

**Health Professions Council**  
**Council 5<sup>th</sup> October 2005**

**POST-REGISTRATION TRAINING – ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

**Executive Summary and Recommendations**

**Introduction**

The Health Professions Order 2001 states under article 19(6):

“In respect of additional qualifications which may be recorded on the register the Council may establish standards of education and training and article 15(3) to (8) and articles 16 to 18 shall apply in respect of those standards as if they were standards established under article 15(1)(a).”

To date the Health Professions Council has used Schedule 2 Article 24, which states:

“Certificates of competence issued by a board to a professional on a register kept under section 2 of the 1960 Act, including those issued by the chiropractors’ board for the purposes of the Prescription Only Medicines (Human Use) Order 1997(a) shall continue to have effect until the date on which they are due to expire or until replaced by the Council whichever is earlier.”

In addition, following the gazetting of the Prescription Only Medicines Order, the HPC register will now record those who have completed a relevant HPC approved course.

The issue therefore arises should other post registration qualifications also be recognised?

In particular:

1. What is meant by “qualification”. For example, should it only include qualifications that if a HPC registrant is not in possession of results in their inability to undertake a specific task?
2. Should the possession of a qualification only lead to the register being annotated or should the register be expanded to include new protected titles, for example “podiatric surgeon”?
3. How many potential relevant post registration qualifications are there?
4. Should HPC approve by itself, as it does with existing programmes, or should it be undertaken with other organisations such as the professional bodies?

**Decision**

The Council is asked to decide how it wants the Executive to proceed.

## Background information

Article 15(3) to (8):

“(3) Before establishing the standards or requirements referred to in paragraph (1) the Council shall consult such of those persons mentioned in article 3(14) as it considers appropriate and the Education and Training Committee.

(4) The Education and Training Committee shall -

(a) ensure that universities and other bodies in the United Kingdom concerned with such education and training are notified of the standards and requirements established under paragraph (1); and

(b) take appropriate steps to satisfy itself that those standards and requirements are met.

(5) In performing the function mentioned in paragraph (4)(b) the Committee may in particular, approve, or arrange with others to approve -

(a) a course of education or training which the Committee is satisfied confers or would confer on persons completing it successfully the standards of proficiency mentioned in paragraph (1);

(b) qualifications which are granted following success in an examination, or some other appropriate assessment, taken as part of an approved course of education or training;

(c) institutions which the Committee considers to be properly organised and equipped for conducting the whole or part of an approved course of education or training;

(d) such tests of competence or knowledge of English as it may require.

(6) In connection with paragraph (5), the Committee may approve or arrange with others to approve a course of education or training run outside the United Kingdom by an institution to which paragraph 5(c) applies.

(7) The Council shall from time to time publish a statement of the criteria which will be taken into account in deciding whether to give approval under paragraph (5).

(8) The Council shall maintain and publish a list of the courses of education or training, qualifications and institutions -

(a) which are for the time being approved under this Order; or

(b) which have been approved under this Order but which are no longer so approved, together with a record of the periods in respect of which they were approved.”

**Resource implications**

Not yet analysed.

**Financial implications**

Not yet analysed.

**Background papers**

None.

**Appendices**

None.

**Date of paper**

19<sup>th</sup> September 2005



ERROR: undefinedfilename  
OFFENDING COMMAND: c

STACK: