

# Accredited Registers Programme

## Notification of Change

### Summary of proposed changes

Notification of change from: **The Academy for Healthcare Science (The Academy)**. Once accredited any relevant changes that a register wishes to make will need to be assessed by the Authority to ensure ongoing compliance with [the Standards for Accredited Registers](#). Part of this assessment includes a review of information received from anyone sharing their experience. Below is a summary of the proposed changes for consideration.

<p><b>Summary of Proposed Changes</b></p>	<p>The <a href="#">Academy</a> is an overarching body for the healthcare science profession, working alongside specialist professional bodies and societies to promote healthcare science and the healthcare science profession. The Academy operates Accredited Registers for healthcare science practitioners, higher specialist scientists, medical illustrators, clinical physiologists and a credentialing register for the life sciences industry.</p> <p>The <a href="#">Genetic Counsellor Registration Board</a> (GCRB) is a separate organisation holding an Accredited Register for genetic counsellors. Genetic counselling is a service that provides information and advice about genetic conditions, conducted by healthcare professionals who have been specially trained in the science of human genetics and psychosocial counselling</p> <p>The Academy and the GCRB are proposing to transfer the operation and maintenance of the Genetic Counsellor Register to the Academy. The new register will be available from the Academy's website and the GCRB register will cease operation. The Academy reported that this change demonstrates a step towards 'an NHS-commissioned register for all levels of the Healthcare Science workforce not covered by statutory regulation. Ultimately this will provide patients and the public with a greater level of protection and accountability'.</p> <p>The Academy would assume overall responsibility for all aspects of the GCRB register, including the management of risks which have previously been identified by the GCRB and the handling of complaints. The GCRB will continue to be responsible for assessing applications to the register using its <a href="#">existing process</a>. The Academy will have oversight of this process, including the submission of intentions to apply to the register and the allocation of port-folios to assessors. The Academy will also send a representative to the GCRB's annual marking day. Renewal of registration will also be monitored by the</p>
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	<p>Academy. A representative from the GCRB will attend the Academy's Regulation Board and the Professional Council.</p> <p>Currently the renewals for the two registers are different, with the GCRB requiring the submission of evidence every five years and the Academy requiring registrants to renew every year. The Academy has indicated that a pathway aligning the two processes will be formulated by the end of 2019. This will include reviewing the GCRB annual declaration process and the continuing professional development requirements. The Academy has noted that the alignment will be carried out in a co-ordinated way to ensure that registrants are fully updated at every stage.</p> <p>The education and training entry level to the register will remain at Master's level. There are currently two routes of entry to the register as detailed on the <a href="#">GCRB website</a>. The Academy has confirmed that these will remain unchanged. As with other modalities on the Academy's register, all genetic counsellors will be expected to follow the AHCS Standards of Proficiency.</p> <p>The Academy has indicated that information about genetic counsellors will be posted on the Academy's website with a link to the GCRB website for further information.</p> <p>Once the change has been approved all current Registered Genetic Counsellors who have been assessed as meeting GCRB's requirements for registration will be transferred to the Academy's register.</p>
<b>Main standards which may be affected</b>	Standards 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10
<b>Proposed Timescales</b>	AHCS would like to make these changes as soon as possible.