

18th October 2004

Press Release

Health Professions Council announces 13th profession to be regulated.

The Health Professions Council Register opened today to operating department practitioners (ODPs). ODPs are the 13th profession to be regulated by the HPC and the first to come onto the Register since the HPC began operating under its new rules in July 2003.

The Association of Operating Department Practitioners applied to the Council to be regulated in April 2003. A recommendation was made by the Council to the Department of Health that ODPs should be regulated by the HPC. The Department of Health then launched a consultation on the regulation of Operating Department Practitioners. This consultation ran from 1/8/2003 to 14/11/2003. The legislation was debated and passed by the Scottish and English Parliaments and was approved by the Privy Council in July 2004.

On the day of the transfer, all operating department practitioners whose names appear on Part 1 of the AODP register will be automatically transferred onto the HPC Register. The Grandparenting window will be open until 17th October 2006.

The AODP remains as the professional body and will continue to promote and represent the profession and its members.

Norma Brook, President of the HPC Council said "We are delighted to welcome operating department practitioners to the Register and hope this will be the first of many aspirant professions to join the HPC. I am looking forward to working closely with the AODP and to welcoming three new members of Council."