What is COPPER (Centre for Optimising Pharmacy Practice-based Excellence in Research)?
- Platform for research collaboration between academics & community based pharmacist networks.
- Links between experienced researchers & community based pharmacist networks allow ‘real world’ practice problems to be identified, developed and addressed.

Practicing pharmacists want to be involved in research because...

I believe that community based research improves professionalism of pharmacy.

I feel that research benefits patients and improves patient outcomes.

I want to learn and grow both professionally and personally!

Things that prevent pharmacists from becoming involved in research...

I need support & resources to conduct research.

I don’t have enough time!

I don’t feel confident - I lack research skills, knowledge and training.

How can COPPER help you become a researcher?
- **Four key pillars of COPPER** enable community based pharmacists to become involved in research:
  1. *Research networks* (community pharmacists & primary care pharmacists) - like-minded pharmacists interested in engaging in research
  2. *Communities of practice* (using social media platform, Facebook) – peer support, mechanism to exchange information (between peers & between pharmacists and academics, bounce ideas and seek advice)
  3. *CPD opportunities/links* (quarterly online offerings to build research skills)
  4. Links to academic support (matching pharmacists to appropriate academics for research advice/support)
- **Flexibility in your level of involvement.** There are many stages of any research project – developing research ideas, questions and plans, getting Ethics approval from a Research Ethics Committee, recruiting participants for a study, collecting data, analysing the study results, writing up the study, submitting it for publication and presenting study findings at a conference – to list a few. COPPER research activities allow flexibility for network pharmacists. **You can be involved as much or as little as you like.**
- **Resources to help you be engaged.** COPPER can provide research assistance (E.g. pharmacy students).

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