

FAO Medical Directors, Responsible Officers and appraisers

July 2013

Dear colleague

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health has been made aware of queries regarding the validity of its Paediatric Carers of Child Feedback (PaedCCF) tool. This letter clarifies the value of the tool for revalidation.

The PaedCCF tool has been validated through extensive piloting and meets the requirements for patient feedback tools issued by the General Medical Council in their guidance on such tools in relation to revalidation.

Doctors completing a PaedCCF round to gather parent/carer feedback to support their revalidation requirements will have obtained feedback from at least 20 parents/carers of their patients. As confirmed in our pilots, returns from at least 20 parents/carers provide a valid, reliable dataset which is provided in the form of a graphical results report.

The dataset and the analysis process for the data meets the GMC requirements for patient feedback tools generally, and exceeds the GMC requirements for patient feedback in the first cycle of revalidation. Doctors who have completed such a tool should not therefore be advised by appraisers, Responsible Officers or other members of their employing organisation that the results are not valid or reliable, or cannot be used as supporting information for their revalidation.

We are concerned that some employers have been giving this advice and would advise any Responsible Officer or appraiser who is concerned about the validity or veracity of a doctor's PaedCCF results report to contact the College's Revalidation team (revalidation@rcpch.ac.uk or tel 020 7092 6148/6152) and to review the GMC's 1st revalidation cycle guidance and patient feedback guidance at www.gmc-uk.org before advising that the results cannot be used to support a revalidation recommendation.

Published research on the initial pilot study for PaedCCF is available from <http://adc.bmj.com/content/early/2011/05/26/adc.2010.203174.full>

Yours sincerely



Dr Andrew Long
Vice President (Education)
Revalidation lead
RCPCH