



General
Osteopathic
Council

Background to Revalidation

The Government's White Paper *Trust, Assurance and Safety* states that revalidation is necessary for all health professionals, in order to:

- demonstrate continuing fitness to practise;
- restore public confidence in healthcare professionals following a number of high profile cases.

The Foster Review of non-medical healthcare regulation established a number of principles relating to revalidation. It recommended that:

- revalidation is necessary for all professionals;
- regulatory bodies must set the standards required in order to maintain registration;
- the revalidation system should not only check that the standards have been met, but also aid development.

The Government's original proposed timetable for introducing revalidation for the non-medical healthcare professions said that there should be pilots of proposed revalidation schemes in 2009-10, with implementation of the final schemes in 2010-11.

The GOsC has been developing its proposals for revalidation since January 2008, with input from the osteopathic educational institutions, the British Osteopathic Association and representatives of regional osteopathic societies. These draft proposals were presented to the Department of Health at the end of January 2009. We received the following response from the Department of Health:

"The Department of Health has seen the draft proposal and is content that this is consistent with our key principles and looks forward to practitioners' views on the proposal."