

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Birmingham City University
Programme name	Non-medical Prescribing for Allied Health Professionals (Undergraduate)
Mode of delivery	Full Time Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	David Rovardi (Independent prescribing) Alison Wishart (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Ben Potter
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- Programme application form
- Policy for Internal Moderation of Assessed Student Work
- Board of Studies Agenda
- Sample programme timetable
- External examiner Curriculum vitae

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

A.1 The admissions procedures must give both the applicant and the education provider the information they require to make an informed choice about whether to take up or make an offer of a place on a programme.

Reason: The visitors noted that the education provider has submitted several independent and supplementary prescribing programmes for consideration at the same time. In the submission, details of generic entry standards and information about the programmes have been provided. However, the visitors could not determine what, if any, differences there are in the admission criteria for the programmes and in particular how they are applied. They were also unclear what the specific experiential entry criteria for this programme is and how applicants to the programme are expected to meet this criterion in order to demonstrate that they can complete the course and meet the criteria for independent prescribing on graduation. The visitors could also not identify, from the submission, what information is available for potential applicants which articulates what, if any, differences there are between the programmes. As such the visitors could not determine how potential applicants are given the information they need to be able to make an informed choice about whether to take up a place on this programme. Therefore, the visitors require further evidence of the entry criteria for this programme, as well as further evidence of the information available to potential applicants.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding this programmes specific entry criteria, particularly what experience an applicant must demonstrate before being offered a place on the course. Further evidence of how potential applicants are informed of the what differences there are between the programmes delivered at the education provider, if any, should also be provided

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The visitors were able to determine, from the documentation provided, that this programme is delivered alongside several other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes at the education provider. However, the visitors could not determine from the evidence how this programme fits within the business plan of the education provider. In particular the visitors were unclear how this programme fits in with the other supplementary and independent programmes delivered at the same institution. The visitors therefore require further evidence of how this programme fits into the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding this programme's place in the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other supplementary and independent prescribing programmes offered.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: From the information provided the visitors noted the requirements for the appointment of external examiners to this programme. However, they were unclear as to how this process had been applied. In particular they could not determine how the current external examiner arrangements ensure that there is appropriate experience and knowledge of independent prescribing in place. Therefore the visitors require further information as to how the procedure for setting up these external examiner arrangements has ensured there is sufficient experience and knowledge of independent prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information how the regulations have been applied to ensure that the external examiner for the programme are appropriately experienced and qualified.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted on page 6, learning outcomes section 4 of the Non-medical Prescribing for Health Care Professionals document (appendix 4a) the statement 'Interpret the legislation underpinning the practice of independent prescribing to include medicinal products not regulated by the Care Quality Commission...'. The visitors would like to highlight to the education provider that this learning outcome should be clarified to reference the Medicines and Healthcare Regulation Authority in place of the Care Quality Commission.

The visitors would also like to highlight that the comprehensive nature of the submitted paperwork was not conducive to an assessment of this kind. In particular as the education provider had submitted several programmes for consideration elements of the documentation were unclear as it was not easy to determine which documents related to which programmes.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Birmingham City University
Programme name	Non-medical Prescribing for Allied Health Professionals (Undergraduate) (Conversion)
Mode of delivery	Full Time Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	David Rovardi (Independent prescribing) Alison Wishart (Chiropodist / Podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Ben Potter
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider has met the standards of education and

training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

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- Programme application form
- Policy for Internal Moderation of Assessed Student Work
- Board of Studies Agenda
- Sample programme timetable
- External examiner Curriculum Vitae

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

A.1 The admissions procedures must give both the applicant and the education provider the information they require to make an informed choice about whether to take up or make an offer of a place on a programme.

Reason: The visitors noted that the education provider has submitted several independent and supplementary prescribing programmes for consideration at the same time. In the submission, details of generic entry standards and information about the programmes have been provided. However, the visitors could not determine what, if any, differences there are in the admission criteria for the programmes and in particular how they are applied. They were also unclear what the specific experiential entry criteria for this programme is and how applicants to the programme are expected to meet this criterion in order to demonstrate that they can complete the course and meet the criteria for independent prescribing on graduation. The visitors could also not identify, from the submission, what information is available for potential applicants which articulates what, if any, differences there are between the programmes. As such the visitors could not determine how potential applicants are given the information they need to be able to make an informed choice about whether to take up a place on this programme. Therefore, the visitors require further evidence of the entry criteria for this programme, as well as further evidence of the information available to potential applicants.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding this programmes specific entry criteria, particularly what experience an applicant must demonstrate before being offered a place on the course. Further evidence of how potential applicants are informed of the what differences there are between the programmes delivered at the education provider, if any, should also be provided

A.3 The admissions procedures must apply selection and entry criteria, including accreditation of prior (experiential) learning and other inclusion mechanisms.

Reason: The visitors were unable to determine, from the documentation provided, how the accreditation of prior (experiential) learning (AP(E)L) policy and procedures of this conversion programme are applied to students. As such the visitors were unclear as to how the programme team ensures that those who successfully complete the programme, having been subject to the AP(E)L procedure, meet the standards for independent prescribers. The visitors therefore require further information about the AP(E)L policy to be sure that the AP(E)L procedures in place ensure that the graduates of the programme can meet the standards for prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding the programmes AP(E)L policy and how the procedures in place ensure the policy is implemented.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The visitors were able to determine, from the documentation provided, that this programme is delivered alongside several other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes at the education provider. However, the visitors could not determine from the evidence how this programme fits within the business plan of the education provider. In particular the visitors were unclear how this programme fits in with the other supplementary and independent

programmes delivered at the same institution. The visitors therefore require further evidence of how this programme fits into the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding this programme's place in the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other supplementary and independent prescribing programmes offered.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors were unable to determine, from the documentation provided, how the accreditation of prior (experiential) learning (AP(E)L) policy and procedures of the programme are applied. In particular the visitors were unsure how the AP(E)L policy ensures that those students who enter this have the experience to be able to meet the learning outcomes associated with prescribing and in particularly independent prescribing. As such the visitors were unclear as to how the programme team ensures that those who successfully complete the programme, having been subject to the AP(E)L procedure, meet the standards for independent and prescribers. The visitors therefore require further information about the AP(E)L policy to be sure that the AP(E)L procedures in place ensure that the graduates of the programme can meet the relevant standards for prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding the programmes AP(E)L policy and how the procedures in place ensure the policy is implemented.

E.7 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for student progression and achievement within the programme.

Reason: The visitors noted, from the documentation provided, that this programme is run in tandem with the other supplementary and independent prescribing programmes at the education provider. They also noted the generic information provided about progression through these programmes. However, the visitors could not determine how students are informed of the progression route through this conversion programme in particular. As such the visitors require further information as to how the programme team inform students of the progression route through this programme.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information which articulates for students how they can achieve and progress through this programme.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: From the information provided the visitors noted the requirements for the appointment of external examiners to this programme. However, they were unclear as to how this process had been applied. In particular they could not determine how the current external examiner arrangements ensure that there is appropriate experience and knowledge of independent prescribing in place. Therefore the visitors require further information as to how the procedure for setting up these external examiner arrangements has ensured there is sufficient experience and knowledge of independent prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information how the regulations have been applied to ensure that the external examiner for the programme are appropriately experienced and qualified.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted on page 6, learning outcomes section 4 of the Non-medical Prescribing for Health Care Professionals document (appendix 4a) the statement 'Interpret the legislation underpinning the practice of independent prescribing to include medicinal products not regulated by the Care Quality Commission...'. The visitors would like to highlight to the education provider that this learning outcome should be clarified to reference the Medicines and Healthcare Regulation Authority in place of the Care Quality Commission.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Birmingham City University
Programme name	Principles of Prescribing for Allied Health Professionals (post graduate)
Mode of delivery	Full Time Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	David Rovardi (Independent prescribing) Alison Wishart (Chiropodist / Podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Ben Potter
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

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- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

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Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding this programmes specific entry criteria, particularly what experience an applicant must demonstrate before being offered a place on the course. Further evidence of how potential applicants are informed of the what differences there are between the programmes delivered at the education provider, if any, should also be provided

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The visitors were able to determine, from the documentation provided, that this programme is delivered alongside several other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes at the education provider. However, the visitors could not determine from the evidence how this programme fits within the business plan of the education provider. In particular the visitors were unclear how this programme fits in with the other supplementary and independent programmes delivered at the same institution. The visitors therefore require further evidence of how this programme fits into the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding this programme's place in the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other supplementary and independent prescribing programmes offered.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: From the information provided the visitors noted the requirements for the appointment of external examiners to this programme. However, they were unclear as to how this process had been applied. In particular they could not determine how the current external examiner arrangements ensure that there is appropriate experience and knowledge of independent prescribing in place. Therefore the visitors require further information as to how the procedure for setting up these external examiner arrangements has ensured there is sufficient experience and knowledge of independent prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information how the regulations have been applied to ensure that the external examiner for the programme are appropriately experienced and qualified

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Birmingham City University
Programme name	Principles of Prescribing for Allied Health Professionals (post graduate) (Conversion)
Mode of delivery	Full Time Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	David Rovardi (Independent prescribing) Alison Wishart (Chiropodist / Podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Ben Potter
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

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As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

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- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider has met the standards of education and

training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

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Section four: Additional documentation

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Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding this programmes specific entry criteria, particularly what experience an applicant must demonstrate before being offered a place on the course. Further evidence of how potential applicants are informed of the what differences there are between the programmes delivered at the education provider, if any, should also be provided

A.3 The admissions procedures must apply selection and entry criteria, including accreditation of prior (experiential) learning and other inclusion mechanisms.

Reason: The visitors were unable to determine, from the documentation provided, how the accreditation of prior (experiential) learning (AP(E)L) policy and procedures of this conversion programme are applied to students. As such the visitors were unclear as to how the programme team ensures that those who successfully complete the programme, having been subject to the AP(E)L procedure, meet the standards for independent prescribers. The visitors therefore require further information about the AP(E)L policy to be sure that the AP(E)L procedures in place ensure that the graduates of the programme can meet the standards for prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding the programmes AP(E)L policy and how the procedures in place ensure the policy is implemented.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The visitors were able to determine, from the documentation provided, that this programme is delivered alongside several other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes at the education provider. However, the visitors could not determine from the evidence how this programme fits within the business plan of the education provider. In particular the visitors were unclear how this programme fits in with the other supplementary and independent

programmes delivered at the same institution. The visitors therefore require further evidence of how this programme fits into the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding this programme's place in the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other supplementary and independent prescribing programmes offered.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors were unable to determine, from the documentation provided, how the accreditation of prior (experiential) learning (AP(E)L) policy and procedures of the programme are applied. In particular the visitors were unsure how the AP(E)L policy ensures that those students who enter this have the experience to be able to meet the learning outcomes associated with prescribing and in particularly independent prescribing. As such the visitors were unclear as to how the programme team ensures that those who successfully complete the programme, having been subject to the AP(E)L procedure, meet the standards for independent and prescribers. The visitors therefore require further information about the AP(E)L policy to be sure that the AP(E)L procedures in place ensure that the graduates of the programme can meet the relevant standards for prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding the programmes AP(E)L policy and how the procedures in place ensure the policy is implemented.

