015

Pharmacists in England are granted access to patients records and the GP services are funded by the government, A seasonal flu vaccination is introduced.

10 2016

New quality payment scheme is introduced.

11 2017

NHS England offers national recommendations on a range of drugs that should no longer be regularly given in primary care, with the goal of saving £140 million annually.

12 2018

Unintentional dispensing mistakes are decriminalized marking the end of a 10 year struggle to eliminate the danger if criminal punishment.

Connelly, D. (2018).

Pharmacy services Today
And how is it currently running?

NHS

Providing NHS services

Pharmacy services are now responding to a fast changing healthcare ecosystem characterized by technological advances, sometimes regulatory obstacles and increasing responsibility for pharmacists

Pharmacies in 2024 are now adopting digital platforms to enhance patient care, this makes it easy for healthcare professionals to keep record of their patients and keep track of their progress, in todays day and age patients have options to get home delivery and even home appointments by a member of staff, this as you may know wasn't an option back in the day, patients are now able to purchase any medication over the counter and don't necessarily need a doctors note/prescription, the NHS also allows people who are under the senior age to receive free medication

(60yearsofnhsscotland.co.uk, n.d.)

How has the Pharmacy services improved since 1948?

Evolving roles of Pharmacists;

NHS has made it easy for pharmacists to expand their roles beyond dispensing medication, this includes immunizations, health screening and chronic disease management, not only does this improve patients outcome but it opens new careers paths for pharmacists.

Pressure;

The Centre's of Medicare services has implemented a variety of new rules which have provided both opportunities and challenges for pharmacists, many pharmacies are facing Financial strain due to lower rates

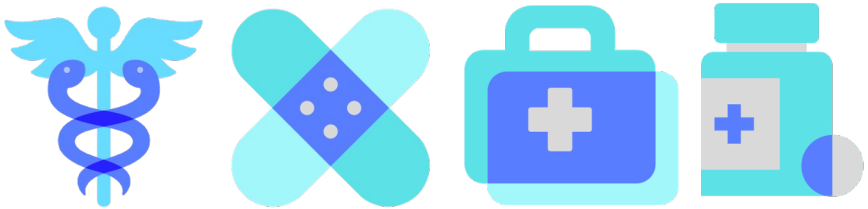
Digital Transformation;

The industry has rapidly embraced technology and began to provide services such as online consultations, medication management and even home delivery, making it convenient for patients

Technology advancements;

Things like AI, automation and robotics are being brought into pharmacy operations, allowing less errors and improves efficiency, allowing the pharmacists to focus more on patient care

Reference List



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