MEDICAL REVALIDATION

The announcement by the Secretary of State on 19 October 2012 that the implementation of medical revalidation will commence in December this year is a watershed moment for the profession and patients. Revalidation fills a key gap in the current regulatory framework by requiring regular reviews and providing stronger regulatory oversight of doctors’ fitness to practise.

The revalidation model will give greater public confidence and assurance of the competence of doctors and significant benefits in terms of quality of care and patient experience. Throughout the UK over 4000 doctors have taken part in the testing and piloting to develop a model that delivers for patients, doctors and the organisations where care is delivered.

The active participation of the patient groups, Medical Royal Colleges and professional associations has ensured that the vision of a streamlined and proportionate system outlined in the Statement of Intent in October 2012 has been achieved.

All four UK countries have made considerable efforts to ensure they have achieved an acceptable state of readiness, and must now maintain this welcome progress as we move into active implementation. This is a significant and positive milestone for the medical profession, and we encourage all doctors to grasp the opportunities which revalidation offers to demonstrate the principles and values on which good medical practice is founded.

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