

Notes and news

Outcomes of the review of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy's clinical interest and occupational groups

A review of Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) clinical interest and occupational groups (CIOGs) was instigated following a period of sustained growth in the Society's membership and the consequent increase in the number of CIOGs.

The aim of the review was to ensure that the CIOGs benefit patients and the profession's clients by providing a service to the profession and the wider CSP membership. For the groups to do this, they must be efficient and effective, and have appropriate and sustainable CSP support.

The CIOG Review Group set out recommendations to the CSP Council regarding the future titles, structure and governance of the groups. These recommendations were the culmination of work spanning more than 2 years, which included extensive consultation with the CIOGs and the wider membership.

Recommendations

Recognition criteria. For a professional network to be recognized by the CSP:

- (1) It must have a constitution that reflects the CSP's model constitution for professional networks.
- (2) It must be inclusive of all CSP members, as appropriate.
- (3) It must have 100 or more members, at least 70% of whom are members of the CSP. Current CIOGs and unrecognized groups with a smaller membership than this will need to join other groups in order to reach the required size.
- (4) Physiotherapist and support worker members of the network must be CSP members and associate members, respectively.
- (5) Practising physiotherapist network members must be registered with the Health Professions Council (HPC).
- (6) All members of a network's executive committee must be CSP members.

Governance. A governance process will be established in order for the CSP to ensure that a professional network seeking recognition or re-recognition:

- (1) meets the recognition criteria;
- (2) operates according to its constitution;
- (3) performs the functions for which it exists; and
- (4) meets its responsibilities and duties.

The CSP's model constitution will ensure robust governance of the networks. A professional network that fails to comply with the CSP's requirements will not be recognized or re-recognized.

A recognized network that is not found to be complying with the CSP's requirements will be given the opportunity to meet the requirements in order to avoid being de-recognized.

The governance process will include a mechanism for appeals, which will be considered by a panel of members and officers set up by the Professional Practice and Service Delivery Subcommittee.

Structure

Clinical interest and occupational groups will become known as professional networks, and these will form into six alliances (groupings) (Fig. 1). The chairman (or vice-chairman) of each professional network will sit on the Alliance Executive Committee. The chairman of this committee will then, in turn, sit on the Alliances Executive Board. There will be a transitional period in order to move from the current CIOGs to alliances of recognized professional networks. A programme manager has been appointed. This is Adrian Coleman, who is responsible for overseeing implementation, and is working with the CSP Implementation Group and the individual recognized CIOGs.

Definition of a professional network

A professional network is 'a close association of individuals formed to share expertise, advance best practice and influence the profession and the people it serves'.

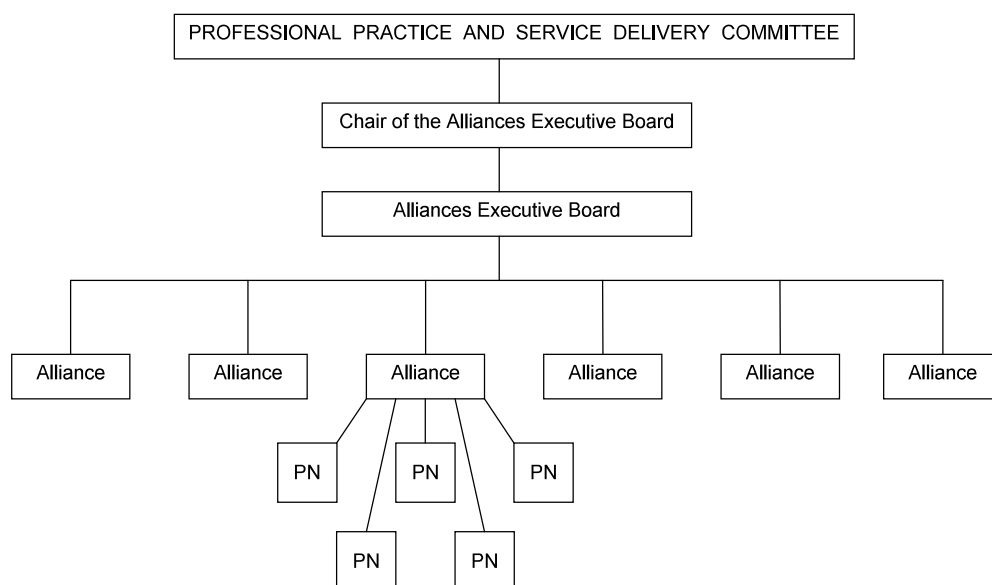


Figure 1. Scalar chain diagram showing the lines of communication and responsibility from the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy Professional Practice and Service Delivery Committee to the alliances and professional networks (PNs).

A professional network should:

- have a strong professional name that emphasizes expertise rather than interest;
- have a constitution that mirrors the model constitution stipulated by the CSP; and
- join the appropriate alliance.

Definition of an alliance

An alliance is ‘a close association of professional networks formed to advance common interests and influence the profession and the people it serves’.

Proposed alliances include:

- neuromusculoskeletal;
- neurology (‘neuroscience’ in international models);
- cardiorespiratory and cardiovascular;
- client groups;
- therapeutic skills; and
- occupational roles and settings.

