

# THERAPEUTIC ADVANCES in *Drug Safety*

## Contents

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|                                                      |           |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>CONFERENCES (ABSTRACTS FROM CONFERENCES)</b>      | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>ORAL COMMUNICATIONS</b>                           | <b>17</b> |
| <b>POSTER PRESENTATIONS: PATIENT-CENTERED SAFETY</b> | <b>25</b> |

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### Abstract-Post-42 Other

*Towards harmonisation: mapping pharmacy technician roles and skills across European EQF levels*

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**Background:** Pharmacy Technicians (PTs) play vital roles in European healthcare systems. However, their qualifications, responsibilities, and skillsets vary significantly across countries, influenced by differences in educational systems, national regulations, and assigned European Qualifications Framework (EQF) levels <sup>[1]</sup>. **Objective:** Map and compare roles, responsibilities, and skills across EQF Levels 4, 5, and 6, identify key differences and progression pathways to inform education, policy, and workforce development strategies. **Methods:** A qualitative comparative analysis was conducted based on national professional profiles, curricula, and institutional documentation related to PT roles and qualifications, across Portugal, Ireland, Spain, and Belgium. The study focused on EQF Levels 4 to 6, exploring PTs responsibilities, professional

competencies, and transferable skills across community and hospital pharmacy settings. **Results:** EQF Level 4 PTs perform foundational tasks such as medication dispensing, stock management, pharmacovigilance support, and non-sterile compounding. At EQF Level 5, PTs demonstrate greater autonomy and scientific understanding, contributing to microbiological processes, vaccine programmes, and reimbursement systems. EQF Level 6 PTs, seen only in Portugal, take on advanced clinical and managerial roles, including protocol development, clinical risk assessments, quality assurance, and evidence-based practice. Progression reflects increasing complexity, responsibility, and the development of transferable skills such as leadership, communication, and critical thinking. **Conclusions:** There is a clear skills and responsibility gradient across EQF levels for PTs. Harmonising qualifications and expectations at the European level could support professional mobility, ensure consistent professional standards, and better prepare PTs for their expanding role in modern healthcare systems.

**Keywords:** Pharmacy Technicians, European Qualifications Framework, Competency Mapping

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### Abstract-Post-51 Other

*Impact of the covid-19 pandemic on the consumption of immunological supplements among higher education students*

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