E.7 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for student progression and achievement within the programme.

Reason: The visitors noted, from the documentation provided, that this programme is run in tandem with the other supplementary and independent prescribing programmes at the education provider. They also noted the generic information provided about progression through these programmes. However, the visitors could not determine how students are informed of the progression route through this conversion programme in particular. As such the visitors require further information as to how the programme team inform students of the progression route through this programme.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information which articulates for students how they can achieve and progress through this programme.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: From the information provided the visitors noted the requirements for the appointment of external examiners to this programme. However, they were unclear as to how this process had been applied. In particular they could not determine how the current external examiner arrangements ensure that there is appropriate experience and knowledge of independent prescribing in place. Therefore the visitors require further information as to how the procedure for setting up these external examiner arrangements has ensured there is sufficient experience and knowledge of independent prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information how the regulations have been applied to ensure that the external examiner for the programme are appropriately experienced and qualified.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme name	Independent & Supplementary Prescribing (NMP)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlement(s)	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Deborah Railton (Independent prescribing) Gordon Burrow (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

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- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used.

Reason: The visitors were provided with the information given to prospective applicants and students on the programme. Within this information, it indicated that students completing the programme will gain an award of 'HPC award of Supplementary Prescribing for Allied Health Professionals' (student handbook page 12, and on the information sheet for applicants). The visitors considered that this information may be misleading to applicants and students, as it indicates that they will gain an award from the 'HPC' (now called the HCPC) and that the professions that fall under regulation of the HCPC will only be able to undertake

supplementary prescribing. The HCPC do not provide awards of any kind; completion of an approved programme will lead to annotation on the HCPC Register. The documentary submission also states that the programme is available at level seven and level six, and provides information as to the structure and content of each programme, but the admissions materials do not appear to give applicants guidance as to the differences between the levels or their outcomes. The visitors therefore require the programme team to update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate and reflective of current statutory regulation and the HCPC, and gives applicants sufficient information as to the different programmes.

Suggested documentation: Updated programme documentation to demonstrate that the outcomes of the programme are communicated clearly and accurately in line with current legislation.

B.14 Throughout the course of the programme, the education provider must have identified where attendance is mandatory and must have associated monitoring mechanisms in place.

Reason: The visitors were directed to the programme handbook's timetable for this programme. They were able to see that class registers were taken, and that the "...study and practice hours need to be negotiated...", but would constitute a certain number of days in total for theoretical and practical elements. However, there was no indication as to which sessions were mandatory, and what mechanisms were in place where students could not attend sessions. The visitors were therefore not able to determine how the independent prescribing aspects of the programme will be delivered to all students throughout the programme.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to where attendance is mandatory throughout the programme to ensure all aspects of the standards for prescribing are delivered.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

1.4 be able to distinguish between independent prescribing and supplementary prescribing mechanisms and how those different mechanisms affect prescribing decisions

Reason: The visitors were provided with a document mapping the standards for all prescribers against the learning outcomes found in the programme's module descriptors. However, they were not able to determine from the evidence provided that the programme's learning outcomes will deliver the standard 1.4. They therefore require further evidence that this standard will be met.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence that the programme will ensure that students are able to distinguish between independent and supplementary prescribing.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

1.4 be able to distinguish between independent prescribing and supplementary prescribing mechanisms and how those different mechanisms affect prescribing decisions

Reason: As stated in the request for further documentation against standard C.1, the visitors were provided with a mapping of the standards for all prescribers against the learning outcomes. However, they were not able to determine from the evidence provided that the programme's learning outcomes and corresponding assessments will ensure that students are assessed against the standard 1.4.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence that the programme will ensure that students are assessed as able to distinguish between independent and supplementary prescribing.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: Within the mapping document, the visitors were provided with a link to the institution's 'Academic Framework Regulations' and detail of the current external examiner arrangements. There was also reference to 'External Examiner Appointment Guidelines', though no extract or document to this effect were provided within the submission. From the 'Academic Framework Regulations', the visitors noted a section detailing the role of external examiners generally, but were not able to find any information as to the appointment criteria for external examiners at the institution or for this programme specifically. The visitors were therefore not able to find information as to how the education provider will ensure that external examiners are appropriately experienced and qualified in the context of independent prescribing for the relevant professions. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard is met.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that there were consistent references to the HCPC's former name, the Health Professions Council (HPC) in the documentation. The student and placement handbooks both contain a section which links the programme's learning outcomes to the 'HPC' standards of education and training (SETs), particularly SET 4. This programme is no longer required to meet the SETs, as the new standards for prescribing have replaced these for prescribing programmes. The student handbook references the 'Health Professions Council (2004) Outline Curriculum for Training Programmes to Prepare Allied Health Professionals as Supplementary Prescribers' (page 5), but the visitors did not see any reference to the 'HCPC' or to the new standards for prescribing within the programme documentation. The visitors therefore suggest that the programme team revisit their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate and reflective of current statutory regulation and the HCPC.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Liverpool John Moores University
Programme name	Independent & Supplementary Prescribing (NMP) (Level 7)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlement(s)	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Deborah Railton (Independent prescribing) Gordon Burrow (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used.

Reason: The visitors were provided with the information given to prospective applicants and students on the programme. Within this information, it indicated that students completing the programme will gain an award of 'HPC award of Supplementary Prescribing for Allied Health Professionals' (student handbook page 12, and on the information sheet for applicants). The visitors considered that this information may be misleading to applicants and students, as it indicates that they will gain an award from the 'HPC' (now called the HCPC) and that the professions that fall under regulation of the HCPC will only be able to undertake

supplementary prescribing. The HCPC do not provide awards of any kind; completion of an approved programme will lead to annotation on the HCPC Register. The documentary submission also states that the programme is available at level seven and level six, and provides information as to the structure and content of each programme, but the admissions materials do not appear to give applicants guidance as to the differences between the levels or their outcomes. The visitors therefore require the programme team to update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate and reflective of current statutory regulation and the HCPC, and gives applicants sufficient information as to the different programmes.

Suggested documentation: Updated programme documentation to demonstrate that the outcomes of the programme are communicated clearly and accurately in line with current legislation.

B.14 Throughout the course of the programme, the education provider must have identified where attendance is mandatory and must have associated monitoring mechanisms in place.

Reason: The visitors were directed to the programme handbook's timetable for this programme. They were able to see that class registers were taken, and that the "...study and practice hours need to be negotiated...", but would constitute a certain number of days in total for theoretical and practical elements. However, there was no indication as to which sessions were mandatory, and what mechanisms were in place where students could not attend sessions. The visitors were therefore not able to determine how the independent prescribing aspects of the programme will be delivered to all students throughout the programme.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to where attendance is mandatory throughout the programme to ensure all aspects of the standards for prescribing are delivered.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

1.4 be able to distinguish between independent prescribing and supplementary prescribing mechanisms and how those different mechanisms affect prescribing decisions

Reason: The visitors were provided with a document mapping the standards for all prescribers against the learning outcomes found in the programme's module descriptors. However, they were not able to determine from the evidence provided that the programme's learning outcomes will deliver the standard 1.4. They therefore require further evidence that this standard will be met.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence that the programme will ensure that students are able to distinguish between independent and supplementary prescribing.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

1.4 be able to distinguish between independent prescribing and supplementary prescribing mechanisms and how those different mechanisms affect prescribing decisions

Reason: As stated in the request for further documentation against standard C.1, the visitors were provided with a mapping of the standards for all prescribers against the learning outcomes. However, they were not able to determine from the evidence provided that the programme's learning outcomes and corresponding assessments will ensure that students are assessed against the standard 1.4.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence that the programme will ensure that students are assessed as able to distinguish between independent and supplementary prescribing.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: Within the mapping document, the visitors were provided with a link to the institution's 'Academic Framework Regulations' and detail of the current external examiner arrangements. There was also reference to 'External Examiner Appointment Guidelines', though no extract or document to this effect were provided within the submission. From the 'Academic Framework Regulations', the visitors noted a section detailing the role of external examiners generally, but were not able to find any information as to the appointment criteria for external examiners at the institution or for this programme specifically. The visitors were therefore not able to find information as to how the education provider will ensure that external examiners are appropriately experienced and qualified in the context of independent prescribing for the relevant professions. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard is met.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that there were consistent references to the HCPC's former name, the Health Professions Council (HPC) in the documentation. The student and placement handbooks both contain a section which links the programme's learning outcomes to the 'HPC' standards of education and training (SETs), particularly SET 4. This programme is no longer required to meet the SETs, as the new standards for prescribing have replaced these for prescribing programmes. The student handbook references the 'Health Professions Council (2004) Outline Curriculum for Training Programmes to Prepare Allied Health Professionals as Supplementary Prescribers' (page 5), but the visitors did not see any reference to the 'HCPC' or to the new standards for prescribing within the programme documentation. The visitors therefore suggest that the programme team revisit their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate and reflective of current statutory regulation and the HCPC.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Manchester Metropolitan University
Programme name	Non-medical Prescribing
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	David Rovardi (Independent prescribing) Alison Wishart (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Ben Potter
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs.

However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- Non-Medical prescribing assessment tool
- External Examiners CV's

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

A.3 The admissions procedures must apply selection and entry criteria, including accreditation of prior (experiential) learning and other inclusion mechanisms.

Reason: The visitors noted the education provider submitted information regarding the academic and professional entry standards for the programme as well as some information about the accreditation of prior (experiential) learning (AP(E)L). However the visitors were unclear, from the information provided, how the AP(E)L policy would be applied in practice and in particular what types of previous experience would be taken into consideration to ensure that students can meet all of the standards for independent prescribing. The visitors were also unclear as to what elements of the programme students may be exempt from

depending on their previous experience and how this would be managed by the team to ensure that graduates can meet all of the standards for independent prescribing. The visitors therefore require further evidence of the programme's AP(E)L policy, and in particular how it is applied to learning outcomes around independent prescribing and how this is implemented.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing detailed information regarding the AP(E)L policy and how it applied to students and applicants on this programme.

