Trust Nursing and Midwifery Revalidation News

February 2016

NMC REVALIDATION STARTS THIS APRIL – ARE YOU READY?

Over 70 nurses and midwives are due to revalidate in April in the trust

If you are a nurse or midwife registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) you need to know about the imminent changes coming over the next year. There are changes that will affect how you renew your NMC registration called REVALIDATION.

Hello, my name is Libby and my revalidation date is December 2017.

There are lots of debates and different schools of thought on this yet I believe that the new NMC process is a really positive move for all nurses and midwives to demonstrate they are moving their practice and development forward. Yes, the process feels new and different, and maybe a bit scary—but the NMC have developed a straightforward system for us to use and I think registrants who continue to practice have to demonstrate that they are competent to do so. Revalidation is a way of doing this, as a registrant I welcome it.

It goes without saying that as a Trust we firmly support revalidation.

I actually look forward to completing my requirements as a registrant towards my own revalidation. I understand that feedback from the initial NMC pilot sites that tried out Revalidation first was that the process of revalidation is realistic, achievable and valuable. I hope you agree this is so.

Find out your revalidation date now and start collecting evidence for your portfolio, arranging your professional development discussion and a date for your confirmation meeting with your confirmer. We have a lead nurse who is supporting revalidation in the Trust and can advise you if you need it. I strongly recommend you attend a training session, particularly if you are due to revalidate between April and September 2016—you will, I am sure, be finalising your portfolio as I write this! This is your responsibility as a nurse or midwife. We will support you to do this and guide your through unfamiliar territory. Remember, no revalidation, no registration.

—Libby McManus, Chief Nurse

THE TRUST REVALIDATION WEBPAGE HAS BEEN LAUNCHED!

The Trust’s webpage has a set of resources of revalidation information and link to the NMC website.

http://www.chelwest.nhs.uk/professionals/nursing-and-midwifery-revalidation
Visit the NMC’s Revalidation website pages. There is a variety of information to help you including this Revalidation manual for you to download from the NMC website and the templates that you need.

http://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/revalidation/how-to-revalidate/

These requirements come into force from this April and will be relevant to you depending when your revalidation date falls after this time.

These requirements will need to be completed and before you can make an application to the NMC (in advance of your actual revalidation date).

You are responsible for keeping your professional registration up to date if you wish to practise, make sure you know the latest news about revalidation and what you need to do to maintain your registration.

What is Revalidation?

Revalidation is a process that all nurses and midwives will need to engage with to demonstrate that they practise safely and effectively throughout their career. It has been designed by the NMC to be easy, straightforward and to help nurses and midwives develop as professionals.

All nurses and midwives are currently required to renew their registration every three years. Revalidation will strengthen the renewal process by introducing new requirements that focus on:

- reflection on the professional standards of practice and behaviour as set out in the NMC Code, and
- Engagement in professional discussions with other registered nurses or midwives.

Revalidation is a continuous process that nurses and midwives will engage with throughout their career. It is not a point in time activity or assessment. Revalidation is about promoting good practice across the whole population of nurses and midwives.

It’s not an assessment of a nurse or midwife’s fitness to practise and it’s not intended to address bad practice amongst a small number of nurses and midwives. There is already fitness to practise processes in place for this at the NMC.

What do I have to do to meet the requirements of revalidation?

- Complete 450 hours of practice (or 900 if registering as a nurse and a midwife)
- Undertake 35 hours of continuing professional development (CPD)
- Obtain at least 5 pieces of practice-related feedback
- Record a minimum of 5 written reflections on the Code, your CPD and practice-related feedback You must discuss these reflections with another NMC registered nurse or midwife.
- Provide a health and character declaration, including declaring any cautions or convictions
- Declare that you have, or will have when practicing, appropriate cover under an indemnity arrangement.
- Demonstrate to a third party (a confirmer) that you have met the revalidation requirements. This is your responsibility to arrange.
- It is recommended that you keep evidence that you have met these requirements in a portfolio.

Your line manager will usually be your confirmer and support you with your reflective discussion.

Arrange these meetings now!
This must all be completed in advance of making your Revalidation application.

REGISTER FOR NMC ON LINE ACCOUNT AND FIND OUT YOUR REVALIDATION DATE NOW
If you have not done so already, register for an NMC On-Line account via the NMC website and find out your revalidation date and other registration details. It takes only 2 minutes to register. **You will need access to NMC On-Line when you are required to submit your revalidation application prior to your revalidation date**

ARE THERE ANY KEY DATES TO CONSIDER WITH REVALIDATION?

Yes, you must complete an online revalidation application to the NMC via your NMC Online account at any time in the 60 days prior to your revalidation application date. This must be completed on time and your yearly fee submitted on time.

http://www.nmc.org.uk/registration/nmc-online/

AND... READ THE UPDATED CODE

The NMC sent a copy to every registrant. The Code is relevant to revalidation as you will be required to state how you meet the Code when you revalidate. It is structured around four themes – **prioritise people, practise effectively, preserve safety and promote professionalism and trust**.

http://www.nmc.org.uk/standards/code/

DO I HAVE TO SUBMIT MY FINALISED PORTFOLIO TO THE NMC?

No, but you MUST make your revalidation application on line to the NMC in the 60 days before your Revalidation application date. You will be required to keep your portfolio safe in case you need to refer to it later.

ARE THERE ANY REVALIDATION TRAINING SESSIONS AVAILABLE IN THE TRUST?

There are still 3 types of sessions running for trust staff on both main sites. These are not mandatory - but available for all staff to attend.

**Revalidation awareness session** - for nurses or midwives wanting to gain an overview of the revalidation process.

**Revalidation portfolio workshop** - to look more closely at the requirements in a portfolio of evidence for revalidation (for nurses and midwives revalidating in 2016 only)

**Confirmers workshop** - for health care professionals who will be taking on this new role and would like further information.

Training dates are available from the Trust website page:

http://www.chelwest.nhs.uk/Professionals/nursing-and-midwifery-revalidation

Also a Steering Group led by Director of Nursing Lucy Flanagan has been established and meets every month. Appropriate Trust and Divisional representation meet to oversee the Revalidation work.

Reminder letters are being sent by the Workforce Team to all nurses and midwives due to revalidate in the first 2 months of the new system and this will continue for the upcoming months this year. Look out for your letters!

The NMC will also be in contact with you if you are revalidating soon.

BE ALERT! DO NOT LAPSE FROM THE NMC register!

REMEMBER the NMC requires every nurse and midwife to pay their fees and revalidate at the time specified. Failure to do either will result in the nurse or midwife lapsing from the register. This will mean the registrant will have to re-apply for entry to the register and this may take from 2 to 6 weeks during which time the registrant will not be able to work.

For further information contact the Trust Nursing and Midwifery Revalidation Lead Nurse, Melanie van Limborgh

RevalidationNMC@chelwest.nhs.uk