

## Revalidation Timeline

### 1999 – 2004 (Revalidation Mark I)

- Revalidation was first discussed by the GMC Council in 1999 following the Bristol Heart Inquiry.
- Revalidation, based on effective local systems, was proposed as a way the GMC could ensure better patient safety through regular checks on the performance and practice of doctors.
- The GMC developed a model for revalidation and undertook a number of pilots.
- The further development and implementation of revalidation is postponed pending the report of the Shipman Inquiry.

### 2004 – Shipman Inquiry Fifth report

- The Fifth Shipman Report criticises the original revalidation model arguing that local appraisal systems are inconsistent and an insufficient basis for revalidation.
- Revalidation, which had been nearing finalisation, was put on hold by the GMC.
- The Chief Medical Officer of England agreed to undertake a review of a range of issues arising from the Shipman report including death certification and revalidation.
- Link: <http://www.shipman-inquiry.org.uk/reports.asp>

### 2006 – CMO Report, *Good Doctors Safer Patients*

- CMO published the report, *Good Doctors Safer Patients*, which outlined a number of proposals for changes to medical regulation.
- The report recommends changes in the structure of revalidation and introduces the concept of the license to practice and two separate components of revalidation covering general (relicensing) and specialist (recertification) skills but confirmed a model based on local systems.
- Link: [http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_4137232](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4137232)

### 2007 – Whitepaper, *Trust Assurance and Safety*

- UK Government publishes a whitepaper, *Trust Assurance and Safety* which sets out a programme of reform following a consultation on the 2006 CMO report.
- Many of the CMO report proposals are retained in the whitepaper including the dual elements of revalidation, the introduction of licenses to practice, and the development by the GMC of a core set of standards for revalidation based on local systems.
- The whitepaper also included the introduction of Responsible Officers, tightening death certification processes and changes to the GMC council including reconfiguration to half lay representation.
- Link: [http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_065946](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_065946)

### 2008 – CMO Report, *Principles and Next Steps*

- The Chief Medical Officer established a working group who set out the necessary next steps for the implementation of revalidation in the UK and reinforced the Department of Health's commitment and intention to push ahead with the introduction of revalidation.
- *"A new revalidation system is being established in response to concerns raised by the Shipman inquiry, and the inquiries into the conduct of a number of other doctors. In future, doctors will be required to demonstrate to the General Medical Council that they are up-to-date, and fit to practise medicine. Doctors who take part in revalidation will be granted a license to practise, and will be reassessed every five years."*
- Link: [http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_086430](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_086430)

### 2009

- During 2009 a series of first stage pilots were conducted in all 4 UK countries to evaluate the existing state of appraisal and to test a strengthened version of appraisal which used the *GMP Framework*.
- Pilots demonstrated that in many areas the GMP framework, strengthened medical appraisal proposals and clinical governance requirements are largely acceptable to the project participants.
- Trusts in England completed the AQMAR baseline exercise to assess organisational readiness for revalidation.
- GMC introduced the license to practice.
- Links: Projects and Piloting <http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/revalidation/9556.asp>  
Licence to Practise <http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/licensing.asp>

#### **2010 – GMC Consultation (Revalidation Mark II)**

- GMC ran a consultation between March and June 2010 called *Revalidation: The Way Ahead*.
- The consultation outlined our plans and proposals for revalidation in 4 main sections:
  1. How revalidation will work
  2. What employers and contractors of doctors' services will need to do
  3. Patient and public involvement in revalidation
  4. How and when revalidation will be introduced
- We received around 950 responses to the consultation including individual doctors, healthcare organisations, representative bodies, patients and the public.
- We also ran over 130 engagement events around the consultation involving around 5000 individuals.
- Key Themes in the Consultation Feedback:
  - Ensure that revalidation is as streamlined, straightforward and proportionate as possible
  - Ensure that revalidation is flexible
  - Concerns about the potential costs
  - Need for further detail about how revalidation will work in practice
  - Importance of further piloting and testing
- GMC published its response to the consultation report in October 2010 which outlined our commitment to review our policies and to simplify and streamline them where possible.
- Alongside the report, the GMC and the 4 Departments of Health published a Statement of Intent, reinforcing cross-partner commitment to the introduction of revalidation and announcing that the revalidation would begin in late 2012.
- Link: <http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/revalidation/9579.asp>

#### **2010 – Pathfinder Pilots**

- During 2010 the RST established 10 pathfinder pilots in sites in England.
- Pilots tested a number of the components of revalidation including appraisal, clinical governance data, doctors collecting supporting information, the GMP Framework and IT systems to support appraisal.
- Pilots demonstrated that participants believed that strengthened appraisal helped to improve the way they delivered care and that employers are actively working to develop local clinical governance systems to support revalidation.
- Also a lot of positive feedback on the role of the Employer Liaison Adviser, a new role designed to provide advice to ROs and employers on revalidation and fitness to practise.
- Link: <http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/revalidation/9556.asp>

#### **2011 – So far**

- Responsible Officer regulations came into place for all of the UK in January.
- GMC published a revised GMP Framework and the core set of supporting information all doctors will be required to collect and discuss at appraisal for revalidation.
- GMC published a set of guidance for employers, developers and administrators of Colleague and Patient Questionnaires.

- All designated bodies throughout the UK involved in a local organisational readiness framework and self-assessment (ORSA) exercise to assess organisational readiness for revalidation.
- Links: RO regulations and guidance  
 GMP Framework for appraisal and revalidation [http://www.gmc-uk.org/GMP\\_framework\\_for\\_appraisal\\_and\\_revalidation.pdf\\_41326960.pdf](http://www.gmc-uk.org/GMP_framework_for_appraisal_and_revalidation.pdf_41326960.pdf)  
 Guidance on supporting information for appraisal and revalidation [http://www.gmc-uk.org/Supporting\\_information\\_2\\_.pdf\\_39974163.pdf](http://www.gmc-uk.org/Supporting_information_2_.pdf_39974163.pdf)  
 Guidance on colleague and patient questionnaires [http://www.gmc-uk.org/Colleague\\_and\\_patient\\_questionnaires.pdf\\_41683779.pdf](http://www.gmc-uk.org/Colleague_and_patient_questionnaires.pdf_41683779.pdf)  
 ORSA [http://www.revalidationsupport.co.uk/organisational\\_readiness.asp](http://www.revalidationsupport.co.uk/organisational_readiness.asp)

#### **2011 – next steps**

- GMC to draft and consult on Revalidation Regulations and accompanying guidance for doctors.
- GMC to finalise revalidation and quality assurance model and begin developing internal systems for revalidation.
- Employer Liaison Service rolled out across UK.
- UK countries to assess local readiness for revalidation and to report back to the GMC to assist roll out planning.
- Third stage pilots in England to look at further areas of the revalidation process and how it works for different groups of doctors, e.g. trainees and non-clinical doctors.
- DH review and update of RO regulations to identify additional designated bodies and reflect NHS restructuring in England.

#### **2012-13:**

- Summer 2012: Secretary of State assessment of readiness to begin revalidation.
- Late 2012: Switching on revalidation legislation.
- End 2012/Early 2013: First RO recommendations submitted to the GMC.

#### **2013-14:**

- All NHS organisations and most other designated bodies to begin submitting RO recommendations.

#### **2015:**

- All designated bodies submitting RO recommendations.

#### **2018:**

- All licensed doctors revalidated and end of first cycle.