health professions council

Visitors' report

Name of education provider	Queen Margaret University
Programme name	BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy
Mode of delivery	Full time
Relevant part of HPC Register	Physiotherapist
Date of visit	12 – 13 April 2011

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Executive summary

The Health Professions Council (HPC) approve educational programmes in the UK which health professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us. The HPC is a health regulator and our main aim is to protect the public. The HPC currently regulates 15 professions. All of these professions have at least one professional title which is protected by law. This means that anyone using the title 'Physiotherapist' or 'Physical therapist' must be registered with us. The HPC keep a register of health professionals who meet our standards for their training, professional skills, behaviour and health.

The visitors' report which follows outlines the recommended outcome made by the visitors on the ongoing approval of the programme. The education provider has until 3 June 2011 to provide observations on this report. The report and any observations received will be considered by the Education and Training Committee (Committee) on 7 July 2011. At this meeting, the Committee will accept the visitors' recommended outcome and approve the programme.

Introduction

The HPC visited the programme at the education provider to consider major changes proposed to the programme. The major change affected the following standards - programme admissions, programme management and resources, curriculum, practice placements and assessment. The programme was already approved by the HPC and this visit assessed whether the programme continued to meet the standards of education and training (SETs) and continued to ensure that those who complete the programme meet the standards of proficiency (SOPs) for their part of the Register.

This visit was part of a joint event. The education provider and the programme and the professional body considered their accreditation of the programme. The visit also considered the following programmes – Post Graduate Diploma Physiotherapy (Pre-registration), full time and MSc Physiotherapy (Preregistration), full time. The education provider, the professional body and the HPC formed a joint panel, with an independent chair and secretary, supplied by the education provider. Whilst the joint panel participated in collaborative scrutiny of all the programmes and dialogue throughout the visit; this report covers the HPC's recommendations on this programme only. Separate reports exist for the other programmes. As an independent regulatory body, the HPC's recommended outcome is independent and impartial and based solely on the HPC's standards. Separate reports, produced by the education provider and the professional body, outline their decisions on the programmes' status.

Name of HPC visitors and profession	Anthony Power (Physiotherapist) Joanna Jackson (Physiotherapist)
HPC executive officer(s) (in attendance)	Mandy Hargood
Proposed student numbers	26
First approved intake	October 1996
Effective date that programme approval reconfirmed from	September 2011
Chair	Dr Lindesay Irvine (Queen Margaret University)
Secretary	Craig Rutherford (Queen Margaret University)
Members of the joint panel	Joe Goldblatt (Internal Panel Member) Sara Smith (Internal Panel Member) Jo White (Internal Panel Member) Julia Dixon Phillip (Internal Panel Member) Jennifer Duthie (Chartered Society of Physiotherapists) Nina Paterson (Chartered Society of Physiotherapists)

Visit details

Sources of evidence

Prior to the visit the HPC reviewed the documentation detailed below, sent by the education provider:

	Yes	No	N/A
Programme specification	\boxtimes		
Descriptions of the modules	\boxtimes		
Mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the SETs	\boxtimes		
Mapping document providing evidence of how the education provider has met the SOPs	\boxtimes		
Practice placement handbook	\square		
Student handbook	\square		
Curriculum vitae for relevant staff	\square		
External examiners' reports from the last two years			

During the visit the HPC saw the following groups or facilities:

	Yes	No	N/A
Senior managers of the education provider with responsibility for resources for the programme	\boxtimes		
Programme team	\bowtie		
Placements providers and educators/mentors	\bowtie		
Students	\bowtie		
Learning resources	\boxtimes		
Specialist teaching accommodation (eg specialist laboratories and teaching rooms)	\square		

Recommended outcome

To recommend a programme for ongoing approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets all of the standards of education and training (SETs) and that those who complete the programme meet our standards of proficiency (SOPs) for their part of the Register.

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that the ongoing approval of the programme is reconfirmed.

The visitors did not set any conditions for the programme.

Conditions are requirements that the education provider must meet before the programme can be recommended for ongoing approval. Conditions are set when certain standards of education and training have not been met or there is insufficient evidence of the standard being met.

The visitors have made a recommendation for the programme.

Recommendations are observations on the programme or education provider which do not need to be met before the programme is recommended for ongoing approval. Recommendations are normally set to encourage further enhancements to the programme and are normally set when it is felt that the particular standard of education and training has been met at, or just above the threshold level.