The first Professional Networks Implementation meeting took place on 13 January 2011. Time was devoted to discussing which alliance each network should sit in and also looking at a model constitution (based on the recommendation in the review) for each network. The Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Women’s Health will be part of the alliance of client groups.

The CIOG Liaison Committee has now stood down, although the chairman and vice-chairman of this group are still in post and assisting with

the implementation process. For the next year, all relevant information and CIOG business in relation to the CSP will be available to view on iCSP.

Ruth Hawkes
Chairman

Changes to ACPWH-approved workshop administration

Workshop administrator

At the Executive Committee meeting in February 2010, it was agreed that a workshop administrator should be appointed to relieve the workload of the local workshop organizers. The role would also involve helping with marketing, planning, and handling queries and applications for individual workshops, as well as answering the organizers’ queries. Furthermore, this would help to reduce the pressure on the workshop coordinator, Roberta Eales, who currently has to direct many of these queries to the local workshop organizer in addition to arranging the planning of all workshops and keeping up with all of the workshop content. Host volunteers would then have a much less onerous task when hosting a workshop.

At the Executive Committee meeting in September 2010, two applications were considered for the role of workshop administrator and the preferred bid was made by Teresa Cook, currently a member of the Education Subcommittee, a workshop tutor and lead tutor for the University of Bradford courses.

Please refer to our website for dates of upcoming workshops (<http://acpwh.csp.org.uk>) or find them listed in your copy of *Frontline*.

Workshops in Autumn 2011

Pelvic Floor Examination and Assessment for Female Urinary Incontinence. This CSP-endorsed workshop will be held between 09:00 and 16:30 h on 10–11 September 2011 at James Cook University Hospital, Middlesbrough. The course costs £245 for ACPWH members and affiliates, and £295 for non-members.

This recently extended programme is comprised of a pre-course learning package, a 2-day, ACPWH-certified workshop and a post-workshop written assignment. It was developed for registered physiotherapists/CSP members who have not completed an accredited continence course, but may also be of value to those who wish to update their knowledge and practical assessment skills. The workshop content includes: professional issues (e.g. consent, chaperoning, infection control and confidentiality); relevant anatomy and physiology; subjective and objective assessment, including a practical vaginal examination session; and case study discussions, which relate assessment findings to treatment.

Contact Teresa Cook for more information (e-mail: info@acpwhworkshops.co.uk). This workshop is limited to 24 applicants, so please apply early.

Physiotherapy Assessment and Management of Pregnancy-Related Musculoskeletal Conditions. This workshop will be held from 09:00 to 17:00 h on 15–16 October 2011 at the Royal Free Hospital, Hampstead, London. The course costs £220 for ACPWH members and affiliates, and £270 for non-members.

This 2-day, ACPWH-certified practical workshop is designed to enable physiotherapists registered with the HPC to examine and manage women with common pregnancy-related musculoskeletal problems. The course is aimed at physiotherapists already working in women's health as well as those practising in a musculoskeletal outpatients setting. It is also suitable for physiotherapists who are new to this area, and for those who require revision or an update on current best practice. The workshop content includes: a review of the normal anatomy and physiology of the lumbopelvic complex, and changes that are experienced in pregnancy; the theory of normal movement and pregnancy-

related changes; the assessment and examination of the lumbar spine and pelvic girdle; and the management of lumbopelvic pain in pregnancy, including functional advice, therapeutic exercise and manual therapy.

Contact Teresa Cook for more information (see e-mail address above).

The Unique Role of the Women's Health Physiotherapist in Antenatal Care. This workshop will be held from 09:00 and 16:30 h on 5–6 November 2011 at the Victoria Central Health Centre, Wallasey, Wirral. The course costs £225 for ACPWH members and affiliates, and £275 for non-members.

Childbirth has been compared to climbing Mount Everest. This innovative antenatal workshop tackles the training required for such an event. It is certified by ACPWH and is designed to introduce the HPC-registered physiotherapist to many aspects of antenatal care.

This course will equip physiotherapists with the knowledge and skills they need to help their obstetric patients stay active during pregnancy, cope with the experience of childbirth and regain fitness for the future. The emphasis is on: group work to encourage safe exercise in pregnancy; the management of common musculoskeletal problems, including pregnancy back care; promotion of continence; and coping strategies for labour.

This workshop is suitable for both those new to this area of practice, and anyone who requires revision or an update on current best practice.

Contact Teresa Cook for more information (see e-mail address above).

Linda Boston

New member of the Executive Committee

My name is Samantha Gillard (Fig. 2), and I was elected as honorary ACPWH Treasurer in September 2010. I have worked in the field of women's and men's health physiotherapy for 18 years, and have been employed in three different hospitals across the UK.

I now work as a clinical lead in women's and men's health physiotherapy at Harrogate District Hospital, Harrogate. This includes acting as an extended scope practitioner in the urology clinic.

I have a strong interest in physiotherapy education, especially within the field of women's health physiotherapy, and I regularly lecture



Figure 2. Samantha Gillard.

on courses run by FitBack & Bumps and have been taken on as an associate lecturer by the University of Sheffield.

Away from physiotherapy, I am the mother of three boys aged between 12 and 16, and I volunteer for York theatres as an audio describer. I love to relax by either walking in the North Yorkshire Moors with my family and dogs, or watching musical theatre.

Samantha Gillard
Treasurer