Revalidation and the NMC code Consultation

17th February 2014
What is revalidation?

• A way for nurses and midwives to:
  – demonstrate that they are meeting their professional obligations and continue to be fit to practise.
  – demonstrate they are meeting professional standards laid out in the Code (revised edition to be published December 2014).

• The NMC says revalidation will aim to:
  – Increase public confidence in nurses and midwives by requiring them to demonstrate on an on-going basis that they are fit to practise.
  – Enable nurses and midwives to be accountable for demonstrating their continuing fitness to practise.
  – Promote a culture of professionalism and accountability.
Why is revalidation being introduced?

- Public expectation that nurses/midwives are up to date and fit to practise.
- The Department of Health (England) and Professional Standards Authority have required the NMC to introduce revalidation.
- There have been a number of high profile reports into healthcare in the United Kingdom (eg Francis/Berwick/Clywd & Hart).
- To improve public protection.
How revalidation has been developed

• NMC has engaged with a wide range of stakeholders across the four countries.

• September 2013 Council approved a phased approach:
  – First phase (December 2015)
  – Followed by evaluation...

• Phased approach is required due to inability to make changes to legislation. Other things that ‘can’t’ change are:
  – 3 year renewal period
  – 450 practice hours
Proposed revalidation model

• Every 3 years on renewal of registration every nurse/midwife will be required to confirm that:
  – They continue to remain fit to practise by meeting the requirements of the revised Code.
  – They have completed the required hours of practice (which will be 450 hours) and learning activity through continuing professional development.
  – They have used feedback to review and improve the way they work.
  – They have received confirmation from someone well placed to comment on their continuing fitness to practise.
Consultation

• The consultation is in 2 parts and runs from January to July 2014.

• Part 1: Focuses on the proposed model of revalidation and how it can be implemented in a variety of employment settings and scopes of practice. The NMC are also using this period to gather information to draft a revised Code and to develop guidance for revalidation. This ends on 31st March 2014.

• Part 2: The content of the Code. This is proposed to end in July 2014.

• Today we are looking at part 1!