Should specialist practice be regulated?

February 2009

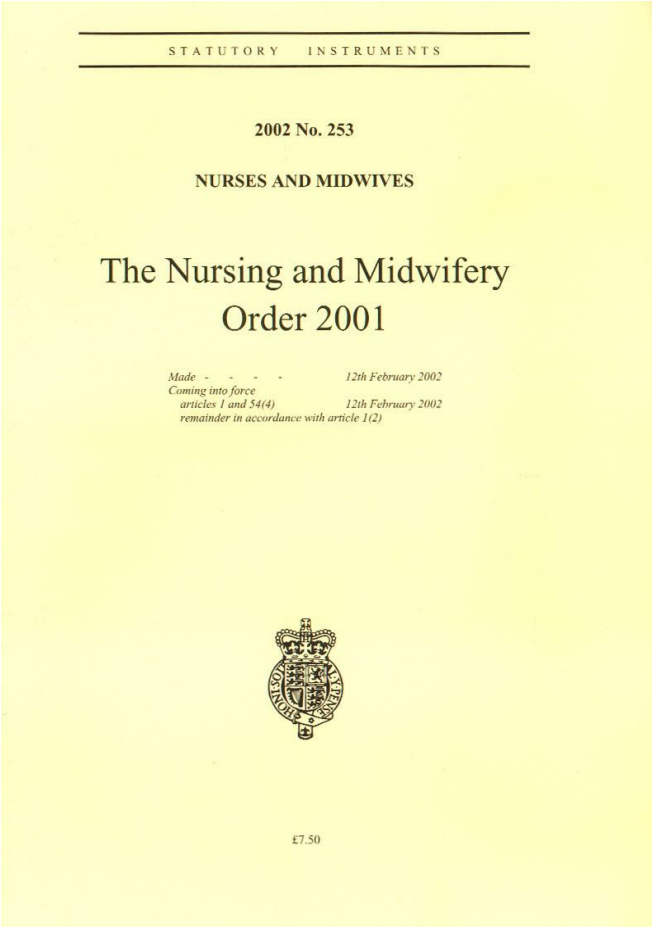
Nursing & Midwifery Council

NMC

The Nursing & Midwifery Council

Regulation:

- Primary purpose is to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the public



STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2002 No. 253

NURSES AND MIDWIVES

The Nursing and Midwifery Order 2001

Made - - - - 12th February 2002
Coming into force
articles 1 and 54(4) 12th February 2002
remainder in accordance with article 1(2)

£7.50

The Nursing & Midwifery Council

We do this by:

- Keeping a register of nurses and midwives who are fit to practise
- Setting standards to get on and stay on the register
- Providing advice and guidance for nurses and midwives
- Handling allegations against nurses and midwives

Specialist Practice

- Grew out of programme frameworks for health visiting, community nursing and specialist clinical skills.
- UKCC established Standards for Specialist education and practice - 1995
- UKCC Higher level of practice project – 1998 influenced National Board frameworks
- UKCC Standards for Specialist education and practice adopted by NMC – 2001
- UKCC Standards for specialist community public health nursing (SCPHN) – 2002
- NMC Advanced practice standards - 2005

Definition of specialist practice (NMC 1995)

- There is a clear difference between practising within a specialty and holding the UKCC recordable qualification of specialist practitioner. Specialist practice is the exercising of higher levels of judgement, discretion and decision making in clinical care.
- Such practice will demonstrate higher levels of clinical decision making and so enable the monitoring and improving of standards of care through – supervision of practice, clinical audit, development of practice through research, teaching and the support of professional colleagues and the provision of skilled professional leadership.

Definition of advanced practice (NMC 2005)

- Advanced nurse practitioners are highly experienced, knowledgeable and educated members of the care team who are able to diagnose and treat your health care needs or refer you to an appropriate specialist if needed.

Programmes leading to an NMC nursing recordable qualification

- Generic SPQ: – Adult, Children's, Mental Health, Learning Disability
- Community SPQ: -
  - District nursing
  - General practice nursing
  - Community mental health nursing
  - Community children's nursing
  - Community learning disability nursing

Those that recorded an SPQ
December 2007 – December 2008 (NMC 2009)

Specialist Practitioner in:	Number Recorded	Number Never Recorded	Total Number
Adult	227	96	323
Mental Health	35	11	46
Children's	22	11	33
Learning Disability	4	2	6
General Practice Nursing	54	20	74
Community Mental Health Nursing	51	23	74
Community Learning Disability Nursing	14	3	17
Community Children's Nursing	40	9	49
District Nursing	308	1	309
TOTAL:	**755**	**176**	**931**

Where now for:

Specialist practice

Future developments will be informed by:

- Each country's key health policy drivers
- Each country's post qualifying careers frameworks
- Modernising Nursing Careers
- Preceptorship and Revalidation

