



Prince Charles with Vanessa Cameron, Secretary of the College.



Prince Charles with Christine Gear, Appeals Co-ordinator at the Christmas Card Competition stand.

Appointment as consultants of candidates deemed insufficiently trained

Addendum to Guidance for College Assessors on Advisory Appointments Committees

The College has discussed the unsatisfactory situation where a College Assessor on a Consultant Advisory Appointments Committee has considered a candidate to be insufficiently trained, but the Regional or other Health Authority has recommended this person for appointment as a consultant.

The College is entitled to make a judgement whether such an unsuitably trained consultant is able to train other psychiatrists. The College Assessor should not short-list anyone who has not completed at least three years of higher training recommended by the Joint Committee on Higher Psychiatric Training and should point out the insufficiency at that time, i.e. prior to the Appointments Committee. The Assessor should also report to the College the details of the candidate's training, both at general professional and higher levels.

The College would then determine whether this candidate, if appointed as a consultant, would be regarded as an educational supervisor or not. The advice of the College Assessor would usually be accepted but, if the Appointments Committee persists with the recommendation to appoint someone with grossly discrepant training, such as minimal senior registrar experience or no higher training but a series of locum consultant posts, then the following procedure would be implemented.

The Regional Health Authority or other employing authority would be notified that this consultant was not regarded as an educational supervisor and would therefore not be entitled to have psychiatric trainees working under his direction. The consultant would be able to apply to the College, after not less than one year of working as a consultant, to become an educational supervisor. Such applications would be referred to the Central Approval Panel to enable such a candidate to be assessed for suitability as an educational supervisor.

In practice, the Regional Health Authority is unlikely to proceed with the appointment of a consultant when the College Assessor on the Appointments Committee has expressed his intention of recommending to the College that the candidate be refused the status of educational supervisor. In addition, the College would be unable to recommend to the GMC that the candidate's name be placed on the specialist "T" register.

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President
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*Approved by the Court of Electors
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