

Dear Colleague

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As we approach the end of the first revalidation year I thought it might be worthwhile highlighting an issue which has caused me and my team some difficulty.

By and large revalidation has gone smoothly, with the first 20% of doctors being revalidated in a fairly painless and smooth process. Approximately 6% of revalidation recommendations have been made for deferral of revalidation, for variable amounts of time. Usually this is for very valid personal reasons, and only occasionally because the doctor to be revalidated has been unable to provide enough evidence of a "revalidation ready" appraisal discussion in time. No doctor has yet been deemed not to have engaged with the process.

However we have had a very small number of doctors who we have been unable to contact to arrange an appraisal. I've been asked by my team to write to all doctors to highlight that in the absence of an annual appraisal, unless approval has been given to defer due to maternity leave, sabbatical or ill health, action will be taken to remove a doctor from the Medical Performers' list. This action will preclude a doctor from working in England as a GP. All performers are required to notify NHS England of any changes to the details recorded on the National Performer Lists. This includes any change of registered address, practice or the status of inclusion in the list. This should be within 7 days of any change (Performer Regulation Part 1, Item 4, 3b).

Therefore, it is very important that doctors are aware of their obligation to ensure that we have a valid postal mail address, an active e-mail account and telephone number so that appraisers can contact them to arrange an appraisal. The appraisal should be held within 12 months of the last appraisal, and the appraisal month should remain static. Any appraisals which are not booked during or before the allocated month will require approval, and there are no planned appraisals in March.

Yours sincerely



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