

REVALIDATION for PHYSICIANS

A resource guide for physician specialties

Endocrinology

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 Society for Endocrinology).

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 Society for Endocrinology 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 endocrinologists 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 Society for Endocrinology as promoting the highest standards in the endocrinology.

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.

SOCIETY INFORMATION

Information about the Society for Endocrinology can be found at <http://www.endocrinology.org/> and specifically for clinicians: <http://www.endocrinology.org/clinical/>

SUB SPECIALTY INFORMATION

Clinical practice guidelines

The Society for Endocrinology's Clinical Committee has taken the lead on, or contributed to, the development of a number of clinical practice guidelines/guidance for rare endocrine conditions where the availability of guidance will benefit patient care. <http://www.endocrinology.org/policy/>

Specialised services national definition set

The Society for Endocrinology has had input into Definitions 1 (Specialised cancer services (adult)) and 27 (Specialised endocrinology services (adult)) of the third edition (2010) of the Specialised Services National Definitions Set. These can be found at: www.specialisedcommissioning.nhs.uk

NICE

Guidance on endocrine, nutritional and metabolic disease/conditions: <http://guidance.nice.org.uk/Topic/EndocrineNutritionalMetabolic>

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

Society for Endocrinology events suitable for CPD can be found here: <http://www.endocrinology.org/meetings/>

Other events that may be of interest run by other organisations can be found here: <http://www.endocrinology.org/meetings/world.aspx>

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITY

Recommended guidelines and audit resources

SfE clinical research/audit projects

The Society for Endocrinology manages several clinical research and audit projects where a need for audit and/or further research has been identified. Each project is overseen by its own steering committee that set the research aims and objectives.

Projects that appear on the RCP's Personal Clinical Audit Tool (p-CAT): <https://www.p-cat.org.uk/WebPages/Login/frmLogin.aspx> include:

- UK acromegaly register
- Congenital adrenal hyperplasia adult study executive (CaHASE)

Additional Clinical research/audit projects include:

- Apoplexy audit
- GH Audit Project
- Post-Radioiodine Management of Patients with Graves' Disease (PRAGMA) Transitional Care

- Transitional Care

Further information on all projects can be found at:

http://www.endocrinology.org/clinical/professional/prof_ClinResearchandAudit.html

See also clinical practice guidelines/guidance for rare endocrine conditions:

<http://www.endocrinology.org/policy/>

The Society for Endocrinology is grateful for the generous funding provided by the Clinical Endocrinology Trust and Ipsen Ltd.

Interdepartmental Peer Review

The Society administers a voluntary interdepartmental peer review scheme for UK endocrine units. While this is not a requirement for revalidation, the scheme provides an external assessment of clinical governance, standards of endocrine care & service provision, with the aim of supporting endocrinologists and improving services for endocrine patients.

www.endocrinology.org/about/projects/peerreview.html

FEEDBACK ON PRACTICE

You should seek feedback from colleagues and patients at least once per five year cycle and review and act upon that feedback as appropriate. 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>)

Endocrinologists may wish to consider approaching colleagues in the following specialties for multi-source feedback:

Consultant colleagues in related specialties:

- Gynaecology
- Paediatrics
- Neurosurgery
- Endocrine surgery
- Genetics
- Radiology
- Nuclear medicine
- Clinical biochemistry

Also,

- Specialist nurses in endocrinology and diabetes
- Investigation ward nursing staff
- Medical secretaries, office managers
- Specialist registrars
- Staff grade doctors
- GPs