



**Royal  
Pharmaceutical  
Society**  
of Great Britain

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# News release

**For immediate release**

**Tuesday 6 May 2003**

## **SOCIETY TO PROCEED WITH REGULATION OF PHARMACY TECHNICIANS**

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has received confirmation that Government ministers have agreed that the Society can proceed with its proposals for the regulation of pharmacy technicians, including registration with the Society.

Legislation covering the Society's proposals for modernisation is to be drafted later in the year and this will include a regulatory framework for pharmacy technicians.

At a meeting held on 30 April the Society's Council agreed to proceed with the implementation of the regulatory framework that it had approved in December 2002. Subject to legislation being in place, mandatory registration of pharmacy technicians will be introduced from 01 January 2007. This will be preceded by a two-year voluntary registration period.

From 2007, the acceptable qualification for entry to the register will be the S/NVQ Level 3 in Pharmacy Services which includes an accredited underpinning knowledge programme. Transitional arrangements will operate during the two-year voluntary period that will enable those with the responsibilities, experience and training background of pharmacy technicians (though this may have pre-dated S/NVQs) to register if they so wish.

/more follows

Janet Flint, the Society's project manager, support staff regulation, said: "We are delighted that ministers have confirmed that the Society is the most appropriate body to regulate pharmacy technicians. Extending professional regulation to pharmacy technicians will help pharmacists and pharmacy technicians better serve the public".

Darren Leech, President of the Association of Pharmacy Technicians UK said: "The Association is very pleased with the decisions taken by both ministers and by Council. We look forward to working with the Society throughout implementation of the regulatory framework and will aim to ensure that the views and interests of pharmacy technicians are fully considered. Setting a clear standard for pharmacy technicians through registration will also help all of pharmacy, when planning for both the future workforce and future service developments".

For further information please contact Janet Flint in the Society's practice division on 020 7572 2410 or by e-mail on [jflint@rpsgb.org.uk](mailto:jflint@rpsgb.org.uk).

**Ends**

**For further information please contact Natalie Sticklen or Zoë Davies in the  
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#### **Notes to editors**

The 1999 Health Act enables health regulatory bodies to regulate activities carried on by persons who are not members of the profession but which are carried on in connection with the practice of the profession without the need for primary legislation (Schedule 3 paragraph 11(2)(b)). The Society will seek enabling powers to implement its proposals via an Order in Council under Section 60 of the Act, which allows for the modification of the regulation of professions listed under the Act.