



Faculty of Public Health

Of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom

Working to improve the public's health

Revalidation Working Group

Notes of the telecon held at 2pm on 28 May 2009 at 4 St Andrews Place, London, NW1.

PRESENT: Dr Steve George (Vice President)
Dr John Kemm
Dr Anne Mackie (CPD Director)
Professor Peter Littlejohns
Ms Maggie Rae

Ms Laura Webb (Head of Professional Affairs)

APOLOGIES: Mr Paul Scourfield (CEO)
Dr Sarah Meredith (CPD Co-ordinator, London)
Dr Rob Cooper
Dr Jeremy Hawker
Dr Sarah Ryan
Dr Gary Cook

1.0 WELCOME

Dr Steve George welcomed all members to the meeting of the Working Group.

2.0 APOLOGIES

As above

3.0 Update from FPH office

Discussion took place on the first draft revalidation leaflet circulated from central office which will coincide with Steve George's presentation at conference. It was agreed that the leaflet was timely and should be published for conference and for the next issue of PH.com. LW reported that Professor Alan Maryon-Davis had written to the GMC seeking clarification on the registering and taking up a licence issue since it was FPH position that all practising doctors should take up a licence. All members of the committee agreed this position. Peter Littlejohns added that similar concerns had been voiced at NICE. LW added that Dr Jeremy Hawker had also written to HPA staff recommended the taking up a licence as well.

LW also reported that e-portfolio work with the joint cohort was progressing well and that Elin Sandberg would be attending the next AoMRC Revalidation meeting on the 17th June since it coincided with FPH conference.

4.0 Update from the Vice President

Dr George reported that his non-clinical working group was active and that he was consulting with the Academy of Medical Sciences on whether the GMC standards were enough to be applied to research. Dr George noted that there was no mention of animal research and it was agreed that there should be explicit mention of this. He reported that he was also working on standards for epidemiological research and professional services such as report writing and acting as an expert witness.

5.0 Audit

Dr George reported that audit was firmly embedded in Good Medical Practice standards framework commenting that Public Health Specialists had applied models of audit with varying success and frequency.

The working group agreed that audit was an unavoidable aspect of practice. It was therefore agreed that thought should be given to identifying models for public health practice. It was agreed that the group should concentrate on the actual process of audit and that members may be able to give examples of good practice.

Dr George reported that the Academy had arranged a meeting specifically to discuss audit and that he was unable to attend this on 17 July. It was agreed that this was an important meeting and that public health and FPH needed representation. John Kemm kindly agreed to represent FPH.

Action: SG and JK

6.0 MSF

Dr George reported that the application for funding to the AoMRC to draw down money to pilot an MSF model had been sent back for revision and the investigation of partnership working. It was reported that this bid will be resubmitted in June.

Action: LW and SG

7.0 Remediation

Dr George reminded the Working Group that at their last meeting they had recommended a light touch solution and that he had proposed this to the Board. The Board however had requested the Working Group revisit this concept. Ms Rae and Professor Littlejohns agreed that this was an obligation for the employer but all agreed that FPH should be supportive in offering FPH colleagues remedial support. Ms Rae said that a volunteering system through the Regional Directors of Public Health may be one path to consider and that local level support around employment structures might be the easiest system to implement. It was also considered that FPH could give more generic guidance ofr remediation and advice for employing organisations

Dr George reported that AoMRC Remediation group was recommending that colleges and Faculties have a Memorandum of Understanding with NCAS. Dr George reported that FPH would be looking into this and enquiring as to whether NCAS would consider working with non-medics as well as doctors.

Action: LW, ES and SG

8.0 Any other business

There was no other business

9.0 Date of the next meeting

To be confirmed