

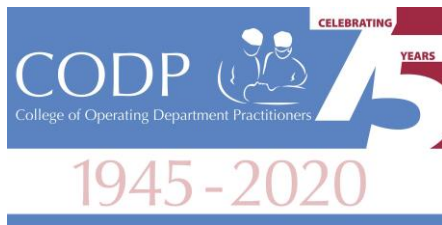
FAQs on the College of Operating Department Practitioners (CODP)

How is the College representing the Profession during the COVID-19 pandemic?

- Working with NHS England and NHS Improvement and contributing to the 'Clinical Guide to Adult critical care during the coronavirus pandemic: staffing framework' to ensure that the full capabilities of ODPs are represented.
- Input into the NHS England and Improvement workforce guidance that describes the AHP inputs required for patients leaving ITU after care for COVID-19
- Contributing to discussions regarding the staffing ratios for 'Operation Nightingale'.
- Contributing to the national IPC for aerosol generating procedures.
- Weekly calls with AHP professional bodies and HEE to ensure that the impact on pre-registration ODPs education has been considered.
- Regular online meetings with course leads from all HEIs offering pre-registration ODP education to ensure there was a dialogue about the deployment process and support for students.
- CODP response to Public Health England guidance on Considerations for acute personal protective equipment (PPE) shortages.
- Issued Guidance on the strategy for restarting planned surgery in the context of the pandemic - [HERE](#)
- Contributing to the work that UNISON has done to support One Team during the pandemic – [HERE](#)
- Guidance on Working in Unfamiliar Environments - [HERE](#)

How does CODP work within UNISON?

CODP sits within UNISON's Science, Technical and Therapy (STAT) Occupational Group, with one member of the professional committee (PC) representing CODP on the STAT committee. STAT is a submitting body to the Health Service Group



Conference and CODP can request policy motions to be considered by STAT at UNISON's annual health conference.

The College operates under a number of Terms of References and Memorandums of Understanding. There is a requirement that these Terms of Reference are reviewed periodically. All documents are held at the CODP office. The current terms of reference for CODP are publicly available on the College website - [HERE](#)

As you will see from the terms of reference, there are two key committees:

- The **Professional Committee (PC)** co-ordinates the work of CODP and UNISON. Members of the Professional Council undertake their roles on a voluntary basis, in their own time and receive no payment for undertaking these roles. Members of the Professional Council can claim reasonable travel and accommodation expenses.

The profile of current PC members can be viewed [HERE](#)

- The **Educational Standards Committee (ESC)** meets to identify and promote best practice for ODPs through education and the development of professional standards

UNISON undertakes all administrative and business management functions for CODP and the College has full access to UNISON resources such as legal advice and communications.

How are people appointed?

The membership of the CODP Professional Committee is reviewed annually as part of the review of terms of reference. Where there are vacancies, these are advertised via social media and expressions of interest can be submitted from interested parties. In order to be a member of the group, applicants need to be CODP members [via UNISON membership or members of University and College Union (UCU) under the UNISON/UCU memorandum of understanding], meet the criteria for the post, and

have completed the required declarations. At least 50% of the professional committee members must be members of UNISON. The committee is committed to work towards achieving proportionality.

The membership of the ESC committee comprises a Chairperson who is a registered ODP and represents the committee on the Professional Council. Other ESC members include representatives from each of the former Local Education Training Boards, a representative from the devolved nations and a representative for ODPs working in advanced roles. The ESC has a clearly defined membership [stipulated as part of the ESC terms of reference and vacancies are advertised via social media.

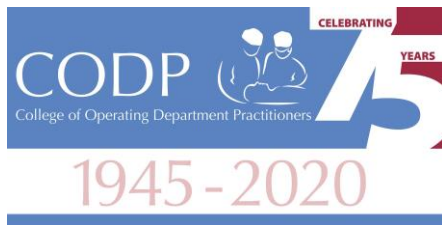
How is the College financed?

The College receives an annual budget to deliver the workplan as set out in the terms of reference. An ODP who joins UNISON is automatically made a member of the College and UNISON represents over 450,000 NHS workers and around 5,000 ODP members.

