

# In Focus

Issue 63 | April 2016



## Focus on being open when things go wrong

Standard eight of the recently revised **Standards of conduct, performance and ethics**, states that registrants need to be open and honest when something has gone wrong with the care, treatment or other

services that they provide. This includes letting service users and carers know; apologising; and taking action to put matters right if they can.



### What does this mean for registrants?

We are asking registrants to be transparent in their work and to act appropriately to make sure that service users and carers are not kept in the dark when something goes wrong.

The work that health and care professionals do is very often highly pressured and rarely risk free. The standard isn't about penalising registrants when mistakes happen, but is about expecting registrants to act appropriately when they identify that something has gone wrong.

### Apologising

The standard includes an expectation that registrants will apologise when something goes wrong. Service users and carers have fed back that apologies, though simple and easy to give, make a huge difference to the service user, and to their relationship with the professional. We know that sometimes professionals can be reluctant to apologise for fear of the consequences. We are very clear that an apology is a positive thing and not an admission of liability or wrongdoing and, as with any of our standards, we expect registrants to use their professional judgement.

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### Welcome to issue 63 of HCPC In Focus

In this issue we flag a number of opportunities for registrants to get involved with the development of our work.



We are currently seeking feedback on three separate consultations, looking for AMHPs, orthoptists and social workers in England to fill the role of visitor and running an online workshop to source your views on new social media guidance, that we will be producing later this year.

We also flag upcoming events where you will have the opportunity to hear from representatives of the HCPC.

Look out for the next issue of

If you would like to discuss the points raised in this article, [click here to take part in our Tweetchat on being open when things go wrong.](#)

HCPC In Focus in June 2016.

**Daniel Knight, Editor**

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## Registration renewal and CPD

Below is a list of the professions that are currently renewing their HCPC registration and the date that they need to renew by. We have written to everyone with guidance on how to renew.

Profession	Renewal closes
Physiotherapists	30 April 2016
Arts therapists	31 May 2016
Dietitians	30 June 2016

[Visit our website for more information on the renewal process.](#)

### Continuing professional development

At the same time, 2.5 per cent of the professions were randomly selected for the continuing professional development (CPD) audit. We have a number of resources, including video guidance, to help you through the submission process.

[View our online resources.](#)

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## Partner recruitment

### Visitor roles – AMHPs, orthoptists and social workers in England

We are seeking HCPC registered AMHPs, orthoptists and social workers in England to become visitors. Visitors are responsible for visiting and assessing existing or proposed programmes of education and training delivered by education providers. They also provide recommendations to the HCPC's Education and Training Committee regarding the approval or on-going approval of programmes.

**Closing date for applications:** 1 May 2016

**Tentative interview dates:** w/c 13 June 2016

**Compulsory training days:** 6–7 October 2016

[For more information and to apply visit our website.](#)

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## Policy update

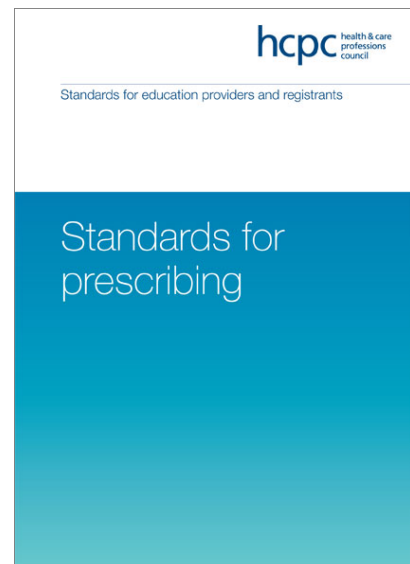
**Standards for prescribing**

On 1 April 2016 new legislation came into effect to enable further access to medicines for dietitians, orthoptists and therapeutic radiographers who undertake relevant training.

The changes allow for therapeutic radiographers to undertake training to become independent prescribers; and for dietitians to train as supplementary prescribers. Members of these professions may only act as prescribers once they have completed HCPC approved post-registration training programmes in prescribing and have obtained the relevant annotation on the Register.