B.6 Subject areas must be taught by staff with relevant specialist expertise and knowledge.

Reason: The visitors noted that the education provider submitted information about the staff who will deliver this programme; in particular they noted the curriculum vitae's (CV's) provided. However, from the information submitted the visitors were unclear what input there is into the programme from independent prescribers. As such the visitors could not determine how the specialist expertise and knowledge, of independent prescribing, forms an integral part of the teaching on this programme. Therefore the visitors require further evidence of how the education provider ensures that the independent prescribing elements of the programme are taught by staff with relevant specialist expertise and knowledge.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information about how the subject areas specific to independent prescribing will be taught by staff with relevant specialist expertise and knowledge.

C.9 When there is interprofessional learning the profession-specific skills and knowledge of each professional group must be adequately identified and addressed.

Reason: From the information provided the visitors noted that this programme is designed to be undertaken by students currently working in different professions and that there is input into the programme from representatives of these professions. As such the programme is run interprofessionally with students from several different professions being taught concurrently. However, the visitors were unclear from the documentation how the input from these professionals ensures that the programme addresses the specific knowledge and needs of each of these professions in relation to independent prescribing. In particular the visitors could not determine how the programme will be delivered in such a way as to meet the profession specific requirements and knowledge of chiropodists / podiatrists who wish to independently prescribe. Therefore the visitors require further evidence of how the education provider ensures that the programme meets the profession specific needs of each professional that is undertaking the programme to enable them to put the requirements around independent prescribing into context for their profession.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information about how the programme is delivered so that the requirements of each profession, in particular chiropodists/podiatrists, in relation to independent prescribing are met.

D.7 The designated medical practitioner must undertake appropriate training.

Reason: From the information provided the visitors noted that the designated medical practitioners (DMP's) who supervise students on the programme are required to undertake appropriate training to ensure they can supervise students. However, from the information provided the visitors could not determine what this training covered and how it prepares DMP's to supervise students on this programme in the supervision of students in meeting the standards for independent prescribers. The visitors could also not determine, from the evidence provided, what the programme team would do if a DMP missed or failed to undertake the required training. Therefore the visitors require further information about the training that the DMP's are required to take before supervising students on this programme and what the consequences would be if a DMP failed to undertake this training.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information about the training offered to DMP's to ensure they can supervise students in meeting the standards for independent prescribing, what this training covers and what the implications are if a DMP fails to undertake this training.

D.10 Students and designated medical practitioners must be fully prepared for the practice placement environment, which will include being given information about:

- **the learning outcomes to be achieved;**
- **the timings and the duration of the experience and associated records to be maintained;**
- **expectations of professional conduct;**
- **the professional standards which students must meet;**
- **the assessment procedures including the implications of, and any action to be taken in the case of, failure to progress; and**
- **communication and lines of responsibility.**

Reason: From the information provided the visitors noted that the designated medical practitioners (DMP's) who supervise students on the programme are required to undertake appropriate training. However, from the information provided the visitors could not determine what this training covered and how it prepares DMP's to supervise students on this programme in meeting the standards required for independent prescribing. Therefore the visitors require further information about the training that the DMP's are required to undertake and how this training prepares them to supervise students on practice placements.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing detailed information about the training offered to DMP's, what this training covers and how this prepares them to supervise students in meeting the required learning outcomes related to independent prescribing.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other

arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: From the information provided the visitors noted the requirements for the appointment of external examiners to this programme and how the workload of the examiners would be split along professional lines. However, they were unclear as to how this process had been applied to ensure that the current external examiners have the appropriate experience and qualifications in relation to independent prescribing. In particular they were unclear as to how the examiner arrangements ensure that sufficient experience of independent prescribing is in place to scrutinise the work of allied health professionals.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information how the regulations have been applied to ensure that the external examiners for the programme are appropriately experienced and qualified.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved

- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Northumbria University at Newcastle
Programme name	Prescribing for Non-Medical Health Professionals
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Michael Minns (Independent prescribing) Glyn Harding (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Abdur Razzaq
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and

training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following required documents were not provided as part of the submission:

- Designated Medical Practitioners Handbook

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors noted the education provider submitted information regarding the existing supplementary prescribing programme and regarding this programme. However, the visitor could not determine, based on the documentation provided, how the education provider ensures students who

successfully complete the programme meet the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)'s additional standards for independent prescribers only. The visitors therefore require further evidence to show how students who complete this programme meet these standards to ensure this standard is met.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information regarding the independent prescribing programme's specific curriculum. The visitors suggest that the education provider submits a detailed mapping document.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted in the documentation provided admission requirements state that "Allied health professionals must have at least three years post registration experience (professional body requirement (HCPC)" and "Nurses, Physiotherapists and Chiropodists/Podiatrists undertaking Award B must have at least three years post registration experience and be deemed competent by the employer to undertake the programme. The year preceding the application to the programme, must be in the clinical field in which they intend to practice as a prescriber (professional body requirement)". This is incorrect as HCPC do not specify admission requirements for students on approved programmes. The visitors noted other instances of incorrect terminology in the documentation as well. Therefore the visitors suggest that the programme team updates their documentation to ensure that it clearly states information required for students to make an informed choice about whether to take up or make an offer of a place on a programme.

The visitors also noted that the programme documentation stated HCPC as the professional body for supplementary and independent prescribing. See above references for examples. This is incorrect as HCPC is the regulator for supplementary and independent prescribing. Therefore the visitors suggest that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate, consistent and reflective of the language associated with statutory regulation and the HCPC.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Oxford Brookes University
Programme name	Independent / Supplementary Prescribing for Allied Health Professions (v300) Level 6
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Gemma Quinn (Independent prescribing) Robert Dobson (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Amal Hussein
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and

training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:
Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)

- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used.

Reason: The visitors noted in the mapping documentation, under standard B.8 the education provider listed HCPC annual monitoring and course evaluation form as evidence to demonstrate how they meet this standard. However, the documentation submitted by the education provider did not include an HCPC annual monitoring or course evaluation form. Therefore, because visitors did not have the documentation referenced in the mapping document, they were unable to determine whether the resources to support student learning in all settings were being effectively used.

Suggested documentation: Documentation demonstrating how resources to support student learning are being used.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors noted, in the programme documentation submitted and the course handbook, the standards for prescribing mapping. However, the visitors could not identify from this document which learning outcomes were associated with which standard for prescribing. As such, the visitors could not see which learning outcomes had been designed to ensure which standards of prescribing could be met. In particular they could not identify how the learning outcomes ensure that students undertaking the programme can meet the relevant standards for all prescribers, including the additional standards for independent prescribers only where relevant. Therefore the visitors could not determine how the learning outcomes ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards required for independent and / or supplementary prescribing.

Suggested documentation: A clear mapping document demonstrating how the programme's learning outcomes will ensure that students completing the programme meet the relevant standards for all prescribers.

D.7 The designated medical practitioner must undertake appropriate training.

Reason: The visitors noted in the mapping documentation under standard D.7, the education provider listed 'DMP handbook' as evidence to demonstrate how they met this standard. However, the education provider did not provide a specific 'DMP handbook' for the full supplementary and independent prescribing programmes. Instead, as part of the submission, the DMP handbook for the conversion programme was submitted as evidence for these programmes. From this information, the visitors could determine the training made available for DMP on the conversion course and how they are prepared to supervise students on this programme. However, the visitors were unsure whether this training differs on the standalone programmes, and therefore how DMPs are prepared to supervise students on these programmes. As such, the visitors require further information about the training that the DMPs are required to take before supervising students on this programme and how this training prepares them to supervise students on practice placements.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information about the training offered to DMPs to ensure they can supervise students in meeting the relevant standards for all prescribers.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors noted the standards for prescribing mapping submitted and the module descriptors. However, the visitors could not identify from this document how learning outcomes were being assessed as there was no clear link in the mapping document between standards for prescribing and assessment. As such, the visitors could not determine how students on the

programme are assessed to ensure that they met the relevant standards for all prescribers on completion of the programme.

Suggested documentation: A clear mapping document demonstrating the programme's assessment strategy.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Oxford Brookes University
Programme name	Independent / Supplementary Prescribing for Allied Health Professions (v300) PG Level 7
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Gemma Quinn (Independent prescribing) Robert Dobson (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Amal Hussein
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and

training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:
Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)

- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used.

Reason: The visitors noted in the mapping documentation, under standard B.8 the education provider listed HCPC annual monitoring and course evaluation form as evidence to demonstrate how they meet this standard. However, the documentation submitted by the education provider did not include an HCPC annual monitoring or course evaluation form. Therefore, because visitors did not have the documentation referenced in the mapping document, they were unable to determine whether the resources to support student learning in all settings were being effectively used.

Suggested documentation: Documentation demonstrating how resources to support student learning are being used.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors noted, in the programme documentation submitted and the course handbook, the standards for prescribing mapping. However, the visitors could not identify from this document which learning outcomes were associated with which standard for prescribing. As such, the visitors could not see which learning outcomes had been designed to ensure which standards of prescribing could be met. In particular they could not identify how the learning outcomes ensure that students undertaking the programme can meet the relevant standards for all prescribers, including the additional standards for independent prescribers only where relevant. Therefore the visitors could not determine how the learning outcomes ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards required for independent and / or supplementary prescribing.

Suggested documentation: A clear mapping document demonstrating how the programme's learning outcomes will ensure that students completing the programme meet the relevant standards for all prescribers.

D.7 The designated medical practitioner must undertake appropriate training.

Reason: The visitors noted in the mapping documentation under standard D.7, the education provider listed 'DMP handbook' as evidence to demonstrate how they met this standard. However, the education provider did not provide a specific 'DMP handbook' for the full supplementary and independent prescribing programmes. Instead, as part of the submission, the DMP handbook for the conversion programme was submitted as evidence for these programmes. From this information, the visitors could determine the training made available for DMP on the conversion course and how they are prepared to supervise students on this programme. However, the visitors were unsure whether this training differs on the standalone programmes, and therefore how DMPs are prepared to supervise students on these programmes. As such, the visitors require further information about the training that the DMPs are required to take before supervising students on this programme and how this training prepares them to supervise students on practice placements.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information about the training offered to DMPs to ensure they can supervise students in meeting the relevant standards for all prescribers.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors noted the standards for prescribing mapping submitted and the module descriptors. However, the visitors could not identify from this document how learning outcomes were being assessed as there was no clear link in the mapping document between standards for prescribing and assessment. As such, the visitors could not determine how students on the

programme are assessed to ensure that they met the relevant standards for all prescribers on completion of the programme.