Membership fees are aligned to the annual salary (including incremental pay scales) of an individual ODP. Please refer to the UNISON website for trade union benefits; this includes representation, legal assistance at work and family home, together with financial assistance in times of need. The College budget is reviewed annually and the PC are able to submit bids for additional financial support for special projects. The College may also undertake special projects funded by external bodies.

How does the College keep in touch with ODPs?

One of the main ways of reaching ODPs is via social media; the College has official Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn accounts. The Facebook account is an 'open account', the College has nearly 4000 followers and the College posts (depending on topic) reach up to 14,000 views. The LinkedIn group is closed to commercial concerns but otherwise open to all ODPs and members from other healthcare professions who support the ODP profession.



In addition to social media, a College newsletter is published twice a year and is emailed to all members. The newsletter is also available on the CODP website permitting ODPs who are not members of the College to read the newsletter.

The College also has a Clinical and University (CUE] Educators Forum twice per year, these are free to attend and open to all with an interest in education, including students.

Is it common that Professional Bodies are also Trade Unions?

Yes, many of the other AHP Professional Bodies are also Trade Unions for example the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, the Society / College of Radiographers and the British Dietetic Association are all Professional Bodies and Trade Unions. The Royal College of Nursing and the Royal College of Midwives are also Professional Bodies and Trade Unions.

What does the College do to promote the ODP profession?

The College is the point of reference on professional practice issues impacting upon ODPs. The HCPC directs many of those raising professional queries to the College. The College is also a resource used directly by both individual ODPs and employers. The majority of such queries are “can an ODP do X” and enhanced and advanced practice questions.

- National ODP Day is an initiative of the College and has arguably had the greatest single impact on raising the profile of the profession amongst the general public and other healthcare workers.
- Ensured both Level 5 and Level 6 students are eligible for the NHS Learning Support Fund - [HERE](#)
- It was the College who made the formal application to achieve AHP status, and since successfully becoming a member of the AHP family, the profile and recognition of ODP has risen enormously amongst other AHP professional groups.
- We are currently liaising with CAHPO leads in Scotland and Northern Ireland to secure universal AHP status for ODPs in the United Kingdom.

- We are liaising with the Association of British Insurers to have ODP included in the occupations used by the insurance industry
- Our case to NHS Digital to update the Occupation Codes for ODPs was accepted and these will feed through to the Electronic Staff Record (ESR) in due course. ODPs will sit with the AHP workforce and the following titles will be recognised;
 - Operating Department Practitioner
 - Operating Department Practitioner Advanced Practitioner
 - Operating Department Practitioner Manager
 - Operating Department Practitioner Specialist Practitioner
- The College are working as part of the NHS England project with the intention that ODPs will be able to administer under PGDs. In order to do this, the College conducted its own research [for both PDGs and prescribing] and the following review of the evidence, NHS England supported us to proceed to make the case for PGD. The College has completed all the required work and we are currently awaiting approval to proceed to public consultation; it must be recognised that this requires a change in legislation and so must follow a set process.
- As the recognised Professional Body, the College represents the ODP profession with NHS England; Heath Education England; The HCPC among other bodies.
- The College also has a presence on a number of other national working parties and groups, representing and promoting the work of ODPs
- The College is custodian of the professions body of knowledge and developed the CODP BSc(Hons) in Operating Department Practice Curriculum Document (2011, 2018), the CODP Standards, Recommendations and Guidance for Mentors and Practice Placements (2009) (currently being updated) and CODP Scope of Practice (2009). The College is also participating at developing an ODP Career Framework.
- Ensured ODPs and our role were properly reflected in national standards, such as the National Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures.
- Represented the profession on the Royal Pharmaceutical Society Working Party that produced the Department of Health (England) (2007) Safer management of

controlled drugs: a guide to good practice in secondary care document, which resulted in the Misuse Of Drugs And Misuse Of Drugs (Safe Custody) (Amendment) Regulations 2007, which authorised ODPs to possess controlled drugs in the course of their duties.

