Apprentice Sonographer Trailblazer Group

Date : 27.7.17

Dear Sir/madam

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chairperson of the Apprentice Sonographer Trailblazer group. This work has been approved by, and is being overseen by, the Institute for Apprenticeships, Department of Education.

The group membership includes:

* Alison McGuinness, Consultant Sonographer, Mid Yorkshire Hospital NHS Trust (Chair)
* Bhavena Patel, Education and Skills Fundng Agency (ESFA)
* Pamela Parker, Chair of Professional standards group for British Medical Ultrasound Society (BMUS)
* Anne-Marie Culpan, Project Director, Institute of Imaging Education,Health Education England (HEE)
* Simon Richards, Chair of Consortium for Accreditation of Sonographer education (CASE)
* Famida Sadak, Health Education Wessex
* Nigel Thomson, Professional officer, Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR)
* Donna Sidonio, Diagnostics Programme Manager, HEE
* Trudy Sevens, Sheffield Hallam University (Deputy Chair)
* Julie Nightingale, Chair of HEI group
* Several lead sonographers representing interested employers (including 3 private providers)
* Representatives from several HEI interested in providing the underpinning education.

The recruitment and selection criteria of the apprentice will be left to individual employers.

The Apprenticeship will run for a period of 3 years and will culminate in an Integrated BSc degree in medical ultrasound (academic level 6) and it is envisaged that the newly qualified Apprentice will be employed initially at Band 5. Unfortunately, at this time, it will not be possible for the apprentice sonographer to register with the Health and Care Professionals Council (HCPC) but they will be eligible to join the Society of Radiographers and register with their Voluntary Register of Sonographers.

The group have written a draft standard for the role of the Apprentice sonographer and would like you to circulate the draft standard and the attached mini survey for comments from any interested parties in your Trust. We would be happy to receive replies from as many departments as possible

Yours sincerely

A McGuinness

Consultant Sonographer

Chair of Apprentice Sonographer Trailblazer Group

**Questions**

Name and title of person completing questionnaire…………………………………………………………………………………………………

Department /Trust………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

1. Would you consider employing an apprentice sonographer?....Yes/ No. .If no, why

not?...................................……………………………………………………………………………………………..................................................

1. would you employ an apprentice with this standard?.......................................................................................
2. How would you envisage using a qualified apprentice in your department?....................................................

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1. how would you manage the employment of someone who is not statutory registered?..................................

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1. do you feel this standard appropriately describes the duties and responsibilities of the role?

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1. are the headings correct?......................................................................................................................................
2. Are there any key omissions from the behaviours section?..................................................................................

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1. are there any key omissions from the skills section?............................................................................................

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1. Are there any key omissions from the knowledge section?..................................................................................

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