Suggested documentation: A clear mapping document demonstrating the programme's assessment strategy.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Oxford Brookes University
Programme name	Independent Prescribing (conversion course) for Allied Health Professions: (PG Level 7)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Gemma Quinn (Independent prescribing) Robert Dobson (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Amal Hussein
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:
Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)

- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used.

Reason: The visitors noted in the mapping documentation, under standard B.8 the education provider listed HCPC annual monitoring and course evaluation form as evidence to demonstrate how they meet this standard. However, the documentation submitted by the education provider did not include an HCPC annual monitoring or course evaluation form. Therefore, because visitors did not have the documentation referenced in the mapping document, they were unable to determine whether the resources to support student learning in all settings were being effectively used.

Suggested documentation: Documentation demonstrating how resources to support student learning are being used.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: Reason: The visitors noted, in the programme documentation submitted and the course handbook, the standards for prescribing mapping. However, the visitors could not identify from this document which learning outcomes were associated with which standard for prescribing. As such, the visitors could not see which learning outcomes had been designed to ensure which standards of prescribing could be met. In particular they could not identify how the learning outcomes ensure that students undertaking the programme can meet the relevant standards for all prescribers, including the additional standards for independent prescribers only where relevant. Therefore the visitors could not determine how the learning outcomes ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards required for independent and / or supplementary prescribing.

Suggested documentation: A clear mapping document demonstrating how the programme's learning outcomes will ensure that students completing the programme meet the relevant standards for all prescribers.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors noted the standards for prescribing mapping submitted and the module descriptors. However, the visitors could not identify from this document how learning outcomes were being assessed as there was no clear link in the mapping document between standards for prescribing and assessment. As such, the visitors could not determine how students on the programme are assessed to ensure that they met the relevant standards for all prescribers on completion of the programme.

Suggested documentation: A clear mapping document demonstrating the programme's assessment strategy.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Staffordshire University
Programme name	Independent/Supplementary Prescribing for Allied Health Professionals
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlement(s)	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Deborah Railton (Independent prescribing) Paul Bates (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Ruth Wood
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme(s) at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Standards for prescribing mapping document
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- Validation support document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.6 Subject areas must be taught by staff with relevant specialist expertise and knowledge.

Reason: The visitors note from the documentation submitted that the programme state they have “A pharmacist prescriber” contributing to the module (Mapping Document B.5). From reviewing the CV’s however the visitors were unable to determine who was the pharmacist prescriber. The visitors also noted the

statement in the mapping document, “It is anticipated that specialists from physiotherapy and podiatry” would be used. From this evidence the visitors were concerned that there was not enough of the core subject knowledge within the programme team to teach the knowledge required to become independent and supplementary prescribers.

Suggested Documentation: Further evidence to demonstrate that subject areas are being taught by staff with relevant specialist expertise and knowledge, including independent prescribing.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors’ comments

The visitors were satisfied that the standards for prescribing have been met however they noted that throughout the documentation there was a little distinction made between independent prescribing and supplementary prescribing. The visitors felt that some programme materials should in particular make the distinction for applicants and students (the advertising materials, module handbooks).

The visitors advise the advertising flyer could be tidied up. The visitors felt there was too much cross-referencing and therefore the information became very confusing. The visitors suggest the information should be simplified.

The visitors additionally noted there were typing errors made throughout the documentation that should be corrected (spellings and inaccurate professional body references).

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Swansea University
Programme name	Non-Medical Prescribing
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Deborah Railton (Independent prescribing) Gordon Burrow (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and

training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.5 There must be an adequate number of appropriately qualified, experienced and, where required, registered staff in place to deliver an effective programme.

Reason: The visitors were provided with information about the staff involved with the programme, including the curricula vitae for the five full time members of staff. They noted that there was one independent prescriber for the programme but were not clear from the information provided, as to how the breadth of qualifications and experience necessary to deliver the programme for independent prescribers was in place. In the mapping document, they were informed that there was also “1 x 0.2 FTE and one pharmacist on a casual appointment basis”, though there was no information provided as to the expertise

and knowledge that they contribute to the delivery of the programme. The visitors were therefore unable to determine how this standard was met.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence that there will be sufficient relevant specialist knowledge and expertise in order to deliver the programme effectively for independent prescribing.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

1.2 understand the legal context relevant to supplementary and independent prescribing, including controlled drugs, mixing of medicines, off-label prescribing of medicines and the prescribing of unlicensed medicines

2.2 be able to practise autonomously as an independent prescriber

2.3 understand the legal framework of independent prescribing as it applies to their profession

Reason: The visitors were provided with a mapping document for the standards for all prescribers as part of the submission. They considered that the standards 1.2, 2.2 and 2.3 were partially met, but noted that the learning outcomes referenced did not appear to address legal issues and the responsibility of the independent prescriber in sufficient depth. They therefore require further evidence that these standards will be met by students undertaking the programme.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence that the standards for all prescribers listed will be met by students undertaking the programme.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

1.2 understand the legal context relevant to supplementary and independent prescribing, including controlled drugs, mixing of medicines, off-label prescribing of medicines and the prescribing of unlicensed medicines

2.2 be able to practise autonomously as an independent prescriber

2.3 understand the legal framework of independent prescribing as it applies to their profession

Reason: As stated in the request for additional documentation against C.1, the visitors were provided with a mapping document for the standards for all prescribers as part of the submission. They considered that the standards 1.2, 2.2 and 2.3 were partially met, but noted that the learning outcomes referenced did not appear to address legal issues and the responsibility of the independent prescriber in sufficient depth. The visitors were therefore unable to determine

where and how students will be assessed as meeting the above standards through the programme.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence that the programme will ensure that students are assessed to meet the standards for all prescribers identified above.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: The visitors were provided with the name of the current external examiner, though no curriculum vitae or further details of registration or qualification were provided. The visitors also received the guidelines given to external examiners once they are appointed to the role as evidence to support this standard. However, the visitors were not able to find information as to the appointment criteria for external examiners for this programme, and particularly how the education provider will ensure appropriate experience and qualification in the context of independent prescribing within the relevant professions. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard will be met going forward.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that there were inconsistencies throughout the programme documentation, in reference to the number of days or hours of study throughout the programme. Though the visitors were content that the timescales identified would be appropriate, the visitors suggested that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the requirements of the programme are communicated accurately and consistently throughout.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Bradford
Programme name	Practice Certificate in Supplementary Prescribing
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicola Carey (Independent prescribing) Marcus Bailey (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Louise Devlin
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that

it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- Designated Medical Practitioner Programme Handbook
- Student application form
- Guidance for Portfolio
- External Examiner Curriculum Vitae
- Excerpt from Competency Framework

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

2.1: Understand the process of clinical decision making as an independent prescriber

Reason: From a review of the standards for all prescribers mapping document, the visitors noted that standard 2.1, for students to 'Understand the process of clinical decision making as an independent prescriber' was mapped to learning outcome 1.4: 'Critically appraise recent research in order to analyse, evaluate and integrate evidence to the diagnosis or therapeutic management of patients and clients in your own area of practice'. In the mapping document, this was referred to as a learning outcome for levels six and seven, however upon review of the information provided in the documentation, the visitors noted that this learning outcome was only provided in the programme descriptor for level seven. It was therefore unclear from the documentation how students at level six would be able to meet this learning outcome, and therefore ensure that all students can meet the standards for independent and supplementary prescribers by the end of the programme.

Suggested documentation: The visitors require further evidence of how students at level six are able to understand the process of clinical decision making as an independent prescriber.

C.8 The range of learning and teaching approaches used must be appropriate to the effective delivery of the curriculum.

Reason: The visitors noted from the documentation that directed study makes up 168 hours of study on the programme. However, it was not clear from the documentation, what the content of this directed study was or what the requirements for students were throughout this element of the programme. The visitors were therefore unable to be sure that this learning approach is appropriate to the effective delivery of the curriculum.

Suggested documentation: The visitors require further evidence of the content of the directed study element of the programme to ensure that this learning and teaching approach is appropriate to the effective delivery of the curriculum.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors noted from a review of the documentation provided, that students are assessed through coursework (portfolio), examination (MCQ and short answers), the competency framework, and Observed Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). While the visitors were clear about the methods of assessment used in the programme, it was not clear from the documentation provided (student programme handbook level 6/7) what the content of the assessment is, or were and how it ensures the learning outcomes were met by students completing the programme.

Suggested documentation: The visitors require further evidence of the content of the assessment methods listed in the student programme handbook level 6/7 and further information regarding how they effectively measure the learning outcomes. This will ensure that the assessment strategy and design is appropriate in allowing a student who successfully completes the programme to meet the standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitor comments

The visitors noted that the requirements regarding attendance on the programme were stated in the programme handbook. The visitors would like to suggest this is also included within the programme specification, to ensure that students are aware of the minimum requirements around attendance on the programme, and the consequences of non-attendance.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Bradford
Programme name	Prescribing for Healthcare Professionals
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicola Carey (Independent prescribing) Marcus Bailey (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Louise Devlin
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing

HPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- Designated Medical Practitioner Programme Handbook
- Student application form
- Guidance for Portfolio
- External Examiner Curriculum Vitae
- Excerpt from Competency Framework

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

2.1: Understand the process of clinical decision making as an independent prescriber

Reason: From a review of the standards for all prescribers mapping document, the visitors noted that standard 2.1, for students to 'Understand the process of clinical decision making as an independent prescriber' was mapped to learning outcome 1.4: 'Critically appraise recent research in order to analyse, evaluate and integrate evidence to the diagnosis or therapeutic management of patients and clients in your own area of practice'. In the mapping document, this was referred to as a learning outcome for levels six and seven, however upon review of the information provided in the documentation, the visitors noted that this learning outcome was only provided in the programme descriptor for level seven. It was therefore unclear from the documentation how students at level six would be able to meet this learning outcome, and therefore ensure that all students can meet the standards for independent and supplementary prescribers by the end of the programme.

Suggested documentation: The visitors require further evidence of how students at level six are able to understand the process of clinical decision making as an independent prescriber.

