

## Pharmacy sample interview questions

### Assessing your communication skills

**Example question:** *Why are you interested in studying pharmacy?*

**Why do we ask this?** Communication is an essential part of being a practicing pharmacist. We want to ensure that you have the potential to develop these skills including listening, comprehension and speaking.

**Top tips:** Smile, be engaging and try to converse with the interviewer by taking turns at speaking and listening.

**Example question:** *From the video you watched before the interview today. Can you remember how many GPhC Standards for pharmacy professionals there are? (the correct answer is 9)*

**Why do we ask this?** A registered pharmacist must have the knowledge, skills and behaviours to practice safely.

We want to assess your ability to absorb, digest and discuss information and topics related to the GPhC Standards for Professional Standards.

**Top tips:** Make sure you have prepared for your interview by watching the video link you have been sent.

### Assessing your numeracy skills (non-calculator)

**Example question:** *A patient takes two 500 milligram paracetamol tablets, three times a day. How many milligrams of paracetamol does the patient take each day? (the correct answer is 3000 milligrams)*

**Why do we ask this?** The regulatory body states that a pharmacist must have 'a good sense of number' and the registration assessment currently consists of a numeracy paper. We want to ensure that you have the ability to extract relevant information from a question and perform calculations accurately.

**Top tips:** Although you are not permitted to use a calculator, you can use pen and paper to write notes to help you answer the numeracy questions.

## Assessing your values and judgement

**Example question:** *You work part time in a pharmacy as a counter assistant, working regular Saturdays but sometimes being called upon at short notice to cover evening shifts when necessary. One evening, the shop manager calls you and asks you to work that evening. He tells you that one of your co-workers has phoned in sick and the shop will be short staffed as a result. Another colleague has already worked a full day and she will need to carry on to also cover the evening shift if you are unable to help. You apologise and explain that you cannot cover this evening because you have tickets to a pop concert that you booked months ago. While waiting in the queue to enter the concert venue, that evening, you see your co-worker ahead of you in the queue. What would you do?*

*(An appropriate response might be "I would discuss this with my co-worker and tell them this was irresponsible and unethical. I would tell them that I would have to talk to the manager if this happened again." An inappropriate response would be "I would tell my co-worker that I would help cover for them if they paid for my ticket.").*

**Why do we ask this?** The standards for pharmacy professionals include 'behave in a professional manner', 'speak up when they have concerns or when things go wrong', and 'use professional judgement'. These standards need to be maintained in both working and non-working life so we want to ensure that you can do this.

**Top tips:** Make sure you understand the scenario and ask for clarification, if you need it.