

NMC June Council News Release

NMC adds professionals to new register

The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) has decided (June 3) that family health nurses, occupational health nurses and school nurses will join the specialist community public health nursing (SCPHN) part of the new register.

Previously only health visitors were going to be on the SCPHN part of the new register, due for launch this August.

Other registrants will be able to apply for this part of the register if they complete a 52-week study programme leading to a recordable specialist practice qualification.

When the new register is launched the public will be able to check for the first time, via the internet, that registrants are who they say they are and are fit for practice.

Management of violence

The NMC is drawing up new guidance following the report in the death of David Bennett, who died while being restrained.

The NMC Council (June 3) has decided that the regulator will consider race and diversity in a major review of the Code of professional conduct, publish guidance on the care of people from black and minority ethnic groups and review pre-registration competencies with emphasis on mental health issues.

The NMC held the first nation-wide conference on the management of violence in healthcare earlier this year.

For more information on the NMC's work in this area please visit www.nmc-uk.org/events

NMC to consult on nurse learning and assessment

The NMC Council has approved (June 3) a consultation on new standards to support learning and assessment in practice.

The consultation, due to run from late June to early October, will involve issues such as the competencies of qualified teachers and mentors.

The consultation follows representations from directors of nursing and other employers as well as a recent report by UKCC (predecessor of the NMC) scholar, Kathleen Duffy, which examined some the reasons why mentors find it hard to fail failing students.

For more information please visit www.nmc-uk.org

M/F

Health Care Assistant Regulation

The NMC Council has agreed (June 3) to a joint approach towards future regulation of Health Care Assistants and other hitherto unregulated health professionals.

The NMC would like to share regulation duties with the Health Professions Council. The NMC would register and regulate those HCAs that work with nurses, midwives and health visitors while the HPC would look after the remaining 5-10% who work closely with their registrants. The NMC envisages that both regulators would work to common standards.

The Department of Health consultation on this issue for England and Wales is due to close on July 2. There is also a separate for Scotland, due to finish in August. There has been no consultation yet for Northern Ireland.

The government is expected to announce its preferred option later this year.

European Accession

The NMC received 15 applications in May from nurses and midwives in the new EU accession countries. Ten nurses were accepted onto the register in the first month after EU enlargement on May 1.

Ends

Press Statement 35
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Notes for Editors:

The NMC is the UK regulator for nurses, midwives and health visitors. There are around 650,000 health professionals on the register.

<http://www.nmc-uk.org/>