C.8 The range of learning and teaching approaches used must be appropriate to the effective delivery of the curriculum.

Reason: The visitors noted from the documentation that directed study makes up 168 hours of study on the programme. However, it was not clear from the documentation, what the content of this directed study was or what the requirements for students were throughout this element of the programme. The visitors were therefore unable to be sure that this learning approach is appropriate to the effective delivery of the curriculum.

Suggested documentation: The visitors require further evidence of the content of the directed study element of the programme to ensure that this learning and teaching approach is appropriate to the effective delivery of the curriculum.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors noted from a review of the documentation provided, that students are assessed through coursework (portfolio), examination (MCQ and short answers), the competency framework, and Observed Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). While the visitors were clear about the methods of assessment used in the programme, it was not clear from the documentation provided (student programme handbook level 6/7) what the content of the assessment is, or how it ensures the learning outcomes are met by students completing the programme.

Suggested documentation: The visitors require further evidence of the content of the assessment methods listed in the student programme handbook level 6/7 and further information regarding how they effectively measure the learning outcomes. This will ensure that the assessment strategy and design is appropriate in allowing a student who successfully completes the programme to meet the standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitor comments

The visitors noted that the requirements regarding attendance on the programme were stated in the programme handbook. The visitors would like to suggest this is also included within the programme specification, to ensure that students are aware of the minimum requirements around attendance on the programme, and the consequences of non-attendance.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Dundee University
Programme name	Non-Medical Prescribing (SCQF 11)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicola Carey (Independent prescribing) Marcus Bailey (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Louise Devlin
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing

HPCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:
Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)

- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- 'Cause for concern' flowchart

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HPCPC Register.

Reason: From a review of the programme document (page 18) the visitors noted that the education provider has stated an external examiner "with relevant expertise and professional accreditation" has been appointed to the programme. However, the visitors could not locate any information regarding who the external examiner is for the programme, and therefore make the judgement that they are

appropriately experienced and qualified within the context of the introduction of independent prescribing for the relevant professions.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence regarding the experience and qualifications of the external examiner of the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that there were references to the HCPC's former name, the Health Professions Council (HPC) in the documentation. The visitors suggest that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate, consistent and reflective of the language associated with statutory regulation and the HCPC.

The visitors also noted that the admissions information on the website still referred to the entitlements of Chiropodists/podiatrists and Physiotherapists as Supplementary prescribing. The visitors therefore suggest that all documentation is updated to ensure that it is reflective of current legislation regarding prescribing.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	Dundee University
Programme name	Non-Medical Prescribing (SCQF 9)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicola Carey (Independent prescribing) Marcus Bailey (Paramedic)
HCPC executive	Louise Devlin
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing

HPCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:
Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)

- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- 'Cause for concern' flowchart

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HPCPC Register.

Reason: From a review of the programme document (page 18) the visitors noted that the education provider has stated an external examiner "with relevant expertise and professional accreditation" has been appointed to the programme. However, the visitors could not locate any information regarding who the external examiner is for the programme, and therefore make the judgement that they are

appropriately experienced and qualified within the context of the introduction of independent prescribing for the relevant professions.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence regarding the experience and qualifications of the external examiner of the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that there were references to the HCPC's former name, the Health Professions Council (HPC) in the documentation. The visitors suggest that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate, consistent and reflective of the language associated with statutory regulation and the HCPC.

The visitors also noted that the admissions information on the website still referred to the entitlements of chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists as supplementary prescribing. The visitors therefore suggest that all documentation is updated to ensure that it is reflective of current legislation regarding prescribing.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Huddersfield
Programme name	Conversion to Independent Prescribing for Physiotherapy/Podiatry Supplementary Prescribers
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlement	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicholas Haddington (Independent prescribing) Emma Supple (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Tracey Samuel-Smith
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:
Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)

- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Standards for prescribing mapping document – education providers
- Module descriptors

The following required documents were not provided as part of the submission:

- Standards of prescribing mapping document – for all prescribers
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- Regulations for approved courses of study
- External examiner guidelines

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a list of course committee members and curriculum vitae as evidence for this programme. The visitors noted that the introduction of independent prescribing for chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists may have impacted on other aspects of the programme, but, no information was provided as to the place of this specific programme in the business plan or strategy for the education provider. The visitors were therefore unable to ensure that the programme will be sustainable and supportable.

Suggested documentation: Evidence as to the programme's security and support within the education provider, for example a business plan extract or letter of confirmation from senior management.

B.14 Throughout the course of the programme, the education provider must have identified where attendance is mandatory and must have associated monitoring mechanisms in place.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a copy of the student handbook which outlined the attendance policy for the conversion programme. The visitors noted the policy required students to attend their scheduled classes and that continued poor attendance will lead to exclusion from their programme. However, no further information was provided to students within the handbook about which elements of the programme required mandatory attendance and the visitors were unable to access the website link. The visitors recognised that certain parts of the programme would require mandatory attendance in order for individuals to meet the standards for all prescribers. They also recognised that the introduction of the independent prescribing standards may have changed which elements of the programme required this. The visitors therefore require evidence of which parts of the programme require mandatory attendance and how this is communicated to students to ensure this standard is met.

Suggested documentation: Information about how which elements of the programme require mandatory attendance is communicated to students.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a mapping document for the standards for education providers, but did not receive a mapping document for the standards for independent prescribers. They were therefore unable to determine how the education provider has ensured the learning outcomes and curriculum will ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Mapping of the programme's learning outcomes to the standards for independent prescribers.

C.5 The curriculum must make sure that students understand the implications of the HCPC's standards of conduct, performance and ethics on their prescribing practice.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a copy of the module specification for the conversion programme. From this they identified that students would be taught about legal and ethical issues but they could not identify where the HCPC Standards of conduct, performance and ethics were specially identified and taught within the context of the independent prescribing programme. They were therefore unable to determine whether students would be able to understand the implications of these standards.

Suggested documentation: Information which demonstrates where the standards of conduct, performance and ethics are taught within the programme.

D.7 The designated medical practitioner must undertake appropriate training.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a copy of the Information for Designated Medical Practitioners (DMPs) document. This outlines that DMPs will be invited to attend a mentor preparation event which covers the curriculum framework and prescribing standards students must fulfil; the teaching, learning and assessment mechanisms; and causes of concern for all involved. The visitors recognised that with the introduction of independent prescribing this training may have changed but they received no further information about the content of the training or how DMPs received appropriate training if they were unable to attend this event. The visitors were therefore unsure how the education provider ensured all DMPs were appropriately trained before supervising students for this programme.

Suggested documentation: Information about the training delivered and the process followed if DMPs are unable to attend the mentor preparation event.

D.10 Students and designated medical practitioners must be fully prepared for the practice placement environment, which will include being given information about:

- **the learning outcomes to be achieved;**
- **the timings and the duration of the experience and associated records to be maintained;**
- **expectations of professional conduct;**
- **the professional standards which students must meet;**
- **the assessment procedures including the implications of, and any action to be taken in the case of, failure to progress; and**
- **communication and lines of responsibility.**

Reason: The visitors were provided with the Information for Designated Medical Practitioners (DMPs) document and student handbook. However, within these documents they found limited information about how students progressed on the programme or the process to follow if a student should be failing the placement. In the student handbook the visitors were provided with a link to the education provider's assessment regulations but unfortunately they were unable to access this. The visitors felt the introduction of independent prescribing for physiotherapists and chiropodists / podiatrists may have changed how students

progress or the action to be taken in the case of failure to progress. However, as they received no documentation to clarify this they were unable to determine how all students and DMPs would be fully prepared for students in this aspect.

Suggested documentation: Information which is provided to students and DMPs about student progression so they are fully prepared for placement.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a mapping document for the standards for education providers, but did not receive a mapping document for the standards for all prescribers. They were therefore unable to determine how the assessment strategy and design ensures that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Mapping of the programme's learning outcomes to the standards for all prescribers.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that there were references to the HCPC's former name, the Health Professions Council (HPC) in the documentation. The visitors suggest that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate, consistent and reflective of the language associated with statutory regulation and the HCPC.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Huddersfield
Programme name	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicholas Haddington (Independent prescribing) Emma Supple (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Tracey Samuel-Smith
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:
Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)

- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Standards for prescribing mapping document – education providers

The following required documents were not provided as part of the submission:

- Standards of prescribing mapping document – for all prescribers
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- Regulations for approved courses of study
- External examiner guidelines

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

A.1 The admissions procedures must give both the applicant and the education provider the information they require to make an informed choice about whether to take up or make an offer of a place on a programme.

Reason: The visitors were provided with the information given to potential applicants. They noted that the entry requirements state that applicants must have, “at least three years’ experience as a practising nurse, midwife or specialist community public health nurse...”. The visitors were concerned this does not apply to all of the professions that will be able to access the independent and supplementary prescribing programme, and were therefore unable to determine that applicants will be able to make an informed choice as to whether to apply to the programme.

Suggested documentation: Clarity of the information provided in the admissions documentation.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider’s business plan.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a list of course committee members and curriculum vitae as evidence for this programme. The visitors noted that the introduction of independent prescribing for chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists may have impacted on other aspects of the programme, but, no information was provided as to the place of this specific programme in the business plan or strategy for the education provider. The visitors were therefore unable to ensure that the programme will be sustainable and supportable.

Suggested documentation: Evidence as to the programme’s security and support within the education provider, for example a business plan extract or letter of confirmation from senior management.

B.14 Throughout the course of the programme, the education provider must have identified where attendance is mandatory and must have associated monitoring mechanisms in place.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a copy of the student handbook which outlined the attendance policy for the independent prescribing element of the programme. The visitors noted the policy required students to attend their scheduled classes and that continued poor attendance will lead to exclusion from their programme. However, no further information was provided to students within the handbook about which elements of the programme required mandatory attendance and the visitors were unable to access the website link. The visitors recognised that certain parts of the programme would require mandatory attendance in order for individuals to meet the standards for all prescribers. They also recognised that the introduction of the independent prescribing standards may have changed which elements of the programme required this. The visitors therefore require evidence of which parts of the programme require mandatory attendance and how this is communicated to students to ensure this standard is met.

Suggested documentation: Information about how which elements of the programme require mandatory attendance is communicated to students.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a mapping document for the standards for education providers, but did not receive a mapping document for the standards for all prescribers. They were therefore unable to determine how the education provider ensures the learning outcomes and curriculum mean that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Mapping of the programme's learning outcomes to the standards for all prescribers.