The visitors did not make any commendations on the programme. Commendations are observations of innovative best practice by a programme or education provider.

Recommendations

4.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards of proficiency for their part of the Register.

Recommendation: The education provider should consider including updates on an annual basis for basic life support skills for the programme.

Reason: The visitors were content that this standard was met. The visitors were also content that basic life support skills such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques would be taught on the programme to ensure that the students were ready for the first placement as indicated in the programme documentation received prior to the visit. However the visitors felt that to give the students further opportunity to enhance their skills in basic life support, the programme team should consider providing annual updates in this area. During the meeting with the programme team the programme leader commented that whilst in the current programme structure the students are given basic life support skills prior to going out on the first placement, they would consider the introduction of further basic life support skills throughout the revised programme to enhance how this standard continues to be met.

Anthony Power Joanna Jackson

health professions council

Visitors' report

Name of education provider	Queen Margaret University
Programme name	MSc Physiotherapy (Pre-registration)
Mode of delivery	Full time
Relevant part of HPC Register	Physiotherapist
Date of visit	12 – 13 April 2011

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Executive summary

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The visitors' report which follows outlines the recommended outcome made by the visitors on the ongoing approval of the programme. The education provider has until 3 June 2011 to provide observations on this report. The report and any observations received will be considered by the Education and Training Committee (Committee) on 7 July 2011. At this meeting, the Committee will accept the visitors' recommended outcome and approve the programme.

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Name of HPC visitors and profession	Anthony Power (Physiotherapist) Joanna Jackson (Physiotherapist)
HPC executive officer(s) (in attendance)	Mandy Hargood
Proposed student numbers	40 across the MSc and Post Graduate Diploma
First approved intake	September 2004
Effective date that programme approval reconfirmed from	September 2011
Chair	Dr Lindesay Irvine (Queen Margaret University)
Secretary	Craig Rutherford (Queen Margaret University)
Members of the joint panel	Joe Goldblatt (Internal Panel Member) Sara Smith (Internal Panel Member) Jo White (Internal Panel Member) Julia Dixon Phillip (Internal Panel Member) Jennifer Duthie (Chartered Society of Physiotherapists) Nina Paterson (Chartered Society of Physiotherapists)

Visit details

Sources of evidence

Prior to the visit the HPC reviewed the documentation detailed below, sent by the education provider:

	Yes	No	N/A
Programme specification	\boxtimes		
Descriptions of the modules	\boxtimes		
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Practice placement handbook	\square		
Student handbook	\square		
Curriculum vitae for relevant staff	\square		
External examiners' reports from the last two years			

During the visit the HPC saw the following groups or facilities:

	Yes	No	N/A
Senior managers of the education provider with responsibility for resources for the programme	\boxtimes		
Programme team	\bowtie		
Placements providers and educators/mentors	\bowtie		
Students	\bowtie		
Learning resources	\boxtimes		
Specialist teaching accommodation (eg specialist laboratories and teaching rooms)	\square		

Recommended outcome

To recommend a programme for ongoing approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets all of the standards of education and training (SETs) and that those who complete the programme meet our standards of proficiency (SOPs) for their part of the Register.

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that the ongoing approval of the programme is reconfirmed.

The visitors did not set any conditions for the programme.

Conditions are requirements that the education provider must meet before the programme can be recommended for ongoing approval. Conditions are set when certain standards of education and training have not been met or there is insufficient evidence of the standard being met.

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The visitors did not make any commendations on the programme. Commendations are observations of innovative best practice by a programme or education provider.

Recommendations

4.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards of proficiency for their part of the Register.

Recommendation: The education provider should consider including updates on an annual basis for basic life support skills for the programme.

Reason: The visitors were content that this standard was met. The visitors were also content that basic life support skills such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques would be taught on the programme to ensure that the students were ready for the first placement as indicated in the programme documentation received prior to the visit. However the visitors felt that to give the students further opportunity to enhance their skills in basic life support, the programme team should consider providing annual updates in this area. During the meeting with the programme team the programme leader commented that whilst in the current programme structure the students are given basic life support skills prior to going out on the first placement, they would consider the introduction of further basic life support skills throughout the revised programme to enhance how this standard continues to be met.

Anthony Power Joanna Jackson

health professions council

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Name of education provider	Queen Margaret University
Programme name	Post Graduate Diploma Physiotherapy (Pre-registration)
Mode of delivery	Full time
Relevant part of HPC Register	Physiotherapist
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Anthony Power Joanna Jackson