

Education and Training Committee, 6 June 2013

Update on standards of proficiency for physiotherapists and radiographers

Executive summary and recommendations

Introduction

At their November and December 2012 meetings, the Education and Training Committee Council approved revised standards of proficiency for physiotherapists and radiographers for publication. The Executive planned to publish the revised standards on 28 May 2013, to coincide with the expected publication of new medicines legislation which would allow appropriately trained chiropodists/podiatrists and physiotherapists to become independent prescribers. Had the legislation been implemented as originally expected, this would have allowed for the supplementary prescribing standards for physiotherapists and radiographers to be removed, and replaced by new separate prescribing standards for the professions we regulate.

The implementation of the new medicines legislation has now been delayed and we currently expect the legislation to be implemented in August 2013. We will publish the standards for prescribing once the new legislation has been implemented.

To prevent further delay in bringing the revised standards of proficiency for physiotherapists and radiographers into effect, these standards will still come into effect on 28 May 2013. When the new prescribing standards are published, the standards of proficiency for these two professions will be amended to remove the current supplementary prescribing standards.

Decision

This paper is to note, no decision is required.

Background information

Council paper, 4 December 2012. Results of the consultation on the profession-specific standards of proficiency for physiotherapists, at www.hcpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10003DD3enc10-CouncilPHSoPpostconsultation.pdf

Council paper, 4 December 2012, Results of the consultation on the profession-specific standards of proficiency for radiographers, at www.hcpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10003DD4enc11-CouncilRASoPpostconsultation.pdf

Resource implications

None from this paper.

Financial implications

The costs of reviewing and publishing new standards of proficiency for physiotherapists and radiographers are set out in the Policy and Standards budget for 2013/14.

Appendices

None

Date of paper

24 May 2013