

The CPD Regulations¹ outline the circumstances in which a pharmacist can be regarded as having failed to comply with the CPD framework requirements and when the pharmacist can be regarded as making a false declaration about their compliance with the CPD framework.

The regulations allow the Registrar to:

- impose one or more remedial measures (Reassessment 1 and 2) in connection with CPD; or
- initiate steps to remove a pharmacist from the Register; or
- remove an annotation in respect of a specialist area of practice against a pharmacist's name in the register.

In most cases, a failure to comply with the requirements of the CPD framework, including failing to meet the standard upon assessment, will result in one or more remedial measures being imposed.

Reassessment 1

The remedial measures applied to registrants will be, in most cases, a process of reassessment. Remediation happens in up to two stages known as Reassessment 1 and 2.

At each stage the Registrar will normally require the pharmacist to

submit three new CPD cycles from the new CPD year (that is, CPD activity undertaken from 1 June in the subsequent CPD year from the one the original submission related to).

The pharmacist will be given two months in which to submit a reassessment portfolio.

Failure to comply with a request for a further submission will be treated in the same way as failure to make an initial submission

Standard required

The three cycles must include between 15 and 20 hours of CPD activity. To meet the standard, a pharmacist's submission must pass two of the three new CPD cycles submitted covering at least 50% of the CPD hours submitted.

Assessment Process

All portfolios are assessed by Independent Assessors (IA). Any portfolio that is deemed by an IA not to have met the standard will be assessed by second IA. If the second IA agrees that it does not meet the standard, then that will be the final decision.

If the second IA concludes that the portfolio did meet the required standard, then it will be subject to a review by a third IA. The assessment of the third IA will determine the final

¹ Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland Continuing Professional Development (Northern Ireland Regulations) 2012

decision of whether the portfolio has, or has not, met the required standard.

If successful, the registrant will be deemed to have met the standard required and no further action will be necessary.

Reassessment 2

The pharmacist only enters Reassessment 2 if they have not met the required standard in Reassessment 1.

The second stage will involve the submission of a further three new CPD cycles within a two-month timeframe amounting to between 15 and 20 hours of CPD activity.

The standard and Assessment process are the same as with Reassessment 1.

Failure to meet Reassessment 2

If the pharmacist fails to meet the required standard at Reassessment 2, this will be considered as non-compliant with the CPD Framework.

The steps outlined in the CPD Regulations will be followed. This will involve the Registrar issuing a notice of Intention to remove the pharmacist's name from the register or to remove an annotation linked to a pharmacist's entry on the register.

Details of the appeal process will be provided within the Notice of intention to Remove.

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