

Agenda item:	6.2
Report title:	NHS Education England progress update
Report by:	Jack Cornish , Senior Manager for Trainee Development & Resolution Operations Department, Health Education England, jack.cornish@southlondon.hee.nhs.uk , 0207 862 8632
Action:	To note

Executive summary

The below paper updates members on the revalidation work stream within Health Education England.

Recommendation

The Revalidation Advisory Board is asked to note the progress update from Health Education England.

Health Education England progress update

This paper is to update members of Revalidation Advisory Board on the revalidation work stream within Health Education England.

Medical Appraisal Policy

HEE is undertaking a review of our Medical Appraisal policy to ensure consistency and regulatory compliance. In undertaking this review interviews have taken place with all appraisers and appraisees. This review does not include appraisal arrangements for doctors in training but just for doctors directly connected to HEE as a designated body (primarily the local team Responsible Officers/Postgraduate Deans).

Quality Assurance of Revalidation and the Responsible Officer Role

The *Annual Revalidation Return* (ARR) is currently being completed by all designated bodies within HEE. This will feed into the *Revalidation Quality Assurance Report* which will be presented to the HEE Board in October 2016.

In last year's ARR local team were also asked to provide feedback about benefits of revalidation. The supplementary questions on this year's ARR focus on support processes and interventions available to doctors in training.

A poster detailing HEE's Revalidation Quality Assurance process was presented at COPMed's Annual ARCP/Revalidation meeting where it won the first prize.

"Live Reporting" Review and the Employer Returns Process

HEE has taken the decision to cease the twice-yearly employer returns process. This process involves all Local Education Providers making a positive affirmation regarding all trainees placed with them as to whether the trainee has been involved in a serious incident, formal complaint or other investigation. Scotland and Wales don't have the employer returns process and Northern Ireland have also decided to cease the process.

A sub-group of the Revalidation Operational Group has been established which is considering what issues need to be reported "live" to HEE local teams. Recommendations are due to be published in summer 2016. As part of this a visit to

NHS Education for Scotland has been arranged in order to explore their revalidation processes.

Cause for Concern & Revalidation

It has been agreed to publish updated guidance for ARCP panel members on when a revalidation “Cause for Concern” should be ticked on the ARCP Outcome form. There seems to be some inconsistency between specialties and further clarification is required in separating out revalidation issues from educational progression matters.

Revalidation References

A number of local teams have been raised a concern about the number of standard requests for information relating to a doctor’s fitness to practise/revalidation being received. Many of these are being presented as “revalidation references”, however this is not an accepted term, or method of information sharing. It was previously agreed that for trainee doctors the ARCP form, with its “Cause for Concern” section would act as the primary vehicle for a trainee’s assurance of their Fitness to Practise.

There appears to be a certain amount of “mission creep” in the requests being received and a blurring of the lines between pertinent information being shared for revalidation purposes and pre-employment checks. It was also noted that some locum agencies have been requesting “references” relating to trainee doctors, under the guise of revalidation.

The ARCP form has been updated to make it clear that this can be accepted as a transfer of information and a statement will be published on the HEE website