

Report on Enhanced CPD

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BADN were fortunate to secure the GDC speaker Janet Collins, Head of GDC Standards, to present on Saturday 18th November at their annual dental nursing conference in Milton Keynes. The title of the CPD session was called 'Enhanced CPD – What it means for Dental Nurses'

Janet has been in her GDC position of Head of Standards since 2006. Prior to taking up that role, her experience at the Council included handling patient complaints, the launch of the Council's first continuing professional development scheme and the registration of dental care professionals.

In recent years, Janet has managed the introduction of direct access, overseen the most recent standards review and is currently working on the new Enhanced CPD scheme for dentists and dental care professionals.

Janet explained that the Enhanced CPD scheme will be introduced for dentists on 1st January 2018 and for dental care professionals on 1st August 2018. It will involve the following changes for dental nurses:

- An amendment to verifiable CPD hours (50hours of activity in a five-year cycle)
- A requirement to spread the CPD hours more evenly across the five-year cycle (10 hours of activity in a two-year block)
- An overall reduction in CPD hours due to the removal of non-verifiable requirements
- To submit an annual CPD statement (at the same time as the ARF renewal date)
- To create a Personal Development Plan(PDP) to identify CPD needs relevant to their own field of practice.

Janet explained that there is not a mandatory requirement to use the GDC template for creating a PDP; the GDC will not be quality assuring the Dental Nurses PDP but will be asking registrants to declare that they have one in place, as it currently does with indemnity insurance. Janet also went onto explain that the hours are set as minimum levels and can be exceeded if required.

The newly introduced PDP to the scheme, should be written so that it meets the GDC development outcomes A-D, which in turn help registrants meet the GDC standards (nine principles). There is also an element of reflective practice required which will enable the dental nurse to consider how the CPD activity has contributed towards maintenance or development of their own knowledge, skills behaviours and attitudes. The new development outcomes can be found on the GDC website together with a host of other information about the scheme.

The Enhanced CPD scheme utilises the cycle of:

- ✓ Plan
- ✓ Do
- ✓ Reflect
- ✓ Record

Janet continued to explain that some registrants may be required to commence the new scheme part way through their current CPD cycle as the scheme becomes mandatory for dental nurses on 1st August 2018.

To help provide support for these registrants the GDC are currently providing a 'transition calculator' on their website. This allows the dental nurse to input the hours that have already been completed in their current cycle so that the calculator will analyse the number of hours required to be completed under the new scheme (for the five-year cycle). In January this will be simplified to allow you to enter your GDC registration number instead of the hours completed to date.

Janet presented the information clearly and took plenty of questions from BADN members at the end of the presentation. It was an extremely useful element to the programme.

For further information about the new scheme please visit the GDC website address <https://www.gdc-uk.org/professionals/cpd/enhanced-cpd>