



CPD Profile

- 1.1 Full Name:** Senior prosthetist
1.2 Profession: Prosthetist/Orthotist
1.3 Registration number: PO1234

2: Summary of recent work/practice

I am a senior prosthetist/orthotist working for Arms and Legs Ltd in Melbourne. Although dual qualified, I work mostly in Prosthetics. I am involved in all aspects of casting, filling and modifying plaster casts. I am responsible for a limited amount of manufacture and major repairs and all minor repairs to my patients' artificial limbs.

I work with all levels of lower limb amputees including congenital absence. I specialise in upper limb amputees, again at all levels. I work with adult and paediatric patients alike. I am responsible for the fitting, alignment and subsequent delivery of all limbs manufactured by myself.

I am also the silicone specialist for Arms and Legs Ltd in the UK and Ireland. This involves travelling to various centres in the country to advise on the process of prescribing, colour matching and casting for a prosthesis with a bespoke silicone finish.

I am also the expert witness for the company, interviewing patients and preparing reports for the High Court and can be called to court if necessary.

171 words
(maximum 500 words)

3: Personal Statement

Standard 1: A registrant must maintain a continuous, up-to-date and accurate record of their CPD activity

To keep an up-to-date and accurate record of my CPD activity I have a list of courses and events I have attended that contributed to my CPD. This is kept electronically and added to after attendance at the events. Evidence of other CPD activities is kept in my paper based portfolio, or electronically stored. Elements of my CPD activity have been approved through my appraisal with my employer (evidence 1).

Standard 2: A registrant must identify that their CPD activities are a mixture of learning activities relevant to current or future practice

Some of my learning needs have been identified during my appraisals. For example I have been involved in supervising students, but felt I needed to learn more about the exam they take at the end of the placement. Identifying this need led to me observing the final year exams in the university. Other CPD activities I do include:

- courses;
- involvement in a journal club;
- voluntary work for the British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists (BAPO);
- supervising students;
- course attendance; and
- discussions with company representatives.

Standard 3: A registrant must seek to ensure that their CPD has contributed to the quality of their practice and service delivery

Standard 4: A registrant must seek to ensure that their CPD benefits the service user

I have undertaken a number of activities which demonstrate that my CPD meets standards three and four:

Journals

The journal club within my department consists of members of the clinic team of varying professions. This club meets regularly to review various published articles considered relevant to all aspects of rehabilitation. These sessions are informative and educational and keep me up to date with the published articles available. Our clinic team was recently involved in a paper on rehabilitation of the elderly which is soon to be published. Led by our physiotherapist, research was done to write the paper in a comprehensive and interesting way. This experience has left me better equipped to research papers, journals and articles, which was something I had never previously done (evidence two). This has allowed me to make decisions about the validity of published materials and whether to make use of their findings in my clinical work. This means that I can apply findings from other centres to the benefit of my patients.

We also recently reviewed a paper which discussed the prescription practices of prosthetists and doctors in the country, specifically focusing on ICEROSS liners. This is an important topic as in our centre the use of ICEROSS liners is on the increase. This paper suggested that the prescription of ICEROSS liners is determined by personal experience. It also suggested that clinical practice in the use of ICEROSS liners varies greatly countrywide. This has led to our centre formulating prescription criteria for ICEROSS liners, leading to a more consistent approach based on the evidence available to the benefit of both patients and the service (evidence 3).

Professional body activity

For the past few years, I have been features editor of the BAPOMag, a publication for all members of the British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists (BAPO) This publication is informative and educational and is of great benefit and interest to all readers i.e. members of the profession. This has taught me varying other skills in editing which previously I had never had (see evidence 7).

In the past year, I have been voted on to the Executive Committee of the British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists. I feel this is of great benefit to me and all members. It has given me a great insight into how BAPO is run and organised. This involves decision making, discussion, contributing to other professional bodies and reporting back to BAPO (evidence 5). I have taken great interest in raising awareness of the profession. This has involved visiting primary schools to educate and inform the children. This work should benefit the service in the long term by helping to ensure a supply of future professionals.

Formal courses

I have attended a number of formal courses and events that have enabled me to keep my knowledge up to date. For example I am a qualified first aider in the work place and keep regularly updated to ensure my qualification remains current. This qualification is clearly of benefit to my colleagues (evidence 6). I have attended infection control and hand hygiene courses. In the current climate, this is highly relevant and of benefit to staff and patients alike. This will be an ongoing concern for me as I am the hand hygiene co coordinator for my section and, as such, am responsible for auditing hygiene measures and promoting awareness of hygiene issues to all staff. My knowledge of infection control and handwashing has enabled me to conduct audits that have then led to improvements within this area. By keeping up to date with policy developments I am able to explain to colleagues the rationale and implementation behind these, enabling them to gain some understanding of them (evidence 6). Recently, I updated my moving and handling skills as the guidelines for these procedures are ever changing. Again, I feel this is of great benefit to staff and patients.

Informal work based learning experiences

There have been other experiences over the past two years which have also affected my working practice. Most importantly, I changed job and company. This has been of huge benefit to my practice as I now work with a different set of prosthetists and technicians. This has brought me added skills, knowledge and ideas. Since my move to this new position, I have recently been assigned a further role which is to be the silicone advisor for Arms and Legs Ltd. This has taken me to different centres all over Britain and has introduced to a varied range of prosthetists and patients with some very differing needs. This has helped to develop my own practice as the majority of these patients have a unique problem to which I have to find a solution. This adds to my knowledge and skills base so that I have a bigger range of options to draw on for future patients.

Also, as the roving prosthetist within my organisation, I travel to all Arms and Legs Ltd centres within the country to provide cover where necessary. This has been of great value as I have met various consultants, technicians and

prosthetists who each have their own practices. This has all added to my continuing personal development by enabling the sharing of views, experiences and skills. This is of benefit to both the patients and other prosthetists as it helps both myself and the other prosthetists by developing our knowledge of work practices across the UK.

I have recently been involved in organising our company conference. This was a challenging but rewarding task. It involved organising a venue, an interesting and relevant program of speakers and accommodation for all attendees. It proved a huge success and much knowledge was gained as the speakers were varied and interesting and of many different fields. The presentations added to my knowledge base. I gained many skills through assisting with the organisation of the conference which should be transferable to other parts of my role.

Being responsible for students has meant that I have learnt new approaches to explaining and teaching various aspects of prosthetic management. By attending the final year exams at the university I feel better equipped to help the students to learn and prepare them for these examinations. My increased knowledge has also led to me having opportunities to explain to colleagues different aspects that will be of benefit both to them and the patients (evidence 7).

My CPD activities have provided opportunities to extend my knowledge and skills in new areas of my practice. Due to my new position I am now responsible for a variety of areas that affect patient care and opportunities for colleagues. Through learning about new products and approaches I have been able to use these with patients and improve the range of prosthetic management options available.

1,355 words
(maximum 1500 words)

4: Summary of supporting evidence submitted

Evidence Number	Brief description of evidence	Number of pages or description of evidence format	CPD standards that this evidence relates to
1	Summary of CPD activities	2 pages	Standards 1 and 2
2	Research notes and copy of article	3 pages	Standards 3 and 4
3	Critical review of paper and new ICEROSS criteria	4 pages	Standards 3 and 4
4	Edition of BAPO magazine and informal notes from editorial meeting	5 pages	Standards 3 and 4
5	Minutes from Executive Committee meeting	3 pages	Standards 3 and 4
6	Course attendance certificates and reflective accounts	8 pages	Standards 3 and 4
7	Statement from student (anonymised)	1 page	Standards 3 and 4