

Recertification

Thank you for the opportunity to submit a few thoughts and questions with regards to recertification.

I am unsure what is wrong with the present system but feel it works well enough. I do agree that an eyesight check for those over 40 years old is a good addition, not only for practitioners but also for assisting staff. Of course being able to see well does not ensure competence. However, you can't treat what you can't see.

With regards to competence, "competent at what and when?" As a specialist should I in addition to my specialty be competent in all areas of general practice?

I am very comfortable to be responsible for my own competence, but unsure about being responsible for the ability, success or efficiency of another practitioner. I would always be happy to facilitate this process but certainly not be ultimately responsible for another practitioner's efforts and certainly not legally responsible. Haven't we all supposedly been professionally trained in our fields? And therefore, we should all be accountable for our own performance.

If there is a problem with competency, then I feel people need to be trained to deal with the problem and those causing problems then have to pay for the problem they have created. Why should competent practitioners have to pay for incompetent practitioners' problems, as it is in the present system? Everyone is being penalised for the few by raising the disciplinary levy across the board.

I am in favour of random audits in order to develop a profile to determine who is most likely going to cause harm to the public.

What is the council's proposal regarding the recertification of dental specialists?

Currently, I am involved with a Google study group, a closed forum group of 4 specialists in my field of expertise. We feel comfortable sharing with one another about many aspects of professional and personal life. We share clinical cases with each other regularly and meet in person periodically. In addition, I have access to an international online forum involving other specialists.

Thank you again.

Yours faithfully

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