



REVALIDATION for PHYSICIANS

A resource guide for physician specialties

Genitourinary Medicine

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 for Sexual Health and HIV).

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 for Sexual Health and HIV 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 clinicians in genitourinary medicine 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 for Sexual Health and HIV 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 FOR SEXUAL HEALTH AND HIV

The British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH) www.bashh.org, through its subcommittee, the BASHH Clinical Standards Unit and the Clinical Effectiveness Group and the British HIV Association (BHIVA) www.bhiva.org, provide information and guidelines about standards of care in the management of sexually transmitted infections and in the management of HIV.

SUB SPECIALTY INFORMATION

HIV medicine is an integral element of Genitourinary Medicine. Clinicians practising in HIV should also include relevant CPD in this area (see recommended learning opportunities 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

- BASHH OGMs and Spring Meetings www.bashh.org
- Regional BASHH meetings www.bashh.org
- BASHH educational and scientific meetings www.bashh.org
- BHIVA spring and autumn meetings www.bhiva.org
- CPD approved regional and National HIV meetings www.bashh.org
- CPD approved European and International IUSTI meetings, www.bashh.org, www.iusti.org
- CPD approved International STI and HIV meetings, www.bashh.org
- RCP clinical skills and Teaching programmes, <http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/cpd>
- E-learning for Health, sexual health modules, <http://www.e-lfh.org.uk/home/>
- CPD approved local clinical meetings in Genitourinary Medicine/HIV/Internal Medicine

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

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITY

BASHH National audits – http://www.bashh.org/groups/national_audit_group

BHIVA national audits - <http://www.bhiva.org/AuditandClinicalStandards.aspx>

Other locally approved clinical audits and quality improvement programmes.

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>)