

The NHS Alliance / Humana PBC Academy is launching a training programme in essential skills for effective practice based commissioning. This is a national programme supported by the Department of Health and two pilot SHA regions, one of which is the West Midlands SHA region and if you work in this area, you are now invited to apply for the training modules and make the most of this exciting opportunity.

Combining modular half-day courses and web-based learning resources and reinforcement exercises, the PBC Academy will allow GPs and others (most likely to be other clinicians) involved in PBC to tailor their training to their own personal needs and to those of their practice, cluster or consortium.

The 11 modules (which are on a 'pick 'n mix' basis) are designed to respond to the most common questions posed by a Practice Based Commissioner:

The modules are as outlined.

<p>How do I understand the needs of my practice population? How do I balance the needs of my practice with the wider PCT population? Practical needs assessment for Practice Based Commissioners</p>	<p>How do I know which clinical areas I or my PBC Group should focus on using external data? Understanding and using external data</p>
<p>How can I use data to make my own clinical practice feel better for patients and run more efficiently and effectively? Understanding and using practice data to improve core GP services and reduce the need for external referrals</p>	<p>If I have a good idea for a local service, how do I work out if it's worth doing? Business planning and modeling</p>
<p>How can I work out if the changes I want to make are economically viable and valuable? Financial planning and ways to assess the economic impact of service developments</p>	<p>What can I do to re-design services for those patients with long-term conditions? They keep me very busy and repeatedly end up in hospital Commissioning for long-term conditions</p>
<p>How do I go about working with my patients and local populations so I can learn about and improve their experience of the services provided for them? Patient responsiveness: involving patients in PBC developments</p>	<p>The bulk of my spend is on unscheduled care. What can I do to influence that? Commissioning emergency care</p>
<p>This is all very well, but this needs other clinical colleagues to change too. How do I lead and manage that change? Leading and managing change</p>	<p>Practice Based Commissioning can make me feel uncomfortable about potential conflicts of interest. What do I need to know to deal with that? Business ethics and conflicts of interest</p>
<p>What can I do to change the way my patients are dealt with as out-patients? Commissioning out-patient services</p>	

Clinicians and managers who are directly involved in the delivery of practice based commissioning are now invited to express an interest in becoming part of the PBC Academy. The 11 modules will be run approximately three weeks apart (but avoiding major holiday times). Participants can choose whichever modules best meet their needs and there is no requirement to complete all 11. In addition, local accreditation via the Workforce Deanery is currently being sought.

There will be 2 cohorts across the West Midlands so those interested can apply to attend modules on EITHER cohort

Dates for the 1st four modules for Cohort One & Two are as below.

Module	Cohort One	Venue	Cohort Two	Venue
1. Practical needs assessment for Practice Based Commissioners	16 April 2008	Clarendon Suites, Hagley Road, Edgbaston	22 May 2008	Himley Hall, Dudley
2. Understanding and using external data	7 May 2008	Clarendon Suites, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham	12 June 2008	Himley Hall, Dudley
3. Understanding and using internal data	4 June 2008	Clarendon Suites, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham	3 July 2008	Himley Hall, Dudley
4. Patient Responsiveness: Involving Patients in PBC Development	25 June 2008	Clarendon Suites, Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham	24 July 2008	Himley Hall, Dudley

Each module will run from 12 noon through to 5.00pm. Please note that lunch will be served between 12-1pm and the module will start at 1pm. Dates for the remaining modules will follow shortly.

The cost of each module is £35 for NHS Alliance members, £50 for non-NHS Alliance members. There will be a discount of £100 if you sign up for all 11 modules, thus reducing the total cost to £285 for Alliance members and £450 for non-Alliance members.

Information about the PBC Academy can be found on www.pbcacademy.co.uk Future booking will be available online once the PBC Academy website is fully functional. Details to follow. Booking for the above modules can be made now by contacting Helen Clifton on the below email.



This programme is supported by the West Midlands NHS community **West Midlands**

To express an interest in the modules detailed or in future participation in the West Mids pilot, please contact Helen Clifton at Humana Europe on hclifton@humana.co.uk

For general enquiries about the PBC Academy please contact Julie Wood, NHS Alliance / Humana PBC Academy: j.wood@nhsalliance.org