

Revalidation Guidance for Doctors in Training

Since December 2012 all doctors in the UK who are registered with the GMC and hold a licence to practice, have been required to engage in annual appraisal and medical revalidation.

As a doctor in training you will continue to be subject to the annual ARCP or RITA process, both of which have been “enhanced” to include the revalidation domains. Doctors in training **are not** required to have an additional “enhanced medical appraisal”.

All doctors in Deanery training posts will have a prescribed connection to the Deanery as their designated body and the Postgraduate Dean as their responsible officer for the duration of their training. The Postgraduate Dean will make a recommendation about you at your revalidation due date.

Form R

You will be asked to complete a Form R, on an annual basis, which has been “enhanced” to form a self declaration which covers all of the GMC revalidation domains.

The additional sections on the enhanced form are:

- **Revalidation data**

You will be asked for the date of your last revalidation and your expected next revalidation date. For the majority of doctors in training it will be the first revalidation cycle so the previous date field is not applicable. If you do not know your expected date you should log on to your GMC Online account to view it there.

- **Scope of Practice**

You will be asked to declare your ENTIRE scope of practice as a medical professional. If you are undertaking work that is outside of your Trust, Specialty, or EWTR rota you must discuss the work with your Educational Supervisor or Training Programme Director either before commencing the work or when you are allocated a new supervisor. All work that you undertake, as a doctor, must be documented to form part of your evidence portfolio for revalidation. The Wessex Revalidation Team have developed both a guidance document for work outside of training and a reflection form which will be useful if you are working in organisations where formalised appraisal mechanisms do not exist.

- **Significant Events**

You will be asked to state whether you have been involved in any significant events since your last ARCP/RITA. If you have been involved in such an event, you will need to provide details, including any reflective writing that applies to the incident.

- **Complaints**

You will be asked to state whether you have been involved in any complaints since your last ARCP/RITA. If you have been involved in a complaint you will need to provide details including your reflection.

- **Compliments**

The enhanced Form R has a section where you are invited to submit details of any compliments that you have received in the past 12 months.

- **Probity**

You will be asked to state that you understand your obligations under Good Medical Practice with regards to probity and professionalism. You will then be asked to declare whether you have been the subject of any investigations regarding probity and provide any details thereof.

- **Health**

You will be asked to confirm that you understand and accept your responsibilities with regards your personal health under [Good Medical Practice](#).

Reflective Practice

The advice from the Wessex Revalidation Team is that you should be reflecting, contemporaneously, on any incidents or events that fall under any of the above categories. Some of the situations will be minor whilst others may be more comprehensive.

Advice on how to reflect and how to record reflection is available from the Wessex Deanery website: http://www.wessexdeanery.nhs.uk/support/support/trainee_revalidation/reflective_practice.aspx

Many specialty training curricula already include a requirement on reflection and you should ensure that you are continuing with this to satisfy your curriculum as well as satisfying the revalidation requirements.

The format of reflection is not mandated by revalidation but you must ensure that any reflective practice you undertake is available for the ARCP or RITA panel should they request it.

Employer Exit Reports

As part of the revalidation regulations the Postgraduate Dean is obliged to ask your employing organisation to provide a bi-annual return which covers the domains outlined above. The reason this comes directly from your employer is to avoid every doctor in training requesting the information from their Trust.

This work will be coordinated by the employer and the Wessex Revalidation Team and should have very little impact upon you as a doctor in training.

It is worth noting that the way the various domains are recorded locally may change slightly over the coming years and you may be asked for more information about events from either your educational supervisor or the administrator responsible for supplying the information.

Educational Supervisor Reports

As part of the ARCP and RITA processes you are required to provide an educational supervisors report which makes review and comment on your training over the period of your training post. From 2013 your educational supervisor will be asked to make comment on your fitness to practice by answering two additional questions with an area for comment.

These new reports have been agreed by the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC) and have been circulated to the individual Colleges and Faculties, for inclusion into the various ePortfolio systems.

If your College has not included these questions by the time your report is completed you will need to ensure that your supervisor is completing the questions separately and they are available from the Wessex Deanery website.

Doctors in training, who have retained their NTN number and curriculum from pre-2007, i.e. remain SpR trainees rather than StR, will need to ensure they are completing either updated educational supervisor report documents or are having the additional questions completed.

Out of Programme (OOP)

The Wessex Revalidation Team has created documents to support doctors who go out of programme for the four different types of OOP. Further information will be sent to you when you commence OOP and guidance documents can be found on the Wessex Deanery website:

http://www.wessexdeanery.nhs.uk/trainee_revalidation-1/work_outside_of_training.aspx

Return To Training Scheme (RTT)

Wessex Deanery has developed a Return To Training (RTT) Scheme based upon patient safety guidance and research, on returning to medical practice after a period of absence. If you are a doctor returning to training after a period of absence you will need to ensure that you are following this process which includes meeting with your training programme director prior to the start date of your leave period.

The RTT scheme must be engaged with by any doctor who is absent from training for 3 months or more. However if you are absent for a shorter period and feel that you need support in returning please do use the principles of this scheme.

Whilst your time off may or may not involve clinical practise it is important to remember that this scheme is designed to support you in returning to your training programme and “day to day” work in a structured way. This may include Keeping in Touch days (KiT).

Further information on the scheme can be found on the Wessex Deanery website:

http://www.wessexdeanery.nhs.uk/policies_procedures/return_to_training_scheme.aspx

Further Information

For further enquiries on revalidation please refer to the FAQs section on the website:

http://www.wessexdeanery.nhs.uk/support/support/trainee_revalidation/faqs.aspx

You can contact the revalidation team via email: revalidation@wessex.hee.nhs.uk
or via telephone: **01962 718413**

Your programme management team will also be able to help with your revalidation queries particularly in terms of the administrative processes around ARCP and RITA, details available from the Specialty Schools section of the website: http://www.wessexdeanery.nhs.uk/specialty_schools/specialty_schools.aspx