**IMPLEMENTATION NOTE NO 2 – ASSESSMENT PILOT 2022**

**Purpose of this Note**

This is the second in a series of Implementation Notes to help trainees, trainers and those with a responsibility for managing training locally with specific tasks or activities for implementing Curriculum 2024. The Notes will be put on the Curriculum 2024 website as well as emailed to target groups. They have been drawn up and approved by the Curriculum 2024 Project Board.

This Implementation Note is intended to inform Heads of School and Training Programme Directors (TPDs) about the Assessment Pilot.

**Introduction**

1. Thank you for agreeing to take part in this important Pilot, which has been requested by the GMC prior to final confirmation of the new curriculum. This guidance document is aimed to assist TPDs with running the pilot in their deaneries. It can also be used by others wanting to take part in the Pilot who are not in the 6 pilot deaneries. The Assessment Pilot will run from **18 July to 31 October 2022** and the outcomes will be reported to the GMC. They will also be fed into the ongoing development of the new ePortfolio.
2. The purposes of the Pilot are to:

* To assess the effectiveness of 3 new individual assessment tools for all Levels
* To consider how the proposed assessment structure works in practice
* To report to GMC on 30 June 2023

1. Following the Pilot, there will be a further pilot on the new ePortfolio from August 2023.
2. The Assessment Task and Finish Group has worked with the Curriculum 2024 Project Board to finalise the new assessment tools and guidance for the Pilot. These are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of form** | **Abbreviation** | **Type of form** |
| Entrustable Professional Activity | EPA | Level 1  Level 2  Level 3 (for each of the 12 Specialist Interest Areas)  Level 4 (for each of the 12 SIAs) |
| Multiple Assessor Report | MAR | N/A |
| Generic Skills Assessment Tool | GSAT | Level 1  Level 2  Level 3  Level 4 |

1. Six deaneries have agreed to take part in the Main Pilot. These are: Scotland, Yorkshire & Humber, West Midlands, Northern Ireland, Northern and London. The Curriculum Sub-Committee has also agreed that anyone outside these deaneries can take part in the Pilot.

**Key information about the new programme of assessment**

*What is changing?*

A new programme of assessment has been developed for the new curriculum and this will include three new types of assessments:

1. Entrustable Professional Assessment (EPA) - key method of assessing the patient management domains; will replace the current clinical supervisor report (CSR)
2. Multi-Assessor Reports (MAR) - clinical assessments from other clinicians and professionals; will feed into the EPA
3. Generic Skills Assessment Tool (GSAT) - key method to assess all the other domains

*What will go?*

1. CSR - Clinical Supervisor Report: this will be replaced by EPA
2. Most trainees will not need a high number of WpBAs as only a few of them will be mandatory and there will be no minimum mandated number of case-based discussions.

*What will stay?*

1. Some WpBAs will be mandatory and they will be specified in the EPA forms. Most others will be optional.
2. ESR - the Educational Supervisor Report will stay as the main tool feeding into the annual ARCPs but will change to reflect the new arrangements.
3. MSF - remains unchanged

The proposed plan of assessments is given in the following flow chart. The frequency of assessments and responsible trainers are detailed in the table below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ASSESSMENT** | **HOW MANY?** | **WHO?** | **TOOLS USED TO COMPLETE ASSESSMENT** |
| **EPA**  holistic assessment of competency of trainee in a patient management domain | One every six months for Levels 1 and 2  One for every SIA (Special Interest Area) in Level 3  One every six months per SIA for Level 4 | **Named Clinical Supervisor**  One every six months for Levels 1 and 2  One per SIA for Level 3 and level 4 | Longitudinal observation, MAR (s), mandatory WpBAs, optional WpBAs |
| **MAR**  clinical assessment from others as all competencies may not have been witnessed by CS | No number specified (will feed into the EPA) | **Other Supervising Consultants** or clinicians  **Other qualified professionals** (eg orthoptist, optometrist, nurse practitioner) | Direct observation; Other indirect evidence or feedback |
| **GSAT**  one form for assessment of competencies for all non-clinical domains | One every six months | Educational Supervisor or Clinical supervisor  (ultimate responsibility lies with ES) | Evidence demonstrated by trainee |
| **MSF**  Unchanged | One every year | Various | NA |
| **WpBAs**  Unchanged | Some will be mandatory (specified in EPAs); rest will be optional | Various | NA |
| **ESR** | One every six months | Educational Supervisor | EPA, GSAT, MSF, PDP, Others as currently |

**Method**

1. All materials for the pilot will be available on the RCOphth Curriculum 2024 webpage from 18 July 2022. They include:

* This Implementation Note
* Link to advice and support with the task in case there are questions
* Downloadable Word templates for each type of form
* Specific guidance for EPA, GSAT and MAR forms which will cover:
  + Introduction
  + Types of evidence that would be appropriate to reference
  + Who completes each form
  + How to complete each type of form (e.g. trainee pre-populates, forms completed together)
    - Each completed Level 1 and 2 EPA should be linked to a completed MAR
  + How to access information (e.g. links to syllabi in the form templates)
  + How to send the completed form to the email address

1. TPDs/Heads of School are asked to:
   * identify as many trainee and supervisor volunteers from as wide a variety of backgrounds and stages of training as possible – this is so we can report on any barriers for those with protected characteristics to the GMC
   * email the volunteers the link to the Assessment Pilot materials on the Curriculum 2024 web page and ensure that they
   * understand the task (email completed forms and complete a short on-line survey after they have finished their pilot activity)
   * are aware that they can complete as many forms as they wish
   * are aware that completed forms will not form part of any formal assessment process
   * are aware their confidentiality will be preserved.

* monitor progress with the pilot (number of forms completed, number of participants)
* report back to RCOphth on any issues or queries

**Survey**

1. Once each form is completed, it should be emailed to [Curriculum2024@rcophth.ac.uk](mailto:Curriculum2024@rcophth.ac.uk) whereupon an automated email will be sent with a link to a short survey. If the MAR is linked to a Level 1 or Level 2 EPA it should be emailed with the EPA.
2. It is very important that participants only complete the survey after they have finished your pilot activity. This is to allow participants to test a variety of forms. **PARTICIPANTS WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO** **COMPLETE ONE SURVEY TO FEED BACK ON ALL THE FORMS THEY HAVE COMPLETED.**
3. Participants will have the opportunity to request a certificate of participation/CPD points in the survey.
4. To preserve confidentiality, names and personal details are not required to be entered into any pilot forms. After completed forms have been emailed, they will be saved by the RCOphth and the email deleted.
5. Completed forms will **NOT** form part of any formal assessment process.