D.7 The designated medical practitioner must undertake appropriate training.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a copy of the Information for Designated Medical Practitioners (DMPs) document. This outlines that DMPs will be invited to attend a mentor preparation event which covers the curriculum framework and prescribing standards students must fulfil; the teaching, learning and assessment mechanisms; and causes of concern for all involved. The visitors recognised that with the introduction of independent prescribing this training may have changed, but they received no further information about the content of the training or how DMPs received appropriate training if they were unable to attend this event. The visitors were therefore unsure how the education provider ensured all DMPs were appropriately trained before supervising students for this programme.

Suggested documentation: Information about the training delivered and the process followed if DMPs are unable to attend the mentor preparation event.

D.10 Students and designated medical practitioners must be fully prepared for the practice placement environment, which will include being given information about:

- **the learning outcomes to be achieved;**
- **the timings and the duration of the experience and associated records to be maintained;**
- **expectations of professional conduct;**
- **the professional standards which students must meet;**
- **the assessment procedures including the implications of, and any action to be taken in the case of, failure to progress; and**
- **communication and lines of responsibility.**

Reason: The visitors were provided with the Information for Designated Medical Practitioners (DMPs) document. However, within this document they could find no reference to the learning outcomes of the programme, records to be maintained, or the process to follow if a student should be failing the placement. The visitors recognised that the information provided to DMPs may have changed due to the introduction of the independent prescribing standards.

However, as they received no documentation to support this they were unable to determine how DMPs would be fully prepared for students.

The visitors were also provided with a student handbook which provided a link to the education provider's assessment regulations but unfortunately they were unable to access this. The visitors were unable to locate how students were informed about progression or the process which would be followed if they failed the placement. Again the visitors recognised the information provided may have changed due to the introduction of the independent prescribing standards and the visitors would like to be sure this is clearly communicated to students so they are fully prepared for placement.

Suggested documentation: Information which is provided to students and DMPs so they are fully prepared for placement.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a mapping document for the standards for education providers, but did not receive a mapping document for the standards for all prescribers. They were therefore unable to determine how the assessment strategy and design ensures that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Mapping of the programme's learning outcomes and / or assessments to the standards for all prescribers.

E.2 All assessments must provide a rigorous and effective process by which compliance with external-reference frameworks can be measured.

Reason: Within the student handbook, the visitors noted the learning outcome; 'Systematically demonstrate competence as stipulated by the National Prescribing Centre (2012)' would be assessed in the practice portfolio in Assessment task three. However they did not receive the mapping document for the standards for all prescribers or any further information about how the portfolio ensured the National Prescribing Centre competencies would be met. The visitors noted that the introduction of these competencies and the standards for prescribing may have led to a change to how the programme meets this standard. The visitors were therefore unable to determine how assessments provided a rigorous and effective process by which compliance with external reference frameworks could be measured.

Suggested documentation: Evidence of how the assessments ensure compliance with external-reference frameworks.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that within the module specification, clear reference to HCPC's Standards of conduct, performance and ethics was made. However, this reference did not appear in the module specification which was included in the student handbook. The visitors suggest that the programme team update their documentation to ensure the module specifications correspond.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Nottingham
Programme name	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing for Physiotherapists, Podiatrists and Chiropodists Degree level
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicholas Haddington (Independent prescribing) Brian Ellis (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

1.10 be able to identify adverse medical reactions, interactions with other medicines and diseases and take appropriate action

1.12 understand antimicrobial resistance and the roles of infection prevention and control

Reason: From a review of the standards for all prescribers mapping document, the visitors considered that standard 1.10 was partially evidenced within the learning outcomes, however the visitors were unable to determine where knowledge of how to identify and take appropriate action for adverse drug reactions would be addressed within the curriculum. They were also unable to determine from the evidence provided that standard 1.12 would be met. They were therefore unable to confirm that the learning outcomes will ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet all standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to where the above elements of the standards for all prescribers will be explicitly addressed within the learning outcomes.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: As stated in the request for additional information against C.1, the visitors were not able to see the direct links between some of the HCPC's standards for all prescribers and the programme's learning outcomes. The visitors were provided with a mapping document indicating which method of assessment will assess each of the HCPC standards throughout the programme, but this did not detail how they will be assessed, or how they link to the learning outcomes. The visitors were therefore unable to determine that the assessment strategy and design will ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met all standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to how the assessments will measure the learning outcomes, and therefore that the standards for all prescribers will be explicitly addressed within the assessments.

E.4 Assessment methods must be employed that measure the learning outcomes.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a mapping document indicating which assessment will address each of the HCPC standards for all prescribers throughout the programme. However, there was no mapping of assessments against the learning outcomes of the programme. The visitors were therefore unable to determine which assessment methods would be assessing each of the learning outcomes, and their effectiveness in measuring them.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to which assessment methods will be used to assess the learning outcomes.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: The visitors were provided with information as to the current external examiner arrangements. However, the visitors were not able to find information as to the appointment criteria for external examiners for this programme, and particularly how the education provider will ensure appropriate experience and qualification in the context of independent prescribing within the relevant professions. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard will be met going forward.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved

- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Nottingham
Programme name	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing for Physiotherapists, Podiatrists and Chiropodists Masters level
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicholas Haddington (Independent prescribing) Brian Ellis (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

1.10 be able to identify adverse medical reactions, interactions with other medicines and diseases and take appropriate action

1.11 be able to recognise different types of medication error and respond appropriately

2.2 be able to practise autonomously as an independent prescriber

Reason: From a review of the standards for all prescribers mapping document, the visitors considered that standard 1.10 was partially evidenced within the learning outcomes, however the visitors were not able to determine where knowledge of how to identify and take appropriate action for adverse drug reactions would be addressed within the curriculum. They were also unable to determine from the evidence provided that standards 1.11 and 2.2 would be met, though they noted that these standards were addressed under learning outcome C5 for the degree level programme. They were therefore unable to confirm that the learning outcomes for this programme will ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to where the above elements of the standards for all prescribers will be explicitly addressed within the learning outcomes.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: As stated in the request for additional information against C.1, the visitors were not able to see the direct links between some of the HCPC's standards for all prescribers and the programme's learning outcomes. The visitors were provided with a mapping document indicating which method of assessment will assess each of the HCPC standards throughout the programme, but this did not detail how they will be assessed, or how they link to the learning outcomes. The visitors were therefore unable to determine that the assessment strategy and design will ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met all standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to how the assessments will measure the learning outcomes, and therefore that the standards for all prescribers will be explicitly addressed within the assessments.

E.4 Assessment methods must be employed that measure the learning outcomes.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a mapping document indicating which assessment will address each of the HCPC standards for all prescribers throughout the programme. However, there was no mapping of the assessments against the learning outcomes of the programme. The visitors were therefore unable to determine which assessment methods would be assessing each of the learning outcomes, and their effectiveness in measuring them.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to which assessment methods will be used to assess the learning outcomes.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other

arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: The visitors were provided with information as to the current external examiner arrangements. However, the visitors were not able to find information as to the appointment criteria for external examiners for this programme, and particularly how the education provider will ensure appropriate experience and qualification in the context of independent prescribing within the relevant professions. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard will be met going forward.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved

- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Ulster
Programme name	Certificate in Medicines Management (Conversion to Independent Prescribing)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicholas Haddington (Independent prescribing) Emma Supple (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Tracey Samuel-Smith
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- External examiner CV
- Course handbook
- Physical resourcing document
- Email of intent to commission

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.14 Throughout the course of the programme, the education provider must have identified where attendance is mandatory and must have associated monitoring mechanisms in place.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a copy of the course handbook which outlined the attendance policy for the conversion programme. The visitors noted it was expected that students attend all lectures and that attendance would be monitored. If patterns of absenteeism or high levels of absence were recorded, the student would be invited for a meeting with the module coordinator and / or course director to address any issues around non-attendance / non engagement. However, no information was provided to students about which elements of the programme required mandatory attendance. The visitors recognised that certain parts of the programme would require mandatory attendance in order for individuals to meet the standards for prescribers. They also recognised that the introduction of the prescribing standards may have changed the elements of the programme which required this. The visitors therefore require evidence of which parts of the programme require mandatory attendance and how this is communicated to students to ensure this standard is met.

Suggested documentation: Information about which elements of the programme require mandatory attendance, and how this is communicated to students.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that the education provider submitted a course handbook which included information about their Fitness to Practise procedures. The visitors suggest the programme team update their documentation to ensure the terminology used accurately reflects HCPC's Standards of conduct, performance and ethics.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Ulster
Programme name	Postgraduate Certificate in Medicines Management (Independent and Supplementary Prescribing)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing Prescription only medicine
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicholas Haddington (Independent prescribing) Emma Supple (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Tracey Samuel-Smith
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

This programme is also intended as an approved prescription only medicine (POM) programme, and therefore must ensure that students who complete the programme will demonstrate an ability to meet the following standard of proficiency required for POM:

- Be able to use systematic approach to formulate and test a preferred diagnosis including being able to - administer relevant prescription-only medicines, interpret any relevant pharmacological history and recognise potential consequences for patient treatment.

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- External examiner CV
- Course handbook
- Physical resourcing document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The visitors noted the education provider submitted information about the programme team, management structure and staff curriculum vitae in evidencing how this standard was met. The visitors noted that the introduction of independent prescribing for chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists may have impacted on other aspects of the programme, but, no information was provided as to the place of this specific programme in the business plan or strategy for the education provider. The visitors were therefore unable to ensure that the programme will be sustainable and supportable.

Suggested documentation: Evidence as to the programme's security and support within the education provider, for example a business plan extract or letter of confirmation from senior management.

B.14 Throughout the course of the programme, the education provider must have identified where attendance is mandatory and must have associated monitoring mechanisms in place.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a copy of the course handbook which outlined the attendance policy for the independent and supplementary prescribing programme. The visitors noted it was expected that students attend all lectures and that attendance would be monitored. If patterns of absenteeism or high levels of absence were recorded, the student would be invited for a meeting with the module coordinator and / or course director to address any issues around non-attendance / non engagement. However, no information was provided to students about which elements of the programme required mandatory attendance. The visitors recognised that certain parts of the programme would require mandatory attendance in order for individuals to meet the standards for prescribers. They also recognised that the introduction of the prescribing standards may have changed the elements of the programme which required this. The visitors therefore require evidence of which parts of the programme require mandatory attendance and how this is communicated to students to ensure this standard is met.

