Monitor
Making the health sector work for patients

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Chief Executive and Chief Nurse
NHS Foundation Trusts

Dear Chief Executive and Chief Nurse,

Nursing and Midwifery Revalidation

We are sure you will be aware of the new Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) requirements for nurses and midwives to revalidate when they renew their registration every three years.

The introduction of nurse and midwife revalidation was a recommendation of the Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry. The Government committed to its implementation in *Hard Truths*, the Government response to the Inquiry. Consequently, the Department of Health has asked Monitor to arrange for information about the implementation of nurse and midwife revalidation in foundation trusts to be made available to the Revalidation Implementation Programme Board, which is advising the NMC on revalidation in England.

It is expected that revalidation will replace the post-registration education and practice (PREP) standards from April 2016. Revalidation aims to improve upon the PREP system by setting new requirements for nurses and midwives.

Under revalidation nurses and midwives will be required to declare they have:

- met the requirements for practice hours and continuing professional development;
- reflected on their practice based on the requirements of the Code, using feedback from service users, patients, relatives, colleagues and others; and
- received confirmation from a third party that their declaration is reliable in accordance with the NMC's revised Code.

We are working with colleagues from NHS England and TDA, together with the NMC, to ensure that providers are fully aware of their responsibilities as employers under these new arrangements, and are appropriately supported in meeting those responsibilities. The NMC is working to establish the state of readiness of the NHS in England for these new arrangements, and will take a decision shortly on the 'go-live' date.

The NMC is therefore seeking from us an update on the position of providers.

As foundation trusts, you are clearly responsible for your own governance arrangements. However, we felt it might be helpful to set out some key questions for your consideration as you develop your implementation plans, as follows:

1. Has the board put in place suitable governance arrangements to ensure that you will meet your statutory responsibilities in this area?
2. Does your organisation know its total registered workforce of nurses and midwives (recognising that some will be in non-nursing roles)?
3. Does your organisation know the dates for all registered nurses and midwives to be revalidated?
4. Has your organisation got a support programme in place to support the first cohort of registrants due to go through the process?

Although we are not formally seeking assurance from foundation trusts, it would be very helpful if you were able to provide an update to us on your implementation plans by 26 June, to inform our discussions with other national partners on the implementation of this Mid Staffordshire Inquiry recommendation.

If there is anything you would like to discuss please don't hesitate to contact us at clinicalengagement@monitor.gov.uk.

Kind regards,

Dr Ruth May

Nurse Director (Designate)

Monitor

Prof. Hugo Mascie-Taylor

Medical Director & Executive Director of Patient and Clinical Engagement

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