



The Royal College of Radiologists

THE SOCIETY AND  
COLLEGE OF  
RADIOGRAPHERS



## Radiology Accreditation Programme (RAP)

### September 2007 Update

#### Self Assessment and Mock Accreditation Visits

All five developmental pilot sites successfully completed the self assessment and mock accreditation visits during August and September. Each site was visited by a team of assessors, which varied in size and configuration and the visits took place over 2 or 3 day period. Informal feedback from both the assessor teams and developmental pilot sites found the visits challenging but insightful with lots of useful lessons learnt to help shape further development of the standards, processes, timescales, team configuration and supportive guidance materials for the programme.

The assessor teams are currently writing the mock accreditation reports which will be shared with the RAP project team and the developmental pilot sites. The current developmental pilot stage will end with an external evaluation of activities during the period (April-October).

Some further work to build the programme include:

- Finalisation of the standards and measuring system
- Finalisation of the accreditation process
- Final testing of the standards and process, including checking applicability across all UK devolved countries
- Formal consultation, including engagement with relevant Regulators
- Identifying and establishing the independent accreditation body
- Recruiting and training of assessors

The RAP project team would like to thank all those involved with the developmental piloting process, sites and assessors, for their hard work and commitment to the development of the accreditation programme. The work to build a credible radiology accreditation scheme continues.

#### Evaluation Tender

Due to a poor response rate to the first tender for the evaluation of the developmental pilot stage of the programme it has now been re-tendered. All details and documentation are available on the website:

<http://accreditation.rcr.ac.uk/index.asp?PageID=58>

**The closing date for tender applications is 12 noon on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October.**

#### Postponement of RAP Conference April 2008

To guarantee the RAP message reaches the widest possible audience the Business Management Board have decided to **postpone the RAP conference planned for 7<sup>th</sup> April 08**. Instead a session will be held at UKRC at the afternoon session of Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Please see below for the draft programme:

<b>Accreditation: Spotlight on safety and quality in diagnostic imaging services</b>		
<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Topic</b>
Dr Erika Denton, National Clinical Lead for Diagnostic Imaging Department of Health	Chair/Moderator	
Professor Andy Adam	RCR President, Chair, Project Oversight Board & joint project sponsor	Accreditation in diagnostic imaging services. The principles, aims and aspirations of the accreditation project.
Dr Conall Garvey	RCR Treasurer, Clinical lead for radiologists	Patients and professionals working in partnership to drive up quality and ensure safety: challenges and risks
Stewart Whitley	SCoR Clinical lead & joint project sponsor	Learning from piloting and evaluation: how the RAP model will work in reality
Dr. Jane Moore, DH, Director Healthcare Quality Department of Health	Keynote speaker & funding partner	Policy context: How the service accreditation model will fit within emerging framework for healthcare quality
Christopher Wiltsher	Lay assessor & Chair, RCR Patients' Liaison Group	Patients' expectations: can the accreditation programme deliver?
Pilot site representative	Speaker representing all pilot sites	Developing and piloting the programme: Impact on service delivery
All above speakers plus: Professor Audrey Paterson, SCoR, Director of Professional Policy & joint project sponsor. Ethna Glean, Project manager		Panel discussion

### Oversight Board

The next meeting of the Oversight Board will take place on 25<sup>th</sup> October and will be chaired by the new President of the Royal College of Radiologists, Professor Andy Adam. The RAP project team would like to welcome Professor Adam to the Oversight Board, and sincerely thank Professor Dame Janet Husband for all her dedication and hard work for the programme. Professor Dame Husband has agreed to continue her involvement with the project in an ambassadorial capacity.

### Revision of Standards

The Business Management Board have agreed a process for the next iteration of the standards. A standards expert supported by a small multi-disciplinary team will review all past work and extensive feedback on the standards to revise them in accordance to agreed principles. The team will include as a minimum, a radiographer, radiologist and a lay representative as well as medical physics input. This piece of work will commence from mid-November to coincide with feedback from external evaluation of the pilots.

The RAP project team would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the workstreams (radiologists, radiographers and patient representatives); the developmental pilot sites; the clinical leads from the Royal College of Radiologists and the Society and College of Radiographers; Amanda Cranston; Fiona Browne and everyone who has contributed to and or commented on the standards development.

### Accreditation Process

The recent self assessment and mock accreditation visits have provided valuable modelling information. Feedback from the external evaluation will be useful towards finalisation of the accreditation process.

### Accreditation Body

The Colleges recently held a workshop to scope requirements for the business aspects of the accreditation body. Market testing to gauge the demand for the Accreditation programme and to determine how roll out should be facilitated is planned.

### RAP Liaison

Ethna Glean met with Paul Stennett, CEO from United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) and Chief Executive of the Clinical Pathology Accreditation who offered some useful insights into best practice regarding accreditation programmes. Paul Stennett has been invited to speak to the Business Management Board.

Ethna Glean has met with a number of other medical professional associations to share learning as they are keen to establish similar programmes.

Ethna Glean and Stewart Whitely are due to go to Edinburgh to meet with representatives of NHS Scotland to discuss the applicability of the programme in Scotland.

**Katherine Leggett, Project Support Officer**  
**Ethna Glean, Project Manager**  
**Radiology Accreditation Programme**