Revalidation Update
(based on specialist societies meeting 25th October, 2011 at RCP)

General

Development and refining of the process continues. The Medical Appraisal Guide Version 2 (attached/available from www.revalidationsupport.nhs.uk) is a clear and useful 13 side summary of the principles and list of all the important documentation so far.

The Organisational Readiness Self Assessment (ORSA) report October 2011 for the health sector in England showed that 74% of doctors had had an appraisal in 2010/2011 (the figure was only 31% for Staff Grade and SAS doctors) and 96% of hospitals had clinical audit in place. Only 30% had a policy for remediation and targeted support. Just under half of hospital RO’s said they had sufficient funds and other resources to discharge their responsibilities, but the Report makes it clear that there will be no additional funding (ORSA available from www.revalidationsupport.nhs.uk – the first 12/81 pages are the summary)

Support from the Specialities

Advice on speciality issues to the RO’s will need to be consistent and general in nature, not getting involved in the circumstances of individual doctors. Current thinking is that it may be another job for the JSC. The College is also planning a helpdesk function.

Remediation Arrangements. Quality Assurance

Both these important topics are awaiting definitive guidance. Remediation is likely to consist of a hierarchy of interventions depending on the severity of the problems identified, and whether they involve technical competence or conduct issues.

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