

Moderation Feedback - Visiting

CARE

Qualification area

**Subject(s) and Level(s)
included in this report**

Care HNC (HC 85)

Visiting Moderation

General comments on visiting moderation activity

Eight colleges were visited.

Three of these colleges are offering the HNC with the NBS endorsed route.

Assessment Procedures in all nine colleges were found to be satisfactory.

A five college consortium in the West of Scotland is developing a comprehensive assessment strategy. This is an excellent example of sharing of good practice and standard setting within this region and facilitates recognition and transfer of candidate achievements between institutions.

The endorsed route has promoted stronger partnership links between the NHS FE and HE institutions.

Centres have been seeking clarification on issues that have been raised as a result of the endorsed route HNC. Please see attached copy of e-mail to Qualifications Manager.

Specific issues identified

In effect 3 awards are currently being offered:

- HNC Health Care (old)
- HNC Health Care (new i.e. validated 2002)
- HNC Health Care (NBS endorsed route)

There are variations in centre practices and the nature and extent of evidence required in relation to practical experience for the above qualifications. There is a requirement for FE Colleges to use the HE assessment tool for NHS candidates undertaking the endorsed route. Most centres have adopted the same assessment tool for all candidates doing the (new) award, since the same outcomes are covered. This is to avoid mentors being confused by the use of different assessment tools by different cohorts of students (NHS/non NHS).

Placement time varies between 160 hours and 750 hours. The 750 hours (approx) applies to the work place experience requirement for the endorsed route. However the (new) HNC requires the same outcomes to be achieved but this can be done in considerably fewer hours (160 hours).

Many centres are working towards integration of assessments. This means that moderation activity early in the academic year can have limited value in obtaining a truly representative picture of the assessment process.

Feedback to centres

Feedback demonstrates that most centres have been rigorous in complying with SQA procedures.

Instruments of assessment developed by centres have been valid and reliable in relation to outcomes and units sampled. Where there is integration of assessments moderators have recommended clear systems for tracking evidence to avoid gaps in candidate evidence.