

# RADIOLOGY SERVICES ACCREDITATION PROGRAMME, RAP

February 2007 Update

## **Project Team**

Ethna Glean, RAP Programme Manager took up her appointment on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007.

Amanda Cranston has been appointed on a temporary part-time consultancy basis to help with development of standards.

## **Pilot Sites**

A total of 34 applications were received; all applications were from England. The standard of applications was generally of a very high order.

The project working board reviewed the applications against a set criterion, including geographic spread. Short listed sites were further reviewed by a separate Oversight board.

Subject to a “cooling off” period, 5 funded pilot sites have been approved. They are:

- Teaching hospital site: Plymouth Hospital NHS Trust
- Specialist hospital site: Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Trust
- District General hospital sites:
  - Medway NHS Trust
  - Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust
- Independent sector: Alliance Medical (Patient Management Centre, Stratford upon Avon)

Both Colleges wish to thank

all applicants for taking time to complete the application. The team will be identifying ways to maintain their interest with the programme.

It is anticipated that the selected pilot sites will be invited to an initial briefing session in early April. The process will be explained in full and this session will allow the groups to meet and share initial ideas.

## **Accreditation Process**

The pilot programme will commence during April and it is anticipated that it will last for 4 – 5 months.

Details of the process are still being finalised but it is anticipated that any peer review visits will take place between July – Sept.

Wrap-up meetings and evaluation is likely to take place during the Autumn and the final Accreditation Programme will be presented to Councils’ of both Colleges in November 2007.

Subject to Councils approval, the programme will be rolled out across the UK in 2008.

## **Standards**

Approximately 250 standards have been drafted by workstreams. These have been reviewed by a clinical reference group and, following this work, a major editing process has commenced. It is clear that some new standards will need to be commissioned to fill gaps and some of this work has already started.

## **Workstream Leads**

A meeting of workstream leads and patient representatives was held at the RCR on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2007 to review progress so far, to review the outline pilot process and to

explore aspects of the proposed accreditation model.

A workshop is being scheduled for late March to explore what model might be used to recruit, train and accredit assessors for the pilot stage and subsequently for the programme. This will enable the RAP team to assess what best practice currently looks like and how it might be achieved.

### **Communications**

AS Biss, a communications company has been employed to assist in developing a media and communications strategy. Some work has already been done by the team on this important issue but it is recognised that the risk involved in poor initial media coverage is such that expert advice is required.

### **Business Modelling**

Berkeley Partnership has been engaged to work on the business model. Their brief will include advice on the possible models available for an accrediting body, the financial implications of the process (which will depend on take-up rate amongst other things), and the legal implications. The RCR has worked recently with this company on another project and some of this learning may transfer across to, and inform, the RAP.

### **Developmental Support**

The concept of developmental support to underpin the Accreditation Programme is being progressed. This is a unique aspect of this programme. Ideas are still at an early stage and will be more fully developed over the coming months.

### **Liaison with stakeholders and other organisations**

- The next Oversight Board meeting is scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007.
- We are delighted that Charles Dobson, who now heads the Quality Strategy Team has joined the Oversight Board representing the DH (England)
- Meetings with other relevant organisations are being planned. These include the NHSLA, the standards group at the HCC, and NHS Quality Improvement Scotland.
- At their request, a meeting with the Royal College of Surgeons (England) was held in February to share our progress on the accreditation programme.
- A formal presentation to the GMC is scheduled for 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2007.
- Information about the RAP will be available on the RCR and SCoR stands at the European Congress of Radiology in Vienna from 8 - 12 March 2007.

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