## POLICY REGARDING THE USE OF, & TRAINING IN, LOCAL ANALGESIA FOR HPC REGISTRANTS WITHOUT AN LA CERTIFICATE

## 1. Policy regarding courses in Local Analgesia, post 2003

Courses approved by the HPC fall into two categories, undergraduate and those undertaken post-registration. The term post-registration is used because those undertaking courses in local analgesia after registration will not have a first degree in podiatry from an approved school. The course and examinations in local analgesia at post-registration level reflect the fact that considerable areas of underpinning knowledge/theory need to be in place prior to the assessment of practice in local analgesia itself. On the undergraduate level course, such work is assessed elsewhere within the curriculum and is of a similar content and standard to that expected at post registration level.

- 1.1 <u>Undergraduate:</u> a recognised undergraduate course in podiatry consists of any programme of study approved by the HPC as leading to registration. The undergraduate programme must also contain a course in local analgesia as an integral but discrete part of that programme of study. The course in local analgesia must be separately examined and students separately certified. Students shall not be awarded their certification of competence until such time as they have satisfied all other aspects of their final year assessment for their academic award and are eligible to apply for registration.
- 1.2 <u>Post-registration</u>: any programme that conforms to the syllabus of training which delineates the field available to podiatrists in accordance with that approved for undergraduates and conforms to that which is approved by the statutory body [*reference: Health Professions Order, 2001, schedule 2, paragraph 24*]

## 2. Policy for those admitted to the Register of the HPC under transitional arrangements

## PART 1

2.1 Because of the variable nature of the knowledge base of those entering the register under the transitional arrangements and the HPC's role regarding the protection of the public, it is advisable for such registrants to undergo a period of assessed consolidation of the theoretical knowledge base.

This will ensure that appropriate underpinning elements in general podiatry, physiology; anatomy, medicine and pharmacology are in place as an entry requirement to serve as the necessary underpinning knowledge for progression to Part 2, Local anaesthetic theory and practice. A Part 1 course may be provided and candidates may then sit an open examination. Schools and other providers that are approved by HPC may use discretion in this regard but must satisfy themselves that prior to entry to Part 2, candidates must have the pre-requisite knowledge to comprehend the Part 2 course and thus ensure safety of the public.

2.2 On satisfactory completion of the Part 1 examination, a candidate may proceed to Part 2.