Suggested documentation: Information about which elements of the programme require mandatory attendance, and how this is communicated to students.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, along with the required standard of proficiency for POM, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme will demonstrate an ability to meet the following standard of proficiency required for POM:

Be able to use systematic approach to formulate and test a preferred diagnosis including being able to - administer relevant prescription-only medicines, interpret any relevant pharmacological history and recognise potential consequences for patient treatment.

Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that the education provider submitted a course handbook which included information about their Fitness to Practise procedures. The visitors suggest the programme team update their documentation to ensure the terminology used accurately reflects HCPC's Standards of conduct, performance and ethics.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Ulster
Programme name	Postgraduate Certificate in Medicines Management (Supplementary Prescribing)
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Supplementary prescribing Prescription only medicine
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicholas Haddington (Independent prescribing) Emma Supple (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Tracey Samuel-Smith
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

This programme is also intended as an approved prescription only medicine (POM) programme, and therefore must ensure that students who complete the programme will demonstrate an ability to meet the following standard of proficiency required for POM:

- Be able to use systematic approach to formulate and test a preferred diagnosis including being able to - administer relevant prescription-only medicines, interpret any relevant pharmacological history and recognise potential consequences for patient treatment.

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- External examiner CV
- Course handbook
- Physical resourcing document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The visitors noted the education provider submitted information about the programme team, management structure and staff curriculum vitae in evidencing how this standard was met. The visitors noted that the introduction of independent prescribing for chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists may have impacted on other aspects of the programme, but, no information was provided as to the place of this specific programme in the business plan or strategy for the education provider. The visitors were therefore unable to ensure that the programme will be sustainable and supportable.

Suggested documentation: Evidence as to the programme's security and support within the education provider, for example a business plan extract or letter of confirmation from senior management.

B.14 Throughout the course of the programme, the education provider must have identified where attendance is mandatory and must have associated monitoring mechanisms in place.

Reason: The visitors were provided with a copy of the course handbook which outlined the attendance policy for the supplementary prescribing programme. The visitors noted it was expected that students attend all lectures and that attendance would be monitored. If patterns of absenteeism or high levels of absence were recorded, the student would be invited for a meeting with the module coordinator and / or course director to address any issues around non-attendance / non engagement. However, no information was provided to students about which elements of the programme required mandatory attendance. The visitors recognised that certain parts of the programme would require mandatory attendance in order for individuals to meet the standards for prescribers. They also recognised that the introduction of the prescribing standards may have changed the elements of the programme which required this. The visitors therefore require evidence of which parts of the programme require mandatory attendance and how this is communicated to students to ensure this standard is met.

Suggested documentation: Information about which elements of the programme require mandatory attendance, and how this is communicated to students.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, along with the required standard of proficiency for POM, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme will demonstrate an ability to meet the following standard of proficiency required for POM:

Be able to use systematic approach to formulate and test a preferred diagnosis including being able to - administer relevant prescription-only medicines, interpret any relevant pharmacological history and recognise potential consequences for patient treatment.

Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that the education provider submitted a course handbook which included information about their Fitness to Practise procedures. The visitors suggest the programme team update their documentation to ensure the terminology used accurately reflects HCPC's Standards of conduct, performance and ethics.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Wolverhampton
Programme name	Non-Medical Prescribing Programme
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Nicholas Haddington (Independent prescribing) Brian Ellis (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	1 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing

HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

The following required documents were not provided as part of the submission:

- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners

The following additional documents were also provided as part of the submission:

- Curriculum document for the latest validation event of non-medical prescribing programmes

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used.

Reason: The visitors noted that the programme documentation, including information for applicants and students, had not been fully updated to reflect the changes to legislation for prescribing. For example the information for applicants documentation states the educational aims as to, "Prepare Podiatrists,

Physiotherapists and Radiographers to prescribe competently as supplementary prescribers...” (page 3). Also, within the programme guide (page 8) the HCPC professions are not identified as being able to become independent prescribers. Similar references were found in the Designated Medical Practitioner Guidance for the programme. Whilst there were some instances of accurate references regarding this, the visitors noted that inaccuracies and inconsistency in the documentation may lead to confusion for students and supervisors. The visitors also noted that references within the applicant checklist and entry requirements sections of admissions documentation state requirements from the regulatory body for nursing and midwifery which may not be applicable for HCPC registrants, including length of post registration experience and a requirement for students to undertake a ‘health assessment module’. The visitors therefore require that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate, consistent and reflective of statutory regulation and the HCPC.

Suggested documentation: Updated programme documentation to demonstrate that the aims and outcomes of the programme are communicated clearly and accurately in line with current legislation.

C.1 The learning outcomes must ensure that those who successfully complete the programme meet the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: In the mapping against a number of the standards for all prescribers, the learning outcomes appeared to reflect requirements from the regulatory body for nursing and midwifery, but did not explicitly map to the specifics of the HCPC’s standards for all prescribers. For example, for standard 1.2, the learning outcomes refer to ‘legal issues’, but do not provide the visitors with sufficient evidence as to the specific aspects of the HCPC’s standard for all prescribers. The mapping document also contained several references which did not appear to relate to the learning outcomes being referenced, or referred to several documents with various, unaligned learning outcomes. The visitors also noted that there were incorrect page numbers (for example, within standard 1.4’s mapping; page “5” should be page “6”) and misleading numbering in the referencing, which inhibited the ability to clearly see where each of the standards would be met. The mapping document did not appear to link to learning outcomes identifiable by the visitors, and they were therefore not able to find evidence that this standard would be met.

Suggested documentation: A clear and accurate mapping document demonstrating how the programme’s learning outcomes will meet the HCPC’s standards for all prescribers.

C.2 The programme must reflect the philosophy, core values, skills and knowledge base as articulated in any relevant curriculum guidance.

Reason: The visitors were referred to sections three and fourteen of the course specification as evidence for this standard, and were informed that the school and university’s core values were reflected in the award. The visitors noted that the regulatory body for nursing and midwifery’s specific professional outcomes (2006) were referenced in section three, and also noted ‘Section four: Reference

points' listed a number of relevant and appropriate references in regard to curriculum frameworks and guidance. However, the visitors did not find any reference within this section regarding the reflection of HCPC standards for prescribing in the programme, or reflection of any relevant curriculum guidance for prescribing within the HCPC professions (such as the Allied Health Professionals Federation's curriculum guidance). They were therefore unable to see how this standard would be met for the HCPC professions undertaking the programme.

Suggested documentation: Information as to how the philosophy, core values, skills and knowledge base as articulated within curriculum guidance relevant to all professions undertaking the programme will be reflected.

C.5 The curriculum must make sure that students understand the implications of the HCPC's standards of conduct, performance and ethics on their prescribing practice.

Reason: The visitors were provided with the course specification and module specifications as evidence for this standard. However, they were not able to find any reference to the HCPC or the HCPC's standards of conduct, performance and ethics within these documents. They were therefore unable to determine where in the programme students would gain understanding of these standards and their implications for independent prescribers.

Suggested documentation: Evidence within the documentation that the students will be explicitly informed as to the implications of the HCPC's standards of conduct, performance and ethics on their prescribing practice.

D.7 The designated medical practitioner must undertake appropriate training.

Reason: The visitors were provided with information of the eligibility criteria for the Designated Medical Practitioners (DMPs), and were informed that they were invited to an induction, though there was no indication as to how many attended. A 'DMP meeting and induction powerpoint' was referenced in the mapping but was not found within the submission. The visitors were not able to find confirmation that the DMPs would be required to understand and acknowledge their roles and responsibilities in supervising independent prescribers in the relevant professions. They therefore could not determine what assurance the education provider has in ensuring that all DMPs will be able to provide appropriate supervision for students on the programme in the context of the changes in legislation for independent prescribing.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to how the education provider will ensure that DMPs have undertaken the appropriate training, and are therefore able to undertake the role.

E.1 The assessment strategy and design must ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and / or supplementary prescribers.

Reason: As stated in the request for additional information against C.1, the visitors were not able to see the direct links between the HCPC's standards for all prescribers and the programme's learning outcomes. They were therefore unable to determine that the assessment strategy and design will ensure that the student who successfully completes the programme has met the standards for independent and supplementary prescribers.

Suggested documentation: A clear and accurate mapping document demonstrating how assessment of the programme's learning outcomes will ensure that students meet the standards for all prescribers upon completion of the programme.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: The visitors were provided with detail of the current external examiner arrangements, and the mapping document referred to 'University Regulations', though no extracts or documents to this effect were provided within the submission. The visitors were therefore not able to find information as to the appointment criteria for external examiners for this programme, and particularly how the education provider will assure appropriate experience and qualification in the context of independent prescribing within the relevant professions. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard will be met going forward.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

Throughout the review of the documentation, the visitors were unable to find sufficient evidence against some of the standards due to the lack of clear referencing in the documentation. The mapping document contained broad statements such as 'University web page', 'University Regulations' and 'University / School Admission Audit', but did not provide further information within the submission for visitors to find the relevant evidence. Visitors were also given limited narrative to support the evidence, which inhibited their understanding as to the relevance of some references in relation to the standard. The visitors therefore suggest that the programme team ensure that the mapping to HCPC standards is used as effectively as possible in future submissions. There were also several references to the HCPC's former name, the Health Professions Council (HPC), and to the previous standards for prescribing programmes (2006). The visitors suggest that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate, consistent and reflective of the language associated with statutory regulation and the HCPC.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Worcester
Programme name	V300 Independent Prescribing Conversion course (For Registered Supplementary Prescribers)
Mode of delivery	Full time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Alison Wishart (Chiropodist / podiatrist) David Rovardi (Independent prescribing)
HCPC executive	Mandy Hargood
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme at this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing

HPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

A.1 The admissions procedures must give both the applicant and the education provider the information they require to make an informed choice about whether to take up or make an offer of a place on a programme.

Reason: The visitors noted that the education provider has submitted several independent and supplementary prescribing programmes for consideration at the same time. In the submission, details of generic entry standards and information about the programmes have been provided. However, the visitors could not determine what, if any, differences there are in the admission criteria for the programmes and in particular for the conversion course how they are applied, relating in particular to how the criteria will apply to the conversion programme. The visitors could also not identify, from the submission, what information is available for potential applicants which articulates what, if any, differences there

are between the programmes. As such the visitors could not determine how potential applicants are given the information they need to be able to make an informed choice about whether to take up a place on this programme. Therefore, the visitors require further evidence of the entry criteria for this programme, as well as further evidence of the information available to potential applicants.

