

2024-08-22 - FW: Preparing for PA and AA regulation

From: General Medical Council <gmc@gmc-news.org>

Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2024 12:10 PM

To: <Redacted: s40(2)> (HSCEY - NHS Workforce & Operations - Workforce & Corp. Business Directorate)

Subject: Preparing for PA and AA regulation

General Medical Council

PA and AA regulation



A timeline to regulation

By the end of this year, we'll be legally required to regulate physician associates (PAs) and anaesthesia associates (AAs). The UK government had to change the law to allow this to begin. This legislation – the AA PA Order – has now been passed and regulation will start in December 2024.

Regulation will help assure patients, colleagues, and employers that PAs and AAs have the knowledge and skills to work safely and that they can be held to account if serious concerns are raised.

In May, our consultation on how we'll regulate PAs and AAs closed. Thank you to everyone who shared their feedback.

As we do with all consultations, we're now analysing all the responses we received. This will help us consider any changes to the rules, standards, and guidance ahead of regulation beginning in the coming months. We'll publish these updates, along with a consultation analysis report, at the end of the year.

How we'll regulate PAs and AAs

Our website has practical information about how we'll regulate PAs and AAs.

There are a range of guides for doctors, employers, PAs, AAs, and patients on topics such as the evidence PAs and AAs will need to provide for registration and the professional standards that will apply once regulation starts.

We're regularly reviewing our website content to ensure it addresses the queries we're hearing. We'll publish more information as it becomes available in the run-up to regulation.

[Visit our PA AA hub](#)

Working together

We know that discussions about our plans to regulate PAs and AAs continue online and in workplace settings.

While this is a challenging period, we continue to stress the importance for any interactions to be professional and respectful at all times. We've recently written to system leaders across the four countries of the UK to reiterate our expectations of them to support colleagues appropriately.

Our letter also provides key points from our guidance on issues such as PAs and AAs working within their competence, their supervision, and clinical governance arrangements.

[Read our letter to system leaders](#)

Regulation is changing

Our regulation of PAs and AAs is the first step towards wider reform of professional healthcare regulation in the UK.

We are committed to continuing to work with the UK government on the future reform of the legislation that governs our regulation of doctors. These changes will enable us to better support good, safe care and allow us to progress our ambitions to become a more effective, relevant, and compassionate regulator.

[Read more about future reform](#)



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