



Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

Helping pharmacists achieve excellence

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Dear Alastair

NCAS contribution to revalidation

I write on behalf of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain to respond to your proposals on revalidation.

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB) is the professional and regulatory body for pharmacists in England, Scotland and Wales. It also regulates pharmacy technicians on a voluntary basis, but this will become mandatory under statute from 1 July 2011. The primary objectives of the Society are to lead, regulate, develop and represent the profession of pharmacy.

The Society has responsibility for a wide range of functions that combine to assure competence and fitness to practise. These include controlled entry into the profession, education, registration, setting and enforcing professional standards, promoting good practice, providing support for improvement, dealing with poor performance, dealing with misconduct and removal from the register.

Following the publication in 2007 of the Government White Paper Trust, Assurance and Safety - The Regulation of Health Professionals in the 21st Century, the Society is working towards the demerger of its regulatory and professional roles. This will see the establishment of a new General Pharmaceutical Council and a new professional body for pharmacy in 2010.

This response reflects the Society's regulatory viewpoint.

Comments on the proposals

We welcome the proactive approach that you are taking to support the introduction and implementation of revalidation within health.

Our proposals for revalidation (which will be taken forward by the General Pharmaceutical Council) are still at an early stage but will include an appraisal of centralised and decentralised models to determine which will be the most appropriate for pharmacy.

We have commissioned four research projects to look at different aspects of revalidation. Outputs from the four projects will be available towards the end of 2010 and will inform the next stage of our policy development on revalidation.

If you require any further information on our research projects, or other revalidation work, please contact Sadia Khan, our revalidation policy co-ordinator, on 020 7572 2537 or **sadia.khan@rpsgb.org**. We would welcome the opportunity for ongoing dialogue with you as this work progresses.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duncan Rudkin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Duncan Rudkin
Registrar