

## S03-2 **Optimal professional development for future pharmacists**

○Mitsuru UCHIYAMA<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Council on Pharmacists Credentials

---

Optimal lifelong learning involves action principles and objectives that must be shared by all involved parties. Pharmacists have a responsibility to contribute patient-centered care and community health development. To perform their mission they must plan their own learning through CPD(continuing professional development) while keeping in mind the following two practical goals, improving general professional competence and developing specialties in particular field.

CPD is basically self-directed and differs from university education because it is based on the viewpoint of “learners”. In CPD, learning plans are formed based on self-appraisal, preferably by clearly stating future career and occupational goals. Professional development is not just the accumulation of knowledge, but also a means to achieve goals. Learning tasks are selected from standards that are prepared based on ideas and notions in actual pharmacy practice. Training methods, location, and frequency are chosen by learners from a vast amount of available information. The quality of instructors impacts on whether learners make appropriate choices. However, instructors must propose and suggest rather than force or restrain.

Society’s trust in learning records can only be gained by proving these records using various accredited credentials.