

CPD unplanned learning form – military pharmacy

1. Describe an unplanned event or activity that enabled you to learn something new or refresh your knowledge or skills.

We had a recent change to policy where a new anti-malarial will be used in preference to another. We use malaria tablets a lot in the military but the expense of the medicine means we monitor its use closely. One of the prescribers asked why it is only used for a week instead of the normal four weeks. I thought it was something to do with the action of the drug but wasn't completely sure. I decided to look into it and report back. After checking the BNF, MIMMS and the eMC I still didn't have the answer. I decided to speak to the medicines information team at the supplier. They provided me with information of the efficacy with only 7 days use after leaving a malarious area. It kills the parasites at stage one in the liver which lasts up to 7 days. The blood stage lasts for up to 28 hence the difference in duration of treatment.

2. Give an example of how this learning benefited the people using your services.

I will be able to explain to patients and prescribers the difference in duration of use and provide them assurance about the effectiveness of the medicine.

When I explained to the prescriber's they thanked me for helping them keep their prescribing knowledge up to date – in fact it was something they realised they had temporarily forgotten in this instance.

There is a description of the activity you took part in that enabled new learning

There is a description what you have learnt

There is a description how you have applied the learning

There is a description how the learning – once you have applied it – has benefited the people using your services, illustrated with an example