

# Traineeship in pharmacy - main aim and other advantages

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**Introduction/Background:** The requirement about 6 months of pharmacy traineeship as a part of the preconditions for a pharmacist-license has its origin within the European Union (EU), and applies also within the Economic European Area (EEA). The requirement is «six-month traineeship in a pharmacy which is open to the public or in a hospital, under the supervision of that hospital's pharmaceutical department». Due to the possibility to study pharmacy on both a bachelor and a master level, the organization of the traineeship varies between the Nordic countries. The traineeship during bachelor degree is at least in some of the educations shorter than 6 months whereas, all master students fulfill the 6 months traineeship requirements. A concern, however, is that it is unclear what the expected outcome of the traineeship should be. Master students at the University of Oslo have presented ideas about an ideal traineeship that do not fully agree with the traditional contents of the traineeship there. They emphasize, for example, the need for education and training regarding medical devices. We therefore want to interview community and hospital pharmacists, as well as pharmacy students, before and after traineeship. Mapping of other stakeholders' views will be undertaken at a later stage, if feasible.

**Aim:** To map what the overall purpose of the traineeship should be, what sub-objectives there should be, and what competencies the fully trained pharmacy student should have, as well as how one can achieve the aims that emerge.

**Topics to be addressed:** A workshop at the NSPC gives the opportunity to discuss with pharmacists from other Nordic/Baltic countries what results/outcomes one expects from pharmacy traineeship as well as how to achieve those results/outcomes. Wished participants in the workshop are from a variety of countries and have a variety of job experiences within the field of pharmacy, in order to get a grasp on how pharmacists in other Nordic/Baltic countries view the traineeship and consequently the role of the community/hospital pharmacist. If a large number of participants attend, then the participants will be organized into smaller groups while discussing the subject.

**Learning outcomes:** After the workshop the participants should have a good overview of the similarities and differences in organization of traineeship in the Nordic countries. Furthermore, the participants should know what feasible overall aim and sub-objectives could be, as well as what needs/wishes for changes in the organization of the traineeship there might be. The participants should also have gained knowledge of some possibilities regarding how to implement such potential changes.

**Suggested readings:** Available documentation on traineeship-organization in other EU/EEA countries.

**Reference:** DIRECTIVE 2005/36/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL. Accessed on 15.12.2014 at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CONSLEG:2005L0036:20110324:EN:PDF>