

3 July, 2012

Dear Colleague

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Confirmation of requirement to access the Faculty Responsible Officer (RO), for Revalidation: Deadline - Monday, 16th July, 2012

Following from my letter, dated the 29th March, 2012, which asked Faculty members to consider who their RO will be for revalidation, I write to ask you to confirm if you will have a requirement to access the Faculty's RO.

We need to ensure that we hold an accurate list of those members who plan to access the Faculty RO, because the GMC requires us to cross-check it against the list which they hold (if you plan to use the Faculty RO, you should have either informed the GMC, or be in the process doing so). It is therefore crucial, if you do intend to revalidate through the Faculty, that you inform us. We realise that some of our members have already contacted us about using the Faculty RO; we still need you to reply.

The Faculty, in its capacity as a designated body, is then required to allocate a percentage of its relevant membership to be revalidated in the first year, with the remainder allocated equally to the following two years. Specific dates within each of those years will be determined by the GMC. The GMC expects that the vast majority of doctors who currently hold a licence to practise should have had a recommendation made about them to the GMC by the end of March, 2016.

If you are still unsure of who your RO will be, further information can be found at: <http://www.fom.ac.uk/professional-development/revalidation/responsible-officer-ro/who-will-be-your-ro> and you should also refer to the Responsible Officer Regulations, 2010.

If you do intend to access the Faculty RO, for revalidation, (whether or not you have told us this before) please respond to the following five questions, by email to

sara.shortt@fom.ac.uk before Monday 16th July, 2012:

1. Do you currently hold a licence to practise with the GMC?
2. Do you anticipate that you will need to access the Faculty RO?
3. Are you self-employed/independent practitioner?
4. Are you employed? If you are employed please provide us with the name of your employer.
5. Is your employer a designated body, which plans to contract with the Faculty to access its RO?

I realise that you may be receiving a lot of information from various sources with regard to revalidation currently, but, you must engage with your designated body, otherwise, you may put your ability to revalidate at risk.

Next steps:

Once we know who within our membership needs to access the Faculty RO, we can advise those members further with regard to the exact requirements for revalidation and also about revalidation dates and fees.

In the meantime, the GMC has issued a revalidation readiness statement, which outlines what all doctors should be doing to prepare for the first cycle of revalidation: <http://www.gmc-uk.org/doctors/revalidation/13282.asp> Please do read this. As I outlined in my letter in March, a cornerstone of revalidation is appraisal and it is important that you continue to take part in the appraisal process and CPD as normal during the build-up to the start of revalidation.

We will look forward to communicating further with those members who plan to access our RO, once our list of doctors is finalised.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Thornton', is displayed within a light grey rectangular box.

Robert Thornton
MD FRCP FFOM
Director of Professional Development