



# ANGLO-EUROPEAN COLLEGE OF CHIROPRACTIC

## Post Graduate Certificate in Professional Development (Chiropractic)

an add-on programme for Royal College of Chiropractors PRT students  
and for all newly qualified chiropractors



Bournemouth University is the awarding body for this degree.

**October 2015 - September 2016**

- This is a course for newly qualified chiropractors
- As a registered student, access AECC CPD seminars at greatly reduced student rates
- Full access to online journals and articles
- This is for chiropractors wishing to achieve a postgraduate academic qualification while completing The Royal College of Chiropractors' PRT programme or any GEP programme
- This course will benefit new graduates returning to a country with no formal GEP programme

### Background

It is well established that newly qualified healthcare professionals require support and structured post-qualifying programmes to guide their development from safe and competent practitioner to autonomous practitioner in a full professional role. This period marks the progression from clinical training in the relatively sheltered undergraduate environment to clinical practice in the everyday setting of field practice. The PRT or GEP schemes offered by national associations and professional chiropractic colleges are designed to provide the skills and attitudes to prepare the chiropractor for professional life. The PgCert is designed to provide the chiropractor with the opportunity to **apply** the learning achieved on the PRT/GEP scheme to achieve a postgraduate Masters level qualification. Thus, in addition to **professional recognition**, the learning during this essential transition period can also be used to achieve **academic recognition** through a postgraduate award.

### Course Aim

The overall aim of the course is to provide a framework to facilitate the chiropractor in becoming proficient in a professional role and in adopting the attitudes and skills to continue with professional development throughout professional life. It focuses on the principles of work-based learning and reflective practice, and managing professional practice and change.

### Why do it?

As a chiropractor, you may have to take a PRT/GEP programme to become a member of the chiropractic professional associations and colleges. You may be able to use the credits from the PgCert in the future if you wish to enrol on an MSc/MA degree. But even if you don't, you will be able to use the post-nominal PgCert on letterheads and business cards. The PgCert provides you with a unique and one-off opportunity to make the best use of your learning experiences on a PRT/GEP programme. **Don't miss this opportunity because at the moment it will not be possible to enrol on this PgCert after you have been in practice for more than 2 years** (see Entry Points). Even if you are not partaking in a PRT/GEP scheme, you can still do the PgCert based on your learning experiences during your first year in practice.

### Attendance Pattern

The course is a one-year part-time course starting with an online Induction Seminar in early October. There is no attendance requirement for the PgCert. You will, however, be a registered student at the AECC and at Bournemouth University and have full access to student facilities including the AECC and BU libraries and other web-based resources throughout the PgCert. You will also be able to access tutorial support at the AECC by phone and email. **As a registered student, you will be able to access AECC CPD seminars at greatly reduced student rates.**

## Entry Points

Enrolment on the course starts in 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015. You will have 12 months to complete the PgCert. However, if you do not complete on time, there is an opportunity to extend for a further 12 months.

If you decide not to enrol on the PgCert at the start of your GEP Programme, there are further opportunities to do so within your first two years in practice.

## Course Content

The course consists of 3 core units:

### 1. Supported Practice-based Learning

- **practice log** detailing 30 hours of learning in the workplace setting through meetings and discussions with senior colleagues, mentors and trainers
- **2000 word critical reflective account** detailing learning experiences involving senior practitioners, mentors and trainers with focus on critical evaluation of feedback from these colleagues

### 2. Learning with Others

- **experiential log book** detailing learning experiences, outcomes and relevance to practice, from events such as health practitioner observations, meetings with colleagues and peers, and formal CPD events<sup>+</sup>
- **2000 word reflective text** describing the learning event critically evaluating the learning experience and learned outcomes, application in tackling and solving problems, and critically evaluating resultant change(s) in practice

<sup>+</sup> *Formal CPD event fees are not included in the PgCert tuition fee however students attending AECC CPD seminars will pay the reduced student rate if available.*

### 3. Autonomous Reflective Practice

- **reflective diary** providing evidence of a minimum of 12 critical incidents requiring action in the form of identifying further learning
- **learning cycle log** detailing a learning cycle in terms of the learning need, learning strategy, learned outcomes and evaluation of resultant change in practice
- **clinical audit plan** in which a topic area is identified through reflection on practice, and a plan of how an audit would be conducted to address improvement in practice and how recommendations would be disseminated

## Induction Seminar

**Monday 15th June 2015**  
**(08.45-12.00)**

The seminar will outline the structure of the course, facilities available to chiropractors enrolled on the course, and the concepts and principles of experiential and work-based learning, reflective practice and professional knowledge and development. Students who are unable to attend the Induction can review the lectures online through the virtual learning environment website.

## Fee\*

Since there is already a financial commitment for undertaking a PRT/GEP programme, we have attempted to keep the fees low.

**The fee for the academic year  
2015-2016 is**

**£ 35 per month for 12 months (£420 per annum)**

*\*Payments start October 2015. Fee correct at the time of printing but subject to change. Formal CPD event fees are not included in the PgCert tuition fee however students attending AECC CPD seminars will pay the reduced student rate if available.*

## Contact

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