



REVALIDATION for PHYSICIANS

A resource guide for physician specialties

Dermatology

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of revalidation is to assure patients and the public, employers and other healthcare professionals that licensed doctors are up to date and fit to practise.

In order to maintain your licence to practice you will be expected to have at least one appraisal per year that is based on the General Medical Council's (GMC) core guidance for doctors, *Good Medical Practice*. You will need to maintain a portfolio of supporting information drawn from your current practice which demonstrates how you are continuing to meet the requirements set out by the GMC.

The GMC has set out its requirements for good medical practice, appraisal and revalidation for all doctors in three main documents. These are supported by specialty-specific guidance from the medical royal colleges and faculties, which gives the specialty context for the supporting information required for appraisal. You should therefore ensure that you are familiar with the following:

- [Good Medical Practice](#)
- [Good Medical Practice framework for appraisal and revalidation](#)
- [Supporting information for appraisal and revalidation](#)
- [Supporting information for appraisal and revalidation: guidance for physicians](#) (applicable across all physician specialties and approved by the British Association of Dermatologists).

Revalidation is based on a doctor's current scope of practice. It does not dictate a set number of hours in any specialty or field of practice. All doctors, regardless of their specialty need to demonstrate that they are continuing to meet the requirements set out in Good Medical Practice.

Among the many physician specialties and subspecialties it is recognised that the details of the clinical work undertaken will differ, and that there is a great diversity of medical practice. It is important that the supporting information you provide is comprehensive and relevant to your field of practice. The purpose of this guide from the British Association of Dermatologists is to signpost to informative and practical resources for collecting the supporting information required for revalidation.

In order to revalidate, you must collect supporting information as set out in the GMC's Supporting Information for appraisal and revalidation:

- general information about you and your professional work
- keeping up to date
 - CPD
- review of practice
 - quality improvement activity
 - significant events
- feedback on professional practice
 - colleague feedback
 - patient and carer feedback
 - complaints and compliments.

This guide offers signposting to information and resources which Dermatologists will find useful as they compile their supporting information portfolio for revalidation. Involvement in any of the

suggested activities does not guarantee that you will be revalidated. However, the activities are recognised by the British Association of Dermatologists as promoting the highest standards in this field.

The Royal College of Physicians hosts a revalidation helpdesk, which we recommend that you use in the event that you need advice on appraisal or revalidation: revalidation@rcplondon.ac.uk. You should also familiarise yourself with the resources available from the RCP: www.rcplondon.ac.uk/revalidation.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF DERMATOLOGISTS

The British Association of Dermatologists (<http://www.bad.org.uk/>) through its Therapy and Guidelines Subcommittee (T&G) provides information and guidelines about standards of care for many skin conditions (<http://www.bad.org.uk/site/622/default.aspx>)

SUB SPECIALTY INFORMATION

There are a number of subspecialty dermatology organisations and groups, many of which are affiliated to the BAD. Some of the groups have developed clinical standards in their areas.

British Society for Medical Dermatology (<http://www.medderm.org.uk/>)

British Contact Dermatitis Society (<http://www.bcds.org.uk/>)

British Society for Dermatological Surgery (<http://www.bsds.org.uk/>)

British Society for Paediatric Dermatology (<http://www.bspd.org/>)

British Photodermatology Group (<http://www.bpg.org.uk/>)

British Society for Dermatopathology (<http://www.britisocdermpath.co.uk/>)

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

CPD should encourage and support evidence-based changes in practice and career development and be relevant to your practice. All physicians should demonstrate 50 hours of CPD per year (250 hours over the five year revalidation cycle, of which 125 should be external).

Recommended learning opportunities

- BAD annual scientific meeting held each July (<http://www.bad.org.uk/>)
- Consultants Course held each November (<http://www.bad.org.uk/>)
- European Association of Dermatology and Venereology meetings held twice each year (<http://eavd.org/>)
- Centre for Evidence Based Dermatology update meetings held each May (cebd@nottingham.ac.uk)
- American Academy of Dermatology meetings (www.aad.org/meetings-and-events)

The subspecialty organisations listed above hold their own educational meetings and some also run regular courses in their specialty eg BSDS courses in surgery. Independently several departments run regular courses in subspecialties eg paediatric dermatology, photodermatology and dermatopathology .

Across the UK there are regional Dermatology Societies which each have several clinical meetings per year with interesting cases and case presentations.

Royal Society of Medicine, Dermatology section meetings (<http://www.rsm.ac.uk/>)

This is not meant to be an all-inclusive list and dermatologists may obtain valid CPD points by attendance at other, regional national or international meetings not listed here.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITY

Recommended guidelines and audit resources

Recommended guidelines are agreed by the Therapy and Guidelines Subcommittee of the BAD (<http://www.bad.org.uk/site/622/default.aspx>) and in some instances by the sub specialist organisations. Skin cancer guidelines may be found on the NICE web site (<http://www.nice.org.uk/CSGSTIM>). Clinical practise should be audited against these guidelines where relevant.

FEEDBACK ON PRACTICE

Physicians can use feedback tools approved/commissioned by their employing NHS Trusts. Instruments used for this element of revalidation must meet the guidelines published by the GMC: http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/revalidation/colleague_patient_feedback.asp.

The Royal College of Physicians of London provides important information about the revalidation process and recommended tools to use for patient and colleague feedback: (<http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/cpd/revalidation/supporting-information-tools-and-templates>)