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As many of you will already appreciate, the career you have chosen is a major commitment. For a start, compared with non-scientific subjects, there seems to be a never-ending number of compulsory sessions in the week — and even if the session is not compulsory, you cannot afford to miss that many. On top of that, the course lasts four years so you have to wait longer than many to become financially independent. And if that is not enough, there is the preregistration year to go through before becoming a fully-fledged pharmacist.

Will the struggle be worth it? The likely answer is “yes” because pharmacy offers such a wide range of career opportunities — including industry, the hospital and community sectors, academia, policy making and much more. In addition, pharmacists are now taken seriously in government circles and the influence the profession has on NHS policy is increasing all the time. This is giving pharmacists the opportunity to develop more interesting clinical roles.

For many of you, the prospect of working in a stimulating, well-paid job must seem remote. You are more likely to be concerned about the next essay crisis,

how you are going to keep the amount of month left at the end of the money to a minimum, what you are going to do in the long summer vacation, and where you are going to do your preregistration year.

Tomorrow's Pharmacist is here to help. It will not provide all the answers to your problems, but it will make life easier. There are suggestions on how to structure an assignment, how to take the most useful notes in a lecture and how to deal with stress. There are articles about how to approach summer placements and how to go about applying for preregistration places. Then there are articles about different career opportunities in the UK as well as working abroad, and lots of useful contacts, websites and other details that you will find invaluable.

Tomorrow's Pharmacist will not take away all the pain, but we hope that it will help making some decisions easier and give guidance that is not widely available. Above all, the editorial team hope that you enjoy your student days and we wish you happy and fulfilling careers. ✂