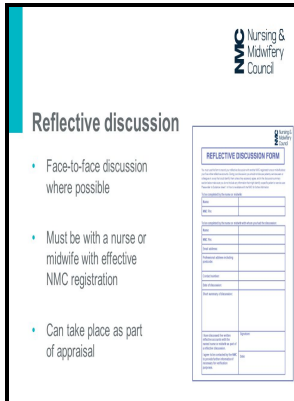


Modernising regulation - the new Nursing and Midwifery Council : a consultation document

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Thirdly, the proposed arrangements for accountability lack thoughtfulness. For the benefit of our members we reproduce our answers to the questionnaire below. We hope this will be seen as an opportunity to involve new people, both lay and professional.

Advanced nurse practitioners in a hospital setting: the reality, Paediatric Care

Meanwhile, we continue to press for affordable insurance for practitioners. Since the Midwifery Committee meets three times a year it cannot possibly make an effective contribution and serve the needs of its clients.

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To contact the editors, please email: Published on 1st December 2002. General Osteopathic Council General Chiropractic Council General Dental Council General Optical Council Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain Fourthly, it is not clear how the council could work with the wider system of public protection, redress, and organisational learning, including the Commission for Health Improvement, the National Patient Safety Agency, and the NHS complaints procedure. The council will be able to require regulators to change their procedures; refer their decisions on individual cases to the high court when it judges such an appeal to be in the public interest; and investigate claims of maladministration.

Regulating the regulators

Furthermore, the proposed structure of 12 practitioners 4 midwives and 8 nurses ensures midwifery remains in a minority.

Nursing associate consultation

Midwives currently have an excellent system of supervision which, one presumes, largely accounts for the low numbers of midwives who come before the Professional Conduct Committee. This may be better than the current anachronistic accountability of all but the pharmacist and nursing regulators to the privy council, but it is an unsatisfactory fudge. The best interests of mothers and babies will only be achieved by a Midwifery

Board which is totally separate from a Nursing Board.

Regulating the regulators

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Standards and guidelines for nurses

Do we focus on fear or confidence, risk or safety, conformity or autonomy? A Midwifery Board would enable the midwifery profession to be entirely responsible for education, standards and accountability and would be responsible for the Midwives Rules and administering the Supervisory structure. In common with other consumer groups we are disappointed that little notice has been taken of these views and await with interest the response to this particular exercise. Over twenty years amalgamation with nursing has had seriously detrimental effects on midwifery practice and it is time this was addressed.

Under

AIMS' members believe that it is not in the interests of mothers and babies for there to be separate regulatory functions, standards and education in each country.

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