Credentialing: summary of draft framework

**Why we’re introducing credentials**

The introduction of credentials will enable better support for areas of practice where:

- there may be significant patient safety issues, or
- training opportunities are insufficient or do not provide adequate flexibility to support effective service delivery.

**What is a credential?**

Credentials will provide recognition and training opportunities in particular areas of practice. These will be optional components within specialty training or substantial areas existing outside training. Like postgraduate curricula, they will describe the expected outcomes and capabilities doctors must demonstrate as they become experts in the field.

**How credentials will be identified and regulated**

We are proposing that credentials are identified through our Curriculum Oversight Group, against a threshold based on the need for consistent standards and outcomes in the area of practice, and the need for GMC oversight. The draft framework sets out a number of criteria we think proposed credentials should be considered against.

We propose that credentials will go through approval and quality assurance processes in the same way as postgraduate training, and will be recognised on the List of Registered Medical Practitioners (LRMP).

**A phased implementation**

We intend to introduce credentials in a phased approach starting in April 2019. We expect the first credentials, in areas prioritised by the curricula review or the four governments, to be submitted for approval from mid-2019. For others, we will allow organisations time to develop proposals, which will also allow us time to refine processes.

**Your feedback**

The framework is very much a document for discussion, and we welcome comments on all or any part of it. Your feedback will inform the final framework we launch in spring 2019.

We have set up an online feedback form and would appreciate hearing from stakeholders by **Friday 25 January 2019** at the latest. Earlier feedback would be much appreciated!