

Isabel Nisbet
Acting Chief Executive



27 November 2008

Professor D Colquhoun
Professor of Pharmacy
University College London
Gower Street
London, WC1E 6BT

Our ref: RS1417

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Dear Professor Colquhoun

Edexcel BTEC in Health and Social Care

Thank you for your email of 12 November 2008 in which you detailed your concerns regarding references to alternative medicine in Edexcel's specification for the BTEC in Health and Social Care.

As the regulator for exams, qualifications and tests, Ofqual accredits qualifications covering a wide range of subjects. Ofqual does not take a view on the detailed content of vocational qualifications as that responsibility sits with the relevant Sector Skills Council which represents employers and others involved in the sector.

Ofqual accredits the specifications, submitted by sector-skilled professionals, after ensuring they meet National Occupational Standards. Ofqual relies on the professional judgement of these sector-skilled professionals to include relevant subjects and develop and enhance the occupational standards in their profession.

The accreditation of this BTEC qualification was supported by both Skills for Health, and Skills for Care and Development, organisations which represent the emerging Sector Qualifications Strategies and comply with the relevant National Occupational Standards. These organisations develop and maintain these standards and if you contact them they should be able to address your concerns in full.

Below are the contact details for the two organisations.

Skills for Health Head Office
2nd Floor
Goldsmiths House
Broad Plain
Bristol BS2 0JP
Telephone: 0117 922 1155
<http://www.skillsforhealth.org.uk/>

Skills for Care and Development
2nd Floor, City Exchange, 11 Albion Street
Leeds LS1 5ER
Tel: 0113 390 7666

Email:
sscinfo@skillsforcareanddevelopment.org.uk

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Thank you for contacting Ofqual about your concerns and I hope this response is of use to you.

Yours sincerely

Isabel M. Nisbet

Isabel Nisbet
Acting Chief Executive

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Email: isabel.nisbet@ofqual.gov.uk