
UK Medical Schools Annual Return 2008/09: QABME

The QABME Annual Return Process

Every year, each medical school must provide a return to the GMC that:

- a. Identifies significant changes to curricula, assessments or staffing.
- b. Highlights risks or issues of concern, proposed solutions and corrective actions taken.
- c. Identifies examples of innovation and good practice.
- d. Responds to issues of interest and debate in medical education, including promoting equality and valuing diversity.
- e. Identifies progress on any requirements or recommendations arising from the QABME visit process.

The GMC writes to each medical school towards the end of the calendar year to request the specific information required that year. School returns allow the GMC Education Committee to identify:

- a. Issues to explore with all medical schools.
- b. Examples of good practice that can be shared.
- c. Issues to be investigated with individual medical schools.

If we need to explore an issue, for example the introduction of a new curriculum or significant changes to the curriculum or facilities, the school may be requested to submit detailed information for analysis or may be selected for the QABME visit process.

Basic Information

Please complete this table and update details if necessary

Name of Medical School:	ABERDEEN MEDICAL SCHOOL	
Name of Dean/Head of School <i>(please correct if necessary):</i>	PROFESSOR MIKE GREAVES (HEAD OF SCHOOL OF MEDICINE)	Contact tel: 01224 553016 Contact email: m.greaves@abdn.ac.uk
Name of QABME contact <i>(please correct if necessary) :</i>	DR CHRISTINE KAY	Contact tel: 01224 554257 Contact email: c.d.kay@abdn.ac.uk
Number of undergraduate medical students 2008/09 (all programmes)	936	
External QA review (e.g. by university)	SHEFC - Report of a Quality Assessment in Medicine: University of Aberdeen, 1997 GMC - Last External review session 2003/2004 Covering: Pilot Institution for new QABME Date of Next: not known	
Internal QA review	Due to institutional re-organisation, there are no recent internal quality assurance reviews. However, we are scheduled to have a review next session and will begin the process towards the end of the current academic year. Covering: School of Medicine and Dentistry MB ChB and BDS programmes Date of next: November 2009	

QABME Annual Return Table Templates

Tables 1 to 5 below are part of the GMC's QABME Annual Return Process. They track:

- The steps the School is taking to address specific requirements and/or recommendations arising out of the previous QABME review.
- The changes in provision of undergraduate degrees, including risks and innovations resulting from the School's own quality management systems.

What you need to do: Complete Tables 1 to 5 with brief notes. Instructions on what you need to include in each column of the tables are given below.

Tomorrow's doctors area	Requirement/ Recommendation/ Change/ Innovation/ Risk or challenge	Action	Contact	Supporting documents list	Timeline
<p>Identify the most relevant area of Tomorrow's Doctors.</p> <p>This has been pre-populated for each table with general areas. Please amend, delete or duplicate the rows as appropriate.</p>	<p>Identify the areas under each category in the individual tables for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requirements ▪ Recommendations ▪ Changes ▪ Innovations ▪ Risks or challenges 	<p>List the key actions and steps the school plan to take in order to address each:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requirement ▪ Recommendation ▪ Change ▪ Innovation ▪ Risk or challenge 	<p>State the working group/committee/ person that will be taking the lead on the action identified.</p> <p>Include details of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contact name ▪ Email address ▪ Telephone number 	<p>List the document names of any committee decisions, management plans or other documents that evidence the actions.</p> <p>Please do not attach these documents.</p>	<p>State the timeline for each action stipulated.</p> <p>Include an estimate for the final deadline of when the school expects to be able to fully meet any requirements listed.</p>

A fictional example response is provided in Table 1.

Please note that your responses may be published on the GMC's education website pages.

Please send your completed responses on this template by **Friday 12 December 2008** by email to QABME@gmc-uk.org.

Table 1 – Requirements

Please list the requirements from the School's last QABME report that have been completed since your last annual return. Please also list those that have not been fully implemented. Please indicate how the requirements have been addressed since your last annual return in 2007/08 (http://www.gmc-uk.org/education/undergraduate/undergraduate_qa/medical_school_reports.asp)
Expand the table as necessary. If you do not have any requirements in your last report please check this box X

Tomorrow's doctors area	Requirements	Action	Contact	Supporting documents list	Timeline
Example: Assessment procedures	To ensure that students receive clear guidance about what is expected of them in their Year 5 OSCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of guidance on the Year 5 OSCE on the student intranet Review guidance on the Year 5 OSCE in the Year 5 Handbook Revise student briefing for Year 5 OSCE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment Working Group Dr Joe Bloggs Dir. of Clinical Studies joebloggs@medschool.ac.uk 01234 567 890 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working group minutes Intranet Revised Year 5 Handbook Briefing notes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intranet revision completed New handbook due for publication Dec 08 Briefing notes; July 09
Curricular Outcomes					
Curricular content and structure					
Delivering the curriculum					
Assessing student performance and competence					
Student health and conduct					

Table 2 – Recommendations

Please list the recommendations from the School’s last QABME report that have been addressed since your last annual return in 2007/08 (expand the table as necessary). If you do not have any recommendations in your last report, please check this box

Tomorrow’s doctors area	Recommendations	Action taken – If none taken, please provide your reason for this	Contact	Supporting documents list	Timeline
Curricular Outcomes					
Curricular content and structure					
Delivering the curriculum					
Assessing student performance and competence					
Student health and conduct					

Table 4 – Innovations & potential good practice

Please identify any innovations the school is piloting or potential good practice that it would like to report.

If you do not have any innovations currently being piloted or planned, please check this box

Tomorrow's doctors area	Innovations/Good practice	Action	Contact	Supporting documents list	Timeline
Curricular content and structure	Remote and Rural Option	We continue to develop and enhance our option to spend all of Phase III in Inverness. This year 18 students have chosen this option and the programme has been enhanced to include a series of evening events to highlight Remote and Rural practice with invited speakers. Students also are asked to reflect on some case studies during their clinical blocks and highlight how remote and rural issues have affected the patient experience.	Dr Sue Tracey sue.tracey@abdn.ac.uk		From start of Phase III, June 2008
Delivering the curriculum	Podcasts	Our Teaching Fellows are developing a range of short, 10 minute, audio summaries of core topics which are available for download by students as podcasts. Early indications are that these are very popular.	Prof H McKenzie h.mckenzie@abdn.ac.uk 01224 553786		ongoing