
The new Specialist Lists

The President of the College wrote to the Membership in June regarding the implications of the implementation of the 'Calman' Report for psychiatry. In that letter she mentioned that draft legislation included a proposal that all current and past holders of consultant posts, for a transitional period, would be able to apply to the GMC for inclusion on the new Specialist List.

The GMC will notify doctors in due course about this application procedure. However, in the meantime, they have asked the College to convert the existing 'T(Psych)' list – sent to the College in November 1994 – into six separate lists, one for each psychiatric specialty.

In the majority of cases it has been possible to identify which Specialist List each 'T' holder should be assigned to by referring to the

Department of Health's Nominal Rolls. Where this has not been possible, paperwork available within the College has often provided sufficient evidence of the List to which a doctor should be allocated. This usually takes the form of a letter of appointment to a consultant post in the NHS. Where no such evidence is available, each doctor has received a letter inviting them to indicate which List they are eligible to join and asking for supporting documentation.

The above points are for general guidance. Notwithstanding the status of any doctor as a Fellow of the College of any other actual or purported status, the question of the doctor's inclusion in the lists sent to the GMC by the College is ultimately a matter for the College to decide in its discretion taking into account all relevant circumstances known to it.