Where now for:

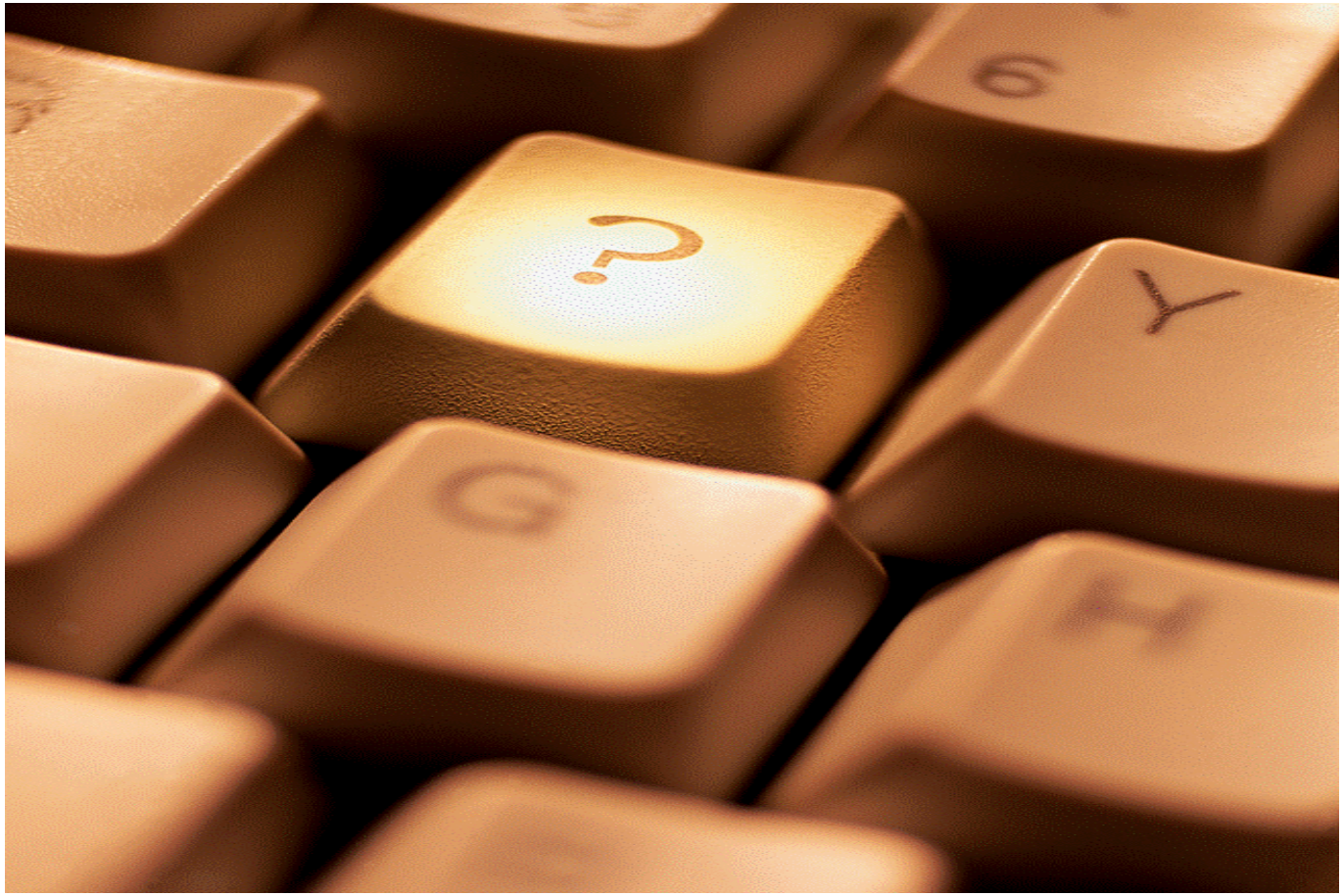
Advanced Practice

- 2005 - NMC sought approval from the Privy Council to open sub-part to the nurses' part of the register and the outcome is awaited.
- June 2008 – A high quality workforce: NHS Next Stage review asked Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE) to work with Department of Health, Regulatory Bodies, Devolved Administrations and other key stakeholders to agree definition and criteria for recognition of advanced practice.
- June 2008 – Advanced practice tool kit developed as part of Modernising Nursing Careers.
- November 2008 - DH Principles for Revalidation - (NMRWG)- 12 Key principles
- In Early 2009 - The NMC will produce an outline proposal for delivering revalidation.

QUESTION?

- Work is progressing around advanced practice,
- BUT does specialist practice need to be regulated?

Questions



Nursing & Midwifery Council

NMC

Thank you

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For more information about the NMC visit
www.nmc-uk.org