



# United Kingdom Clinical Pharmacy Association

For immediate release

## Press Release

UK. 25 January 2012

### **Heading:** UKCPA Critical Care Group announce a new Chair

The United Kingdom Clinical Pharmacy Association (UKCPA) is delighted to announce the appointment of a new Chair to the Critical Care Group. Greg Barton, a critical care and burns pharmacist at St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, will replace Mark Borthwick who stepped down as Chair after four years as head of the Group.

Mark has demonstrated outstanding leadership for the Group. One of the first specialist curricula in pharmacy was developed by the Critical Care Group and is now used as the basis for the professional recognition ('credentialing') process for advanced critical care practitioners, an initiative that was also developed under Mark's leadership<sup>1</sup>. A total of 17 practitioners have been through the process in the last three years and are now recognized as practicing at advanced level in their speciality.

Mark also developed strong relationships with other critical care organisations during his time as Chair, such as the Intensive Care Society, to the extent that pharmacists are now fully recognized and respected as a crucial part of the critical care team.

The Group are also responsible for the development of the clinical guidelines of Antiviral Management of Influenza A (H1N1) in Critical Care, which won the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Clinical Pharmacist of the Year Award in 2011.

Mark says, "It has been my privilege and honour to serve as Chair for the last few years. The Group and Committee are dedicated, talented and very hard working. They look out for each other and I know Greg is in good hands. I know Greg will work well with the committee, drawing on his considerable energy to co-ordinate and develop the group's activities which will surely significantly grow in the future."

Cathrine McKenzie, a member of the Critical Care Group says, "On behalf of the Critical Care Group, I extend my thanks to Mark for all the hard work and superb contribution he has made to the Group. We welcome Greg Barton, a highly committed critical care pharmacist, who is more than capable of taking on the Group and will deliver us to an even higher table."

Greg Barton says "I am honoured that the Critical Care Group invited me to join the team and act as its Chair. I'm looking forward to being involved in and learning from the rest of the group."

Greg began to specialise in critical care pharmacy in 2004 and also has experience in burns, emergency medicine and palliative care. He has been Chair of the Cheshire and Mersey Critical Care Network Pharmacists group since 2006, is an independent prescriber and hopes to begin work on a PhD in the near future.

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UKCPA are delighted to welcome Greg to the organization and look forward to working with him. We are also hugely grateful to Mark Borthwick for his outstanding achievements with the Critical Care Group. He will still be involved on the Group's Committee and in the initiatives it is involved in.

1. McKenzie CA Borthwick M, Thacker M, Shulman R, Offord R, McRobbie D, , Assessing and Credentialing Advanced or Higher Level Practice 2010; Pharmaceutical Journal Vol 286.

### **Notes to Editors**

The United Kingdom Clinical Pharmacy Association was established in 1981 with the aim of supporting and encouraging the emergence of clinical pharmacy. It brings together like-minded pharmacists from different practice areas to share knowledge, research and experiences. We provide a forum for pharmacists and technicians in all settings, notably community and hospital, to discuss and resolve current clinical issues.

The Association's mission statement is – 'The UKCPA promotes expert practice in medicines management for the benefit of patients, the public and members by establishing standards, workforce development and advancing innovation in all health care settings. The UKCPA encourages Excellence, Leadership and Partnership'.

Website: [www.ukcpa.org](http://www.ukcpa.org)

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