

RCCP CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUDIT REPORT 2017

INTRODUCTION

Continuing professional development (CPD) can be defined as a broad range of activities that a person undertakes or participates in, in order to maintain, improve or develop their knowledge and skills to the benefit of the practitioner, those that work with and most importantly the patient.

2017 AUDIT

This report reviews the CPD audit undertaken during August and September 2017.

168 registrants were selected for audit, including 15 who had been deferred from the 2015 audit because the CPD evidence that they supplied at that time did not meet RCCP requirements. There were 5853 individuals registered with RCCP at the time of the selection, so the number selected represents a sample size of 2.9%.

RCCP rules apply only to registrants who have been registered for more than two years so that registrants have at least two years on the Register to build up evidence of their CPD activities before they could be selected for an audit.

The table below represents the outcome of the 2017 RCCP Audit:

OUTCOME	Cardio Physiologists	Audiologists	Neurophysiologists	Respiratory Physiologists	Gastro-Intestinal Physiologists	Hearing Therapists	Sleep Therapists	Total
Accepted ¹	45	54	12	13	2	4	1	131
Request to Inactivate ²	3	4						7
Deferred until 2019 ³	6	3	2	4	1			16
Removed – evidence not submitted ⁴	11	3						14
Total	65	64	14	17	3	4	1	168

Notes to outcomes

- 1- The CPD evidence provided by these registrants was assessed by RCCP and found to meet requirements.
- 2- These registrants advised that they no longer wished to be registered with RCCP.
- 3- These registrants provided evidence that they were (or had been) away from work and/or not practicing and therefore had not completed CPD. These individuals have been advised that they will be automatically selected for the 2019 CPD audit.

- 4- These registrants did not respond to the requests from RCCP to supply CPD and have been removed from the RCCP register. This report will be sent to all trusts/employers identifying those who have been removed from the register owing to their failure to comply with the audit.

Registrants submitted evidence of a wide range of activities and levels of responsibility and a variety of roles. Those registrants whose submissions were not passed by the assessor will be included in the next audit and their CPD profiles reassessed at that point.

Of the 15 registrants who had been deferred in 2015 because their CPD was found to not meet RCCP requirements, all of them provided acceptable CPD records at this audit.

COMPARISON WITH 2015 AUDIT

Comparisons of overall outcomes in 2017 expressed as a percentage of the total audit compared with 2015 is as follows:

	2017	2015
Accepted	78.0	84.5
Request to inactivate	4.2	2.5
Deferred until next audit	9.5	5.4
Removed from the register – CPD not submitted	8.3	7.6

LEARNING POINTS

Starting the audit in August caused issues for a number of registrants who were on holiday at the time and were therefore given extensions to their time to submit their CPD. While this didn't affect the outcomes of the audit, it did cause additional work and extend the overall timeframe for completing the audit. Future audits will be scheduled outside of holiday periods.

All of the registrants who did provide CPD records were able to justify that their CPD met RCCP requirements which is an improvement compared to the last audit and a result of the work that we have done to help registrants compile and record their CPD.

However a lower proportion of the audit were accepted in 2017 compared to 2015, which is disappointing. In future, RCCP will make a greater effort to remind registrants to keep their CPD up to date and relevant through regular reminders in its newsletter to registrants. The RCCP has identified the potential for an online CPD depository so that all registrants can record their CPD on a regular basis on their RCCP account which we expect will make it easier to record and maintain CPD records, which we anticipate will improve the acceptance level in 2019.

The pool of registrants who were selected for audit included those who were automatically selected because they were deferred from the last audit. In future audits, we will ensure that the pool of registrants selected for audit is 3% of the number of registrants, excluding those who have been deferred from the previous audit.

FEEDBACK FROM REGISTRANTS

There was some positive feedback from registrants who had been selected who felt that the experience was not as daunting as it appeared at first. One told us:

“At first I found this request very overwhelming as I had not collated my CPD in an organised fashion over the last 2 years. However, I have now done so and very pleased with how much I have managed to complete. I have been able to reflect on past and current CPD and how I now wish to improve and develop as a Clinical Physiologist”

Another registrant commented:

“I found the Professional Development Section on the website really helpful whilst compiling my CPD. I was surprised to see the numerous examples I was able to incorporate and have now submitted a variety of CPD activities. It’s not all about CPD points”

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

In line with RCCP requirements, the next audit will take place in 2019.

During the next 12 months RCCP shall be reviewing the CPD Audit requirements and, as identified above, will be working to provide an online CPD depository.