



# **Continuing Professional Development**

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## Review

**Continuing Professional Development**  
for assurance of continuing fitness to practise

**Consultation Response Form 2012**

## Response form

This is the response form for the consultation document which can be found at [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org)

You can respond to the CPD consultation using our online CPD tool at [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org)

Alternatively to respond by post please complete this answer sheet and return to:

CPD Consultation

General Dental Council

37 Wimpole Street

London

W1G 8DQ

## Consultation closing date: 31 January 2012

**Do you agree or disagree that in the future CPD should be based only on verifiable activity? (paragraphs 42-48)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree

**Do you have any suggestions about how the range of CPD activity could be verifiable, other than by certification?**

It may be the case that the new scheme of CPD based only on verifiable activity could substantially increase the workload of the regulator. The Dental Schools Council suggests this burden could be reduced if the GDC approves providers of CPD who could then validate the events or episodes of CPD activity.

**Do you agree or disagree that the five year CPD cycle should be maintained? (paragraph 49)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree

**If you disagree, please explain why and what alternative approach you would prefer.**

The Dental Schools Council believes the CPD cycle ensures there is an opportunity for both the individual and the GDC to review the effectiveness of CPD.

**Do you mainly agree or disagree with our proposed minimum hours requirement for CPD? (paragraphs 49-59)**

- |                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Mainly agree    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Mainly disagree |

**Is there any element of our minimum hours requirement you disagree with or are concerned about? (paragraphs 49-59)**

- |                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Yes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No  |

**If you disagree or are concerned about any element, why is that?**

The Dental Schools Council does not disagree with the minimum hours requirement, nevertheless, we would suggest it is important that colleagues who are taking career breaks can access facilitated CPD to ensure they are able to further strengthen and develop their skills for when they return to practice.

**Do you agree or disagree with a mandatory annual PDP declaration? (paragraphs 60-64)**

- |                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Agree    |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Disagree |

**If you disagree, can you set out why that is.**

**Should the concept of core and recommended topics be retained?  
(paragraphs 65-71)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**If yes, should they be made mandatory?**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Do you have any other comments to make about this?**

Retaining core topics ensures CPD is focused, the topics that make up this core should be kept under regular review to ensure they remain relevant; we suggest such a review is consistent with the CPD cycle length. CPD must be learner focused and should offer a statement of learning outcomes.

**Do you agree or disagree with linking CPD learning outcomes to the GDC's standards?  
(Paragraphs 72-75)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree

**Do you have any comments to make about our proposals to embed reflection into the new CPD scheme? (paragraph 75)**

There is the opportunity for CPD to be focused on reflective learning as it is this which is most likely to alter behaviour and positively affect clinical standards.

**Do you agree with the introduction of mandatory annual CPD declarations?  
(paragraphs 76-84)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**If no, please set out your reasons why.**

**If yes, do you have any additional suggestions about what should be required within a mandatory annual CPD declaration?**

We suggest there is an opportunity for learners to annually self-declare that the range and content of learning meets the current GDC CPD requirements as this would reinforce the importance of learning throughout the CPD cycle.

**Do you agree or disagree with a 2 month grace period for non-compliance? (paragraphs 85-91)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Agree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree

**Are there any equality and diversity considerations we should take account of in making final decisions about a grace period? (paragraphs 85-91)**

There are clear equality and diversity considerations the GDC needs to take into account when making final decisions about a grace period.

It may be the case that an individual's circumstances means there could be evidenced reasons to delay the completion of a CPD requirement; these could include individuals with health related issues or caring commitments, as well as those who work part-time.

Furthermore, it may be the case that due to conflicting timescales it is appropriate to delay the completion of CPD.

**Would you make use of an improved GDC online system to manage and record your CPD if it was made available to you? (paragraphs 92-97)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

**Please set out any equalities and diversity implications you perceive arising from our proposal to encourage the use of a GDC online system to record and manage CPD. (paragraphs 92-97)**

The use of the GDC's online system to record and manage CPD could potentially be affected by the individual's access to computer facilities. It may also be the case that an individual affected by a physical or a learning disability could have difficulties in accessing an online system. Therefore, it is important that there is the opportunity for individuals to report to the GDC if their own personal circumstances affect their ability to access CPD reporting processes. Appropriate actions should be taken as a result of this declaration to support individuals accessing CPD.

**Thank you for responding to this consultation, your views are important to us as we develop our requirements for CPD in the future.**

**The GDC will make more information about plans for a future scheme of continuing professional development available at [www.gdc-uk.org](http://www.gdc-uk.org) when it becomes available.**

## Section 3 - About you

We would be grateful if you would provide the following information to help us to analyse the consultation responses:

### Your details

Name Emily Burn
Job title Policy Officer
Organisation Dental Schools Council
Address 20 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9HD
Email <a href="mailto:admin@dentalschools.ac.uk">admin@dentalschools.ac.uk</a>

Would you like to be contacted about future GDC consultations?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes

If so, please let us know which areas of our work you are interested in:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Registration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fitness to practise
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Standards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Revalidation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Scope of practice

## Responding as an individual

**If you are responding as an individual, please complete this section:**

*If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please complete the next section.*

(Put an x in the blue box to the **left** of your chosen answer)

Are you a:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Dentist	<input type="checkbox"/>	DCP	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other healthcare professional
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental student	<input type="checkbox"/>	Student DCP	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental educator/trainer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Member of the public				

If you answered 'DCP' above, are you a

<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental nurse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental hygienist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental therapist
<input type="checkbox"/>	Orthodontic therapist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental technician	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clinical dental technician

Where do you practise?

<input type="checkbox"/>	England	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wales	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scotland
<input type="checkbox"/>	Northern Ireland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other		

What is your age?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Under 24	<input type="checkbox"/>	24-34	<input type="checkbox"/>	35-44
<input type="checkbox"/>	45-54	<input type="checkbox"/>	55-64	<input type="checkbox"/>	65+

Are you:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female
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**What is your ethnic origin?**

Asian or Asian British

<input type="checkbox"/>	Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pakistani
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Asian background: please specify				

Black or Black British

<input type="checkbox"/>	Black or Black British	<input type="checkbox"/>	African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Black background: please specify				

Chinese or other ethnic group

<input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other background: please specify

Mixed

<input type="checkbox"/>	White and Asian	<input type="checkbox"/>	White and Black African	<input type="checkbox"/>	White and Black Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other Mixed background: please specify				

White

<input type="checkbox"/>	British	<input type="checkbox"/>	Irish
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	Any other White background: please specify
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## Responding on behalf of an organisation

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please answer the following questions:

**Name of organisation:**

**Which best describes your organisation?**

	Body representing dentists		Body representing DCPs		Body representing patients or the public
	NHS/Health service organisation		Dental school (undergraduate)		Postgraduate dental deanery
	DCP training provider		Independent healthcare provider	<b>X</b>	Other Dental Schools Council

**In which country is your organisation based?**

<b>X</b>	UK wide		England		Wales
	Scotland		Northern Ireland		Other