- Parliamentary liaison and lobbying, leading to the first parliamentary debate on the regulation of ODPs - [HERE](#)
- Created and submitted the case that led to statutory regulation with the HCPC by The Health Professions (Operating Department Practitioners and Miscellaneous Amendments) Order 2004 - [HERE](#)

What National Committees Does the College Represent ODPs on?

- Health Education England: The People Plan – AHP Workforce & Education Strategic Oversight Forum
- NHE England and NHS Improvement Professional Bodies Echo Group
- NHS Education for Scotland Perioperative Nursing, Midwifery and Health Professions
- Workforce and Education Task Group
- The Perioperative Care Collaborative
- Anaesthesia Related Professions Committee [chaired by RCoA]
- NHS England Chief Professional Officers' Scoping Project (medicine, Prescribing, Supply and Administration)
- AAGBI Controlled Drugs Working Party
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society advisory steering group
- The Office for Students project group - Recruitment of mature students to nursing and allied health courses [completed and report published 2019]
- Chief AHP Officers Sustainability Advisory Group
- Health and Care Professions Educational Leads Group
- NHS Improvement National Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures Reference Group
- Royal College of Anaesthetist GPAS Perioperative Chapter Development Group

- RCoA Safer Anaesthesia Liaison Group (SALG) – Corresponding members
- National Audit Project 7: Perioperative Cardiac Arrest
- NHS National Uniforms Project – AHP Working Party
- NHS Blood and Transplant – Non-Medical Authorisation Workshop (delayed by Covid 19)
- CPD and Life-Long Learning in Health and Social Care Project – Hosted by the RCN
- AHP Professional Bodies Workshop: NHS Support Worker Development

What National Publications has the College contributed to on behalf of the profession?

This is a key part of our role as the Professional Body for ODPs as it is essential that these national publications reflect the role and the issues relating to the profession.

- Health Service Investigation Branch (2020) Report Undiagnosed cardiomyopathy in a young person with autism - [HERE](#)
- HCPC (2020) Preparation of the Revised Standards of Proficiency for ODPs consultation document - [HERE](#)
- RCoA (2020) Guidelines for the Provision of Anaesthetic Services - [HERE](#)
- Marketwise Strategies (2019) Recruitment of Mature Students to Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Courses; Report to the Office for Students
- Association of Anaesthetists (2019) Guidelines: Controlled drugs in peri-operative care, London: Association of Anaesthetists
- Health Education England (2019) Engagement of Allied Health Professionals and Psychologists in the maternity care pathway. London: HEE
- Royal Pharmaceutical Society (2018) Professional guidance on the safe and secure handling of medicines
- Perioperative Care Collaborative (2018) Position Statement: Surgical First Assistant
- Association of Anaesthetists (2018) The Anaesthesia Team, London: The Association of Anaesthetists.

- Perioperative Care Collaborative (2017) National Core Curriculum for Perioperative Nursing
- Royal College of Anaesthetists (2016) Planning the introduction and training for Physicians Assistants (Anaesthesia), Considerations for your Anaesthetic Department
- NHS England (2015) National Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures - [HERE](#)
- NHS England (2014) Report of the Surgical Never Events Taskforce
- HCPC (2014) Standards of Proficiency for Operating Department Practitioners
- Association of Anaesthetists (2013) Immediate Post Anaesthesia Recovery, London: Association of Anaesthetists
- CODP; Royal College of Midwives; AfPP (2009) – Staffing Obstetric Theatres – Consensus Statement - [HERE](#)
- The Department of Health (England) (2007) Safer management of controlled drugs: a guide to good practice in secondary care (England).
- Misuse Of Drugs And Misuse Of Drugs (Safe Custody) (Amendment) Regulations 2007
- Broughton W. and Harris G. (2019) (Eds.) on behalf of the Interprofessional CPD and Lifelong Learning UK Working Group. Principles for Continuing Professional Development and Lifelong Learning in Health and Social Care. Bridgwater: College of Paramedics

How do I contact CODP?

Please get in touch by emailing codp@unison.co.uk

Social Media - #CollegeODP

[LinkedIn](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)