

**LICENSING**

**Decide by  
14 August '09**

**General  
Medical  
Council**

Regulating doctors  
Ensuring good medical practice

## LICENSING WILL BEGIN ON 16 NOVEMBER 2009

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From this date any doctor wishing to practise medicine in the UK will, by law, need to hold both registration and a licence to practise.

More than half of all doctors have already told us their decision but we are still waiting to hear from you.

**REMEMBER**  
**every doctor**  
**needs to**  
**decide**

## TELL US YOUR DECISION BEFORE 14 AUGUST 2009

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We want the introduction of licensing to be straightforward for all concerned. All doctors who are currently registered will be entitled to a licence and therefore we have asked you to decide between three options:

- **Registration with a licence to practise (annual fee £410)**
- **Remain registered without a licence to practise (annual fee £145)**
- **No longer registered**

## WHY LICENSING MATTERS TO YOU

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Licensing is important because it affects you and every other registered doctor.

Doctors' professional situations are many and varied and your licensing decision will be determined by your individual circumstances. Therefore, it is for you to make a decision about whether you will require a licence.

The more information we can gather now the more straightforward we can make the future introduction of revalidation.

If you have a question about licensing which is not answered by the information on our website, please email [licensing@gmc-uk.org](mailto:licensing@gmc-uk.org).

## FACTS ABOUT REVALIDATION

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Licensing is the first step towards the introduction of revalidation.

- All doctors who hold a licence to practise will need to participate in revalidation.
- Revalidation will not be introduced at the same time as licensing. The first revalidations will not happen before 2011.
- Until revalidation begins, there will be nothing that you need do to renew your licence over and above what you must do now to maintain your registration.

The GMC has published a comprehensive set of frequently asked questions about revalidation at [www.gmc-uk.org/revalidation](http://www.gmc-uk.org/revalidation). If you have a question which is not answered by the information available on our website, please email [revalidation@gmc-uk.org](mailto:revalidation@gmc-uk.org).

## HELPING YOU TO DECIDE

To help you decide, visit **Licensing help** – our simple, interactive guide to your licensing options. This microsite contains more information about the options available to you, case studies of doctors in different professional situations, answers to frequently asked questions and interviews with high profile doctors who have already made their licensing decision.



You can access **Licensing help** at [www.gmc-uk.org/licensinghelp](http://www.gmc-uk.org/licensinghelp)

Once you have made your decision you can let us know by returning the form sent with this leaflet, or online by following the instructions in our letter, or by contacting us on 0161 923 6277.

We ask that you do so as quickly as possible and no later than 14 August 2009.

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