



The Pharmaceutical Industry Network Group (PING)

What Is PING?

PING is a diverse networking group, solely for people who are in the pharmaceutical supply chain with the main aim to discuss and share best practice, ideas and generally help each other in times of great change.

Who Attends PING?

Attendees range from across the pharma supply chain, from suppliers to pharmacists, including prescription-based suppliers, OTC suppliers, generics suppliers, manufacturers, wholesalers, logistics, orphan drugs, named patient suppliers, comparator drug suppliers, specials suppliers, exporters, importers, regulatory advisers, pharma researchers, clinical trial statisticians, and market access and pharma data consultants.

Who Runs PING?

Paul Gershlick of VWV is Chair of the Group, and is supported by the Watford Chamber of Commerce, Watford Council and Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership. All have the objective of enhancing the sector in the region as a centre of excellence and facilitating the spread of good industry practice.

How Much Does PING Cost?

There is no charge to be a member. Some events have a limited charge to cover costs.

When and Where Does PING Meet?

PING has its centre in Watford within Hertfordshire and people attend from the surrounding areas. Our quarterly roundtable meetings in Watford typically have about 20 people coming from different parts of the industry, which makes for a great mix and discussions and learning opportunities from different angles. There are bigger annual conferences, attended by people from around the country and further afield.

The Annual PING Conferences

Our annual PING conferences are typically attended by over 100 people from around the country and further afield to hear presentations on hot topics affecting the industry. The gatherings make for useful networking opportunities. Past topics have included:

- The future of pharma, by Professor Brian Smith
- Parliament's answer to the supply shortage crisis, presented by Sir Kevin Barron MP
- Who's who in the new NHS – speakers from pioneering CCGs, HWBs and AHSNs
- 2020 pharma – from vision to decision, by Jo Pisani and Stephen Aherne at PwC
- Medicine adherence – with speakers from Proteus and behavioural specialists, Hamell
- Navigating the NHS maze - presentations by NICE, MAP BioPharma Limited and DigitalHealth. London
- Implementing the Falsified Medicines Directive – speakers including SecurMed, Roche, BAEPD, BGMA, HDA, NPA
- Brexit: what's next for pharma - with speakers from MHRA, NSF Pharma Biotech, BAEPD and University of Hertfordshire
- Brexit Part 2 - presentations from EMIG, NIHR, BAEPD, NSF Pharma Biotech, NPA, FTI and Dierks + Company
- Britain's Great Life Sciences Future - Genomics, Personalised Medicine and AI - speakers from Genomics England, Cell & Gene Therapy Catapult, Deloitte, Benevolent AI, Congenica, Avesthagen
- UK Life Sciences in a Changed World - opportunities through innovation and collaboration. Speakers from Pfizer, GSK, University of Oxford, The Office for Life Sciences, NHS England and Improvement, MHRA, IQVIA, HDR UK, Genomics Plc, ICW



Paul Gershlick
Partner at VWV & Chair of PING

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PING Innovation Award

The PING Innovation Award recognises individuals and organisations whose innovative ideas, products, services or processes in the Pharmaceuticals and Life Sciences sector are making a positive impact on people's lives. Previous winners include: Stevenage Bioscience Catalyst, Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult, Dr Harry Destecroix at Unit DX, Paul Strickland Scanner Centre, Sigma Pharmaceuticals Plc, University of Hertfordshire, Leslie Morgan of Durbin Plc and Proteus Digital Health.

Legal 360 Group Award

PING has been recognised by the Legal 360 Group with an award for 'Most Innovative Marketing Idea', and continues to strengthen the pharmaceutical sector for its members.



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For more information about PING, please contact Paul Gershlick on 01923 919320 or 07795 570072.