



REVALIDATION for PHYSICIANS

A resource guide for physician specialties

Medical Oncology

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 Association of Cancer Physicians).

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 Association of Cancer Physicians 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 oncologists 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 Association of Cancer Physicians 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.

ASSOCIATION OF CANCER PHYSICIANS

The Association of Cancer Physicians (ACP) through its web site www.cancerphysicians.org.uk/ provides information on professional activities and standards for medical oncology <http://www.cancerphysicians.org.uk/resources/3-professional/121-revalidation.html> in concert with the guidance from the Royal College of Physicians and the GMC.

SUB SPECIALTY INFORMATION

Tumour site specific subgroups can access their NCRI and other associations for specific CPD; please see below.

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

There are wide variety of local, regional, national, and international meetings in oncology which are accredited through the RCP for CPD and can be accessed through the RCP register of CPD activities <http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/cpd/manage-your-cpd> .

The following are examples:

National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) annual meeting <http://conference.ncri.org.uk/>
British Association for Cancer Research <http://www.bacr.org.uk/>
European Society for Medical Oncology <http://www.esmo.org/Conferences/European-Cancer-Congress>
European Association for Cancer Research <http://www.eacr.org/meetings/>
American Association for Clinical Oncology <http://www.asco.org/meetings>
American Association for Cancer Research <http://www.aacr.org/home/scientists/meetings--workshops/aacr-annual-meeting>

There are a number of independent sub speciality group meetings such as:

British Gynaecological Cancer society <http://bgcsconference.com/>
British Association of Surgical Oncologists <http://www.baso.org/baso~acs-conferences.aspx>

The NCRI clinical studies groups <http://www.ncri.org.uk/default.asp?s=1&p=18&ss=26> hold educational meetings for tumour site specific sub groups for trial design and adoption

This is not meant to be an all-inclusive list and medical oncologists 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

The Royal College of Physicians provides examples of audit activity <http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/resources/national-lung-cancer-audit>

Standards for auditing can be found at:

<http://guidance.nice.org.uk/Topic/Cancer>
<http://www.esmo.org/Guidelines-Practice/Clinical-Practice-Guidelines>
<http://www.asco.org/institute-quality/guidelines>
http://www.nccn.org/professionals/physician_gls/f_guidelines.asp

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 validated tools to use for patient and colleague feedback: (<http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/cpd/revalidation/supporting-information-tools-and-templates>)