Suggested documentation: Documentation regarding the programmes specific entry criteria, particularly what experience an applicant must demonstrate before being offered a place on the programme, specifically relating to the conversion programme. Further evidence of how potential applicants are informed of the differences are between the programmes delivered at the education provider, if any, should also be provided.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The visitors were able to determine, from the documentation provided, that this programme is delivered alongside several other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes at the education provider. However, the visitors could not determine from the evidence provided, how this programme fits within the business plan of the education provider. In particular the visitors were unclear how this programme fits in with the other supplementary and independent programmes delivered at the same institution. The visitors therefore require further evidence of how this programme fits into the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other independent and supplementary prescribing programmes.

Suggested documentation: Documentation regarding this programme's place in the business plan of the education provider and how it is delivered alongside the other supplementary and independent prescribing programmes offered.

E.7 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for student progression and achievement within the programme.

Reason: The visitors noted, from the documentation provided, that this programme is run in tandem with the other supplementary and independent prescribing programmes at the education provider in terms of independent prescribing. They also noted the generic information provided about progression through these programmes. However, the visitors could not determine how students are informed of the progression route through this conversion programme in particular. As such the visitors require further information as to how the programme team inform students of the progression route through this programme.

Suggested documentation: Documentation containing information which articulates for students how they can achieve and progress through this programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors were satisfied that the programme team reflected in the documentation are appropriately qualified and experienced to deliver an effective independent prescribing programme. The visitors suggest that the education provider could further support the delivery of the programme by ensuring that chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapist have access to prescribers from their profession, for any profession specific issues regarding prescribing.

Visitors' report – amended approval process for independent prescribing programmes

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of Worcester
Programme name	V300 Non- Medical (Independent and Supplementary) Prescribing programme
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Alison Wishart (Chiropodist / podiatrist) David Rovardi (Independent prescribing)
HCPC executive	Mandy Hargood
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that a currently running supplementary prescribing programme that this education provider has met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.8 The resources to support student learning in all settings must be effectively used.

Reason: The visitors noted that the education provider has submitted several independent and supplementary prescribing programmes for consideration at the same time. In the submission it was unclear as to the level of the programme. There was also no clear definition of the differences between supplementary and independent prescribing. Also the visitors could not find a clear definition between the admissions criteria for entry to this programme. Therefore the visitors were unable to determine if the programme meets the criteria for the

resources to support student learning in all settings be used effectively. The visitors therefore require further documentation that clearly defines the differences between supplementary and independent prescribing, to ensure that the resources to support student learning in all settings is effectively used.

Suggested documentation: Documentation regarding the programmes definition of supplementary and independent prescribing, and the differences in the admissions criteria, to ensure that that the resources to support student learning in all settings is effectively used.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors were satisfied that the programme team reflected in the documentation are appropriately qualified and experienced to deliver an effective independent prescribing programme. The visitors suggest that the education provider could further support the delivery of the programme by ensuring that chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapist have access to prescribers from their profession, for any profession specific issues regarding prescribing.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of York
Programme name	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and AHPs, Level 6
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Deborah Railton (Independent prescribing) Gordon Burrow (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
- Student handbook
- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The documentation provided as evidence for this standard included a statement of compliance stating that sufficient resources had been identified for the 'Community Practitioner Nurse Prescribing V150' and 'Independent and Supplement Prescribing for Nurses and Midwives – V300 programme'. There was also a letter from the NHS commissioning body, stating that 34 places will be commissioned, though this did not specify professions and referred to a programme 'NMPx'. The visitors were therefore not able to find evidence that

there was support in place for the provision of the programmes identified in the submission for allied health professions.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to the secure place in the education provider's business plan for this programme.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: The visitors noted that the mapping document states, "we are in the process of appointing an external examiner from the appropriate part of the HCPC register". As there are currently no HCPC registrants who are able to have the independent prescribing annotation, the visitors were unclear as to the appointment criteria for external examiners for this programme. They therefore could not determine how the education provider will ensure that they are appropriately experienced and qualified in the context of independent prescribing. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard will be met going forward.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that much of the documentation submitted appeared not to have been updated and referred to out of date terminology, bodies or programme titles. Within the module descriptor aims, the visitors noted that it states that physiotherapists, podiatrists and radiographers will only be able to become supplementary prescribers. It has therefore not been updated to reflect the changes to the programme in the context of independent prescribing. The visitors also noted that there were references to the HCPC's former name, the Health Professions Council (HPC) in the documentation. The visitors suggest that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate, consistent and reflective of the language associated with statutory regulation and the HCPC.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of York
Programme name	Independent and Supplementary Prescribing for Nurses, Midwives and AHPs, Level 7
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlements	Independent prescribing Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Deborah Railton (Independent prescribing) Gordon Burrow (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

- Information for applicants (eg advertising materials, admissions / entry criteria)
- Programme specification
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- Information about programme and management team structure, including staff CVs
- Module descriptors
- Extracts from practice placement documents
- Extracts from assessment regulations relating to student progression and external examiners
- Standards for prescribing mapping document

Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
- The visitors agreed that additional documentation was required in order to make a recommendation. The standards for which additional documentation is requested are listed below with reasons for the request.

B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The documentation provided as evidence for this standard included a statement of compliance stating that sufficient resources had been identified for the 'Community Practitioner Nurse Prescribing V150' and 'Independent and Supplement Prescribing for Nurses and Midwives – V300 programme'. There was also a letter from the NHS commissioning body, stating that 34 places will be commissioned, though this did not specify professions and referred to a programme 'NMPx'. The visitors were therefore not able to find evidence that

there was support in place for the provision of the programmes identified in the submission for allied health professions.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to the secure place in the education provider's business plan for this programme.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: The visitors noted that the mapping document states, "we are in the process of appointing an external examiner from the appropriate part of the HCPC register". As there are currently no HCPC registrants who are able to have the independent prescribing annotation, the visitors were unclear as to the appointment criteria for external examiners for this programme. They therefore could not determine how the education provider will ensure that they are appropriately experienced and qualified in the context of independent prescribing. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard will be met going forward.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of York
Programme name	Supplementary prescriber, Level 6
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlement	Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Deborah Railton (Independent prescribing) Gordon Burrow (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

As well as approving educational programmes for individuals who want to join the Register, the HCPC approve programmes for those already on the Register.

Along with several other entitlements, we currently approve programmes to allow:

- chiropodists / podiatrists, radiographers and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with supplementary prescribing; and
- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that

it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

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Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to the secure place in the education provider's business plan for this programme.

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Reason: The visitors noted that the mapping document states, “we are in the process of appointing an external examiner from the appropriate part of the HCPC register”. As there are currently no HCPC registrants who are able to have the independent prescribing annotation, the visitors were unclear as to the appointment criteria for external examiners for this programme. They therefore could not determine how the education provider will ensure that they are appropriately experienced and qualified in the context of supplementary and independent prescribing. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard will be met going forward.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

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Section one: Programme details

Name of education provider	University of York
Programme name	Supplementary prescriber, Level 7
Mode of delivery	Part time
Relevant entitlement	Supplementary prescribing
Name of HCPC visitors and visitor role	Deborah Railton (Independent prescribing) Gordon Burrow (Chiropodist / podiatrist)
HCPC executive	Nicola Baker
Date of assessment day	7 November 2013

Section two: Executive summary

The Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) approve education programmes in the UK which health and care professionals must complete before they can apply to be registered with us.

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- chiropodists / podiatrists and physiotherapists to have their registration record annotated with independent prescribing.

We have previously ensured that currently running supplementary prescribing programmes at this education provider have met the standards of education and training (SETs). As this new or amended programme is based on an existing HCPC approved supplementary prescribing programme, we can be satisfied that

it meets some of the standards for prescribing, which are based on the SETs. However, we have identified some standards where we will need to make a judgement about how the introduction or modification of elements of the programme impact on the way it meets these standards.

To recommend a programme for approval, the visitors must be assured that the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and that those who complete the programme demonstrate an ability to meet the standards for all prescribers (along with the additional standards for independent prescribers where required).

Section three: Submission details

The following required documents were provided as part of the submission:

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Section four: Additional documentation

- The visitors agreed that no further documentation was required in order to make a recommendation.
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B.1 The programme must have a secure place in the education provider's business plan.

Reason: The documentation provided as evidence for this standard included a statement of compliance stating that sufficient resources had been identified for the 'Community Practitioner Nurse Prescribing V150' and 'Independent and Supplement Prescribing for Nurses and Midwives – V300 programme'. There was also a letter from the NHS commissioning body, stating that 34 places will be commissioned, though this did not specify professions and referred to a programme 'NMPx'. The visitors were therefore not able to find evidence that there was support in place for the provision of the programmes identified in the submission for allied health professions.

Suggested documentation: Further evidence as to the secure place in the education provider's business plan for this programme.

E.10 Assessment regulations must clearly specify requirements for the appointment of at least one external examiner who must be appropriately experienced and qualified and, unless other arrangements are agreed, be from a relevant part of the HCPC Register.

Reason: The visitors noted that the mapping document states, “we are in the process of appointing an external examiner from the appropriate part of the HCPC register”. As there are currently no HCPC registrants who are able to have the independent prescribing annotation, the visitors were unclear as to the appointment criteria for external examiners for this programme. They therefore could not determine how the education provider will ensure that they are appropriately experienced and qualified in the context of supplementary and independent prescribing. They were therefore unable to determine that this standard will be met going forward.

Suggested documentation: Further information as to the criteria for appointment of external examiners to the programme.

Section five: Recommendation of the visitors

The visitors agreed to recommend to the Education and Training Committee that:

- There is sufficient evidence to show the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing, and therefore that the programme be approved
- There is insufficient evidence to determine if or how the programme meets the standards for education providers part of the standards for prescribing. Therefore, a visit is recommended to gather more evidence, and if required place conditions on approval of the programme

Section six: Visitors' comments

The visitors noted that much of the documentation submitted appeared not to have been updated and referred to out of date terminology, bodies or programme titles. Within the module descriptor aims, the visitors noted that it states that physiotherapists, podiatrists and radiographers will only be able to become supplementary prescribers. It has therefore not been updated to reflect the changes to the programme in the context of independent prescribing. The visitors also noted that there were references to the HCPC's former name, the Health Professions Council (HPC) in the documentation. The visitors suggest that the programme team update their documentation to ensure that the terminology used is accurate, consistent and reflective of the language associated with statutory regulation and the HCPC.