



CQC registration for general practice: what you need to know

January 2012

Primary medical services providers including general practice will need to be CQC registered by April 2013.

Here is a list of things all practices should be aware of in the run-up to registration.

- The CQC registration process for general practice will start in the summer of 2012. Practices need to **start thinking now** about the essential standards and their own compliance.
- Help to **inform the process** by joining the provider reference group. Provider reference groups have been set up exclusively for providers and commissioners to allow CQC to gain feedback on ideas and draft documents and to collect opinions. Over 400 practices have registered already.
- Consider carefully the role of the registered manager when nominating someone for this role. A registered manager is registered with CQC to be in day-to-day charge of one or more regulated activities. They will have **legal liabilities** in relation to compliance with the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and associated regulations. The nominated individual needs to have a level of influence over the essential standards and will be held legally liable on behalf of the provider. It is recommended therefore that this be a partner in the practice.
- CQC's view is that there is **no need to purchase tools or support** in order to complete the CQC registration process.
- More information regarding CRB checks will be issued next year but in the meantime, **do not make additional CRB checks** specifically to meet the CQC registration requirements. This does not of course affect those CRB checks that you would normally undertake as part of recruitment. It has been agreed that GMC registration will be used where possible instead of CRB checks.
- The application process is expected to start in July 2012. The full application process is to be **completed online** – there will be no paper applications. No evidence needs to be submitted with the application, it will be a single form for both providers and registered managers.
- Invitations to submit completed applications will begin from September. Invitations will be issued in batches and there will be **one month to submit** once invited. Most of the application process will be completed by the end of December 2012, although the process of assessing the forms will continue until April 2012.

- Practices will be asked to declare compliance or non-compliance against the standards. Practices can **register as non-compliant** as long as they submit an action plan detailing how they will become compliant or mitigate the risks of non-compliance.

For any further information please contact bill.may@pcc.nhs.uk

PCC will be holding a number of events in 2012. Details appear in our weekly email newsletter New@PCC. You can subscribe [here](#).