

## HKCOS

### Guidelines on Endorsement of Temporary Registration for visiting Orthopaedic Surgeons

#### Background

Visiting orthopaedic surgeons are frequently invited to Hong Kong for exchange of information on recent orthopaedic advances, or to conduct teaching of new operative procedures. These visiting surgeons are required to obtain a temporary registration from the Medical Council if any clinical activities are involved. The Medical Council stipulates that such visits are for educational or training purposes only. The College has the role to assess the qualification of these visiting surgeons as well as the content of the proposed scientific programme. In order to ensure the smooth running of such programmes, some guidelines are necessary.

#### Guidelines

1. The invitation is on an institutional or hospital basis. Individual invitation will not be accepted.
2. The invitation has to be supported by a recognized training programme or orthopaedic organization.
3. The CV of the proposed visitor including details of previous training and experience in the field of the proposed visit, and the proposed scientific programme should reach the College **2 months** prior to the dates of the proposed visit.
4. The visit is on a non-profit basis. Financial sponsorship to the visitor may be provided but should be on a reasonable basis, and may include the coverage of travel expenses, accommodation, honorarium or other costs related to the proposed scientific programme. However no fee is to be collected from any patient on behalf of the visitor.
5. Informed consent must be obtained from any patient if operation or invasive procedures are involved.
6. The application will be assessed by the Education Committee before a recommendation is made to the Council for endorsement.
7. The Education Committee may recommend modifications to the proposed scientific programme, or certain restrictions to the type of activities that the visiting surgeon may carry out.
8. Once approved, the scientific programme should be widely publicized to All Fellows and Higher Trainees of the College.
9. A report is to be submitted to the Education Committee after the visit. The report should include the final scientific programme, and the number and diagnoses of patients that the visitor has operated upon.
10. Failing to comply with these requirements may result in loss of the right of the programme organizer(s) any future privileges in inviting visiting surgeons.
11. Endorsement of the scientific programme by the College does not imply that the College endorses the validity of the proposed scientific information or the proposed operative procedure.