

The Clinical Knowledge Review

The Clinical Knowledge Review (CKR) forms one component of the Practice Review process and enables pharmacists to demonstrate competence in the area of clinical knowledge, as identified in the legislation. In this review pharmacists are presented with eighteen patient cases and are asked to answer three multiple choice questions (MCQs) on each case (resulting in a total of fifty four MCQs).

Pharmacists will have one hour and 48 minutes to complete the CKR. This allows six minutes per patient case (two minutes per MCQ). In order to reflect realistic practice settings, the CKR is an 'open book' format and pharmacists will therefore have access to online references as described below. The patient cases are all written and reviewed by a group of peer pharmacists. They are designed to be reflective of situations which pharmacists practising in patient-facing roles would be expected to be capable of dealing with.

Undertaking the CKR

The CKR will take place in a room with individually allocated computer stations and will be carried out in an online electronic format. Pharmacists will be provided with the opportunity to become familiar with this online format in advance of the Practice Review event by accessing the support resources described below.

Each MCQ will have three potential answers listed. Pharmacists should review these three options and select the one that is felt to be the "Single Best Answer" to the MCQ. Only one option should be selected as the "Single Best Answer" for each of the MCQs. If, having reviewed a number of reference sources, the pharmacist feels that there are two potentially correct answers listed amongst the options for the MCQ they should select the option that is felt to be the "Single Best Answer" taking into account what would be reflected in the normal course of practice.

References

Direct access will be provided to the following online resources during the Clinical Knowledge Review (CKR):

Irish Institute of Pharmacy website (To access CKR)	www.iiop.ie
Medicines Complete*	www.medicinescomplete.com
Health Products Regulatory Authority website	www.hpra.ie
Medicines Information online	www.medicines.ie

*Access to the Medicines Complete database includes online versions of the following references:

- British National Formulary
- British National Formulary for Children
- Martindale: The Complete Drug Reference
- Stockley's Drug Interactions

It is possible to answer all of the MCQs within the CKR by referring to these references.

As access is provided to **online** references only, pharmacists are welcome to bring any of their own hardcopies of references. It is advised to bring up to date versions of hardcopy references.

Note: The essential references to which pharmacists should have access in their pharmacy setting are described in the PSI "Guidelines on the Equipment Requirements of a Retail Pharmacy Business". These 'essential references' include additional references to those listed above. As open internet access is provided during both components of Practice Review, pharmacists are free to access these additional references if they so wish.

Preparing for the CKR

The CKR is designed to be reflective of situations which pharmacists practising in patient-facing roles would be expected to be capable of dealing with. In order to provide an opportunity to practice and prepare, a sample CKR is available [here](#). This will enable participants to become familiar with the format of the CKR in advance of Practice Review. As in practice, you will have access to the references required to answer all questions included in the CKR.

If a pharmacist feels they require additional support in navigating the online format of the CKR they should contact the IIOP.

The sample CKR can be used to practice examples of the types of MCQs that may be encountered and to gain familiarity with the computer based format. Pharmacists are required to answer all of the MCQs within the CKR and therefore time-management is important. The sample CKR enables participants to practice answering the MCQs within the allotted time.

CKR Outcome

The outcome for the CKR will be determined based on analysis of the performance of pharmacists in comparison to the baseline level of competence that would be expected of a pharmacist practising in a patient-facing role. These standards will be set peer pharmacists. This will be conducted by and overseen by experts and it means that the required standard will vary for each MCQ.

Pharmacists are provided with feedback which enables them to evaluate their scores in comparison to those pharmacists who have undertaken the same CKR as them. This process can take a number of weeks so no information on how the pharmacist performed will be available at the Practice Review event.