The legislation also introduces an exemption which will allow appropriately trained orthoptists to sell, supply and / or administer certain prescription-only medicines on their own initiative as part of their practice. To use the exemption, orthoptists will also need to complete an HCPC approved post-registration training programme and obtain an annotation on the Register. We are currently consulting on the standards which will be used to approve such programmes.

[For more information view our Standards for prescribing.](#)



## Current consultations

We are currently running the following three consultations.

### **Proposal to rename the 'local anaesthetics' and 'prescription only medicines' annotations for chiropodists / podiatrists**

We consider that the current way these annotations are labelled is out of date and does not reflect the exemptions in medicines legislation they relate to. We also want to ensure the annotations are clear to service users and the public.

[Click here to view our proposals and respond to the consultation.](#)

**Closing date: Tuesday 3 May 2016**

### **Draft standards for the use of medicines exemptions by orthoptists**

The government has recently introduced exemptions in medicines legislation which will enable appropriately trained orthoptists to sell, supply and administer certain prescription only medicines on their own initiative. In the future, the HCPC will use these standards to approve relevant post-registration training programmes and would annotate the Register entries of orthoptists who have completed this training and are able to use the exemptions in their practice.

[Click here to view the draft standards and to respond to the consultation.](#)

**Closing date: Tuesday 3 May 2016**

### **Proposed changes to the standards of proficiency for social workers in England**

The standards of proficiency for social workers in England describe what a social worker must know, understand and be able to do at the time they apply to join our Register and are the standards we consider necessary for safe and effective practice. We want to ensure that the standards continue to be set at an appropriate level for entry to the HCPC Register and that they reflect current practice.

[Click here to view the proposed changes to the standards and to respond to the consultation.](#)

**Closing date: Friday 24 June 2016**

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## Events round up

### Naidex 2016

The HCPC is pleased to continue its on-going support for Naidex and are once again show partners. Naidex takes place at the NEC

Birmingham from Tuesday 26 April to Thursday 28 April 2016. It is the UK's largest disability, homecare and rehabilitation event for those working in healthcare and attracts up to 9,000 visitors.



Alongside the exhibition, there is a conference programme of free seminars. We will be presenting on all days of the event and presentations will cover the [HCPC's revised Standards of conduct, performance and ethics](#) and the [standards for continuing professional development and professionalism](#).

You can find us in the exhibition area on stand **E60**.

[Click here more information and to sign up for the event.](#)

### Live webcast for employers of HCPC registered professionals

This webcast is specifically for employers, managers or those in HR roles working with HCPC registered professionals.

Join us on Thursday 21 April 2016 from 10.30am to 12pm to hear about our revised Standards of conduct, performance and ethics. We will also cover key issues around fitness to practise, referrals as well as the HCPC registration processes and standards.

[For more information and to register to join the webcast visit our website.](#)

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## Online workshop launched to inform new social media guidance

On Tuesday 10 May 2016 we will be launching an online workshop inviting registrants and stakeholders to share their views on what should be included in our draft social media guidance.

Participants will have until Tuesday 24 May 2016 to respond to questions about the use of social media sites and to input their opinions as to what should be included in the guidance. The feedback will help us to produce draft guidelines for registrants using social media sites which will then go out to public consultation.

Michael Guthrie, Director of Policy and Standards, commented:



“A large number of our registrants are now using social media and networking websites in both their personal and professional lives. Registrants have told us these platforms can bring great benefits but also some challenges. As a result of these conversations we intend to produce social media guidance to give advice to our registrants who want to operate more confidently in this area whilst meeting the standards we set.

“The online workshop is a unique opportunity to take part in shaping the development of our social media guidance as we believe our registrants and stakeholders know best as to what should be included.”

To participate in the online workshop, visit <https://hcpc.clevertogogether.com> from 10 May 2016.

### Feedback on registration

At the HCPC we are committed to developing and improving the service provided by our Registration Department and we would like your help by providing feedback in our independently-managed registrant survey.

[If you would like to provide feedback, please complete the survey.](#)

### Keep in touch



You are receiving this email because you have either signed up to receive our newsletter, HCPC In Focus, or you are an HCPC registrant and have indicated that you are happy to receive information on your registration.

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