## Pride In Pharmacy: Supporting Your LGBTQ+ Patients

[Pride in Practice](https://lgbt.foundation/how-we-can-help-you/pride-in-practice) are delighted to announce the launch of two new training opportunities for community pharmacy staff in Greater Manchester. Our [Pride in Pharmacy resource](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Q4UkdTaCe0yTwcozbYwP0YwfAGTNJYCfQj28zdXRZnw/edit#slide=id.g1171989f293_0_11) and [upcoming training webinar](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/pride-in-pharmacy-training-webinar-greater-manchester-tickets-358612067347) are designed to support you to provide inclusive and equitable healthcare to your lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer and questioning (LGBTQ+) patients.

This June, the UK celebrated 50 years of Pride. Over the last five decades, we have made strides in advancing the safety and wellbeing of LGBTQ+ communities. However, there is still work to be done. LGBT Foundation’s [Hidden Figures report](https://dxfy8lrzbpywr.cloudfront.net/Files/b9398153-0cca-40ea-abeb-f7d7c54d43af/Hidden%2520Figures%2520FULL%2520REPORT%2520Web%2520Version%2520Smaller.pdf) (2020) demonstrates that LGBTQ+ people experience poorer health outcomes compared to the general population. Despite this, many LGBTQ+ people experience barriers to accessing primary care, ranging from discrimination through to healthcare professionals lacking the knowledge or confidence to provide equitable care. Pride in Practice’s latest [Patient Experience Survey](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-gFPdpjB8mfFtgdAti-4PH0pPB7fcow1/view) found that, of over 900 respondents, more than a quarter did not feel their community pharmacy meets their needs as an LGBTQ+ person.

Those who are multiply marginalised are likely to face even greater barriers to accessing inclusive and equitable healthcare. Across all primary care services, Queer, Trans and Intersex People of Colour (QTIPoC) were six times more likely to have experienced discrimination or unfair treatment than white LGBTQ+ respondents. Disabled LGBTQ+ people were eight times more likely to have experienced discrimination at a pharmacy than non-disabled respondents.

Community pharmacy is an accessible healthcare service in a strong position to support patients who can’t – or won’t – access healthcare elsewhere. Therefore, it is crucial that you and your pharmacy team feel confident to meet the individual needs of your patients. Pride in Practice are therefore pleased to announce two new ways that you can develop your knowledge and confidence around LGBTQ+ inclusive practice:

1. **Complete our** [**Pride in Pharmacy resource**](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Q4UkdTaCe0yTwcozbYwP0YwfAGTNJYCfQj28zdXRZnw/edit#slide=id.g1171989f293_0_11)**!**

Pride in Pharmacy is a new interactive online learning tool. The resource comprises bite-sized modules for self-directed or team-based learning around key themes in LGBTQ+ primary care. Pride in Pharmacy is designed to equip your community pharmacy team with simple actions to develop strong, positive, trusting relationships with your local LGBTQ+ communities.

1. **Register for our** [**Pride in Pharmacy training webinar**](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/pride-in-pharmacy-training-webinar-greater-manchester-tickets-358612067347)**!**

Thanks to funding from NHS England and the Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership, we are able to offer freeinclusion training to community pharmacy staff in Greater Manchester. Our first remote webinar will take place on Tuesday 26 July, 5-6pm, on Zoom. Tickets are limited and can be [reserved via Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/pride-in-pharmacy-training-webinar-greater-manchester-tickets-358612067347).

Community pharmacy teams in Greater Manchester are also invited to book the full Pride in Practice programme for free, comprising:

* One hour of LGBTQ+ inclusion training for all pharmacy staff
* An assessment for an accredited Pride in Practice award endorsed by the Royal Pharmaceutical Society (People using primary care services displaying a Pride in Practice Award, LGBTQ+ posters or literature are 30% more likely to say those services met their needs!)
* And the ongoing support of an account manager with any questions relating to LGBTQ+ care

We hope that these initiatives will help you feel confident to provide inclusive and equitable care to your LGBTQ+ patients. For more information about Pride in Practice, including details of how to book the programme for your pharmacy, contact us a pip@lgbt.foundation