

SPCR internship projects 2026

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Name & email of reviewer(s) for applicants applying to undertake this internship project: Prof Ellen Schafheutle ellen.schafheutle@manchester.ac.uk
Length and dates of internship: 4 weeks: in June/ July 2026 – to be discussed and agreed with intern
Host department: Institute of Population Health, University of Manchester
How will the internship be conducted: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In person at the university <input type="checkbox"/> Virtual/ from home <input type="checkbox"/> Both are possible, depending on preference of student
Title internship project: Community pharmacy as part of primary care and neighbourhoods
Summary of the internship project: <i>(max 250 words, can include hyperlinks to further information)</i> Pharmacists are playing increasingly clinical roles in primary care, including community pharmacy. Increasing numbers of pharmacists become independent prescribers (IP), and from 2026 all newly qualified pharmacists will register with an IP annotation. Pharmacy technicians are also gaining increasing levels of responsibility and are crucial in supporting pharmacists to deliver high quality clinical, patient-facing services. At the Centre for Pharmacy Workforce Studies (CPWS), often in collaboration with the Centre for Pharmacy Postgraduate Education (CPPE), we undertake studies to evaluate and inform pharmacy policy and practice. These studies are often mix-methods and, besides being informed by existing evidence, commonly involve quantitative (surveys) and qualitative (interviews, focus groups) elements. We have a number of such studies currently ongoing. One example is our study PREPARE (Pharmacy Readiness for ExPAnDED Roles & Enhanced care). This involves interviews with community pharmacy contractors/ owners and a census survey of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to investigate how ready they are community pharmacies' roles in neighbourhoods – under the 10 Year Health Plan our studies will offer an opportunity for an intern to experience being part of a research team (CPWS), and offer excellent insights into engaging with existing evidence, informing study design, collecting and analysing data. An intern may also have the opportunity to support with our

application for university ethics committee approval and possibly some secondary data analysis. We would hope that an intern could do things that add value to the overall work beyond what has been commissioned.

Learning objectives:

- To experience being part of a research team, based in [CPWS](#) at the University of Manchester, with links to Population Health at the University of Manchester
- To be exposed to literature review, survey and/or qualitative interview design, data manipulation and analysis

Any further information:

This would be most suited to a pharmacy student, however students studying other subjects with an interest in healthcare and applied health services research are welcome, as general study purpose and methods are relevant to other workforce studies in primary care.