

# CASE STUDY

## How the Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists took action to achieve accreditation leading to raised standards and improved public protection

### ACCREDITED REGISTERS PROGRAMME IN PRACTICE



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#### Background

The Registration Council for Clinical Physiologists (RCCP)

was first accredited in early 2018. Clinical physiologists work across six disciplines: audiology, cardiac, gastro-intestinal, neurophysiology, respiratory, and sleep. You may encounter them if you are experiencing problems with your hearing, heart, sleep, breathing and have been referred for tests or are undergoing a procedure such as having a pacemaker implanted. They work in both NHS and private settings as well as in primary, secondary and tertiary care.

#### Why does it matter?

Clinical physiologists are healthcare workers involved in the diagnosis and management of a wide range of conditions – many of which are sensitive or invasive. The profession of clinical physiologist is not subject to statutory health regulation. It is therefore important to have a means of ensuring that clinical physiologists have the right training and qualifications to practise safely and competently and, if for any reason something does go wrong, there is a clear route to raise concerns. The RCCP recognised that gaining accreditation for its registrants would achieve this.

#### How did the RCCP improve public protection to meet the Standards of Accreditation?

When RCCP achieved accreditation, two conditions were imposed with deadlines as well as eight instructions and 13 learning points. The conditions related to ensuring its registrants could provide evidence of indemnity insurance; and ensuring the accuracy of its register. The instructions and learning points covered: the need to improve clarity of various processes and procedures; policies around restoration and readmission to the register and publication of sanctions; risk management; and business continuity.

#### What difference has this made?

“The process of engaging with the Authority and having to meet its comprehensive standards framework has been a major stimulant to defining, implementing and managing a rigorous programme of registration underpinned by ‘Fitness to Practise’ procedures and the accreditation of education and training providers, courses and qualifications. An added benefit has been the establishment of a ‘Collaborative’ involving the Accredited Registers which has enabled the ‘sharing’ of expertise and good practice.”

**Paul Burgess, Chair of RCCP**

#### Find out more



Find out more about our work accrediting registers at:

[www.professionalstandards.org.uk/accredited-registers](http://www.professionalstandards.org.uk/accredited-registers)