

## **Accredited Registers Programme**

## **Notification of Change**

## Summary of proposed changes

Notification of change from: The Register of Clinical Technologists (The RCT)

Once accredited any relevant changes that a register wishes to make will need to be assessed by the Authority to ensure ongoing compliance with the <u>Standards for Accredited Registers</u>. Part of this assessment includes a review of information received from anyone sharing their experience. Below is a summary of the proposed changes for consideration.

## Summary of Proposed Changes

The RCT operates a register for healthcare scientists specialising in the practical application of physics, engineering and technology to clinical practice.

Clinical technologists work in the NHS, private health care, academic institutions and the medical device industry as, for example, Radiotherapy Physics Technologists or Renal Technologists.

The RCT is proposing to add Sonographers as a new occupation to its register. Sonographers are healthcare professionals who undertake and report on diagnostic, screening or interventional ultrasound examinations.

RCT-registered sonographers will hold minimum qualifications equivalent to a <u>Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic</u> <u>Education</u> (CASE)- accredited postgraduate certificate, or diploma in medical ultrasound, BSc (Hons) clinical ultrasound, or an honours degree apprenticeship in clinical ultrasound.

The RCT aims to provide a register for practitioners, whether working solely as sonographers, or as part of wider roles, such as undertaken by Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) registered radiographers. This will allow practitioners to demonstrate commitment to specific standards for the sonography profession.

The RCT states that it will be transferred ownership of the existing Public Voluntary Register of Sonographers (PVRS) currently operated by the College of Radiographers (CoR). The PVRS currently registers sonographers not under regulation by organisations such as the HCPC or Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

	The RCT maintains Scopes of Practice for each occupation it registers, which define the attributes that would be expected from a newly qualified clinical technologist at the point of registration. The RCT advises that it has mapped the PVRS register's standards for entry to its Scopes of Practice, having determined that those standards can be adopted without change. The RCT will draw on expertise from the CoR when assessing new applications to its register.
	The RCT advises that existing PVRS registrants will be eligible to transfer to the RCT's new register and will be required to confirm that they continue to meet the required standards, abide by the RCT Code of Conduct and undertake CPD in line with current RCT practice.
Main standards which may be affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Proposed Timescales	The RCT aims to begin operation of the register by March 2021, following transfer of practitioners from the PVRS.