
4b

To consider

Taking Forward the White Paper: the GMC/Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Revalidation Steering Group

Issue

1. Arrangements for the GMC/Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Revalidation Steering Group.

Recommendations

2.
 - a. To agree the terms of reference for the GMC/Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Revalidation Steering Group as set out in Annex A (paragraphs 6-7).
 - b. To agree the membership of the Steering Group (paragraphs 8-10).

Further information

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|----|---------------|---------------|---------------------|
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Background

4. In July 2007, Members agreed that we should establish a joint Revalidation Steering Group with the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AMRC). On 16 July 2007, the AMRC also agreed to the establishment of a steering group.
5. This paper sets out draft terms of reference for the Group, and makes proposals for GMC membership on it.

Discussion

Terms of reference

6. Draft terms of reference for the Steering Group are at Annex A. They reflect the role envisaged for the Group in:
 - a. Promoting a co-ordinated approach to the development of recertification, including the relationship with relicensing.
 - b. Providing advice on these issues to the GMC, AMRC and the Medical Revalidation and Education Group chaired by Sir Liam Donaldson and other related groups.
7. The draft terms of reference propose that there should be ten members on the group, five from the GMC, and five from AMRC. The question of membership is explored in more detail below. Subject to that, Council is invited to approve the terms of reference as drafted.

Recommendation: To agree the terms of reference for the GMC/Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Revalidation Steering Group as set out in Annex A.

Membership

8. We propose that all five of the GMC's representatives on the Group should be Council Members. Given the nature of the Group, we propose that the President should be one of the members.
9. It will be important that our contribution to the Steering Group takes account, among other things, of key projects which the GMC is leading. They include, in particular, the development (as a key component of a framework for appraisal) of generic standards of practice based on *Good Medical Practice* (overseen by the Standards and Ethics Committee) and the development of peer and patient questionnaires (overseen by the Registration Committee). The Chairs of those Committees have indicated to the President their willingness to serve on the Group.
10. To make up our complement of five members, we would therefore propose to seek expressions of interest from one additional medical member, and one lay member, to serve on the Group.

Recommendation : To agree the membership of the Steering Group.

Next steps

11. Subject to Council being content, we will invite expressions of interest from Council Members to serve on the Group.

12. We envisage that the first meeting of the Group will take place later in the autumn. It will need to consider, among other issues, the arrangements and terms of reference for technical groups.

13. In the meantime, given that it will inevitably take some time to arrange this first meeting of the Steering Group, we will be holding a planning meeting with AMRC in order to maintain momentum and ensure that the Steering Group can make rapid progress once it is constituted.

Royal College of General Practitioners Recertification Steering Group

14. The Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) has established a steering group to oversee work on the development of re-certification for GPs. The Chief Executive represents the GMC on this group. Professor Mike Pringle and Professor Debbie Sharp (a member of our Education Committee) also serve on the group.

15. When the GMC/AMRC Revalidation Steering Group is established, it may wish to consider how it can best co-ordinate the contributions made by groups established by particular medical Royal Colleges, including the RCGP.

Resource implications

16. The cost of a Steering Group meeting five times a year would be around £4250 (based on standard costings). There will also be opportunity costs associated with staff attendance at working group meetings.

Equality

17. No implications arise from the recommendations in this paper.