

Condition Review: British Psychoanalytic Council (BPC)

1. Outcome

- 1.1 At the BPC's accreditation renewal, the Professional Standards Authority ('we') issued three Conditions on its accreditation, one of which was to be completed within three months (see paragraph 2.6 of the published outcome).
- 1.2 This report sets out our assessment of the actions taken by the register to satisfy the Condition.
- 1.3 We found that the BPC had met Condition One.

2. Background

- 2.1 We assess registers against our Standards for Accredited Registers ('the Standards')¹. Where a Register has not met a Standard, we can issue Conditions. A Condition sets out the requirements and the timeframe that a Register must meet.
- 2.2 At BPC's last full renewal, completed in August 2025, we issued three Conditions (a full list is published in the report from that assessment²). Condition One had to be implemented by 4 November 2025:

Condition One: The BPC register must define the meaning of medically qualified and develop mechanisms to verify the registrants' medical qualified status

- 2.3 This report discusses the actions BPC took to address the Condition, as well as our decision about whether the Condition is met. BPC's responses to the remaining Conditions will be considered in due course.
- 2.4 We reviewed the following evidence:
 - BPC's reported actions about what it had done to meet Condition One
 - The BPC Register

¹ Standards for Accredited Registers, 2023 edition:
www.professionalstandards.org.uk/publications/standards-accredited-registers

² [British Psychoanalytic Council | PSA](#)

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- Randomly checked registrant profiles to verify registration with the General Medical Council (GMC)

3. Concerns leading to the Condition

During our assessment of the BPC register we noted a concern that the register lists medically qualified status without any definition or explanation. We were uncertain how BPC verifies this status. The term 'medically qualified' can be interpreted differently and has important implications for public protection. Accordingly, the Accreditation Panel issued a condition to seek clarity over the definition and assurance about the publication of the designation “medically qualified”.

4. Assessment of Condition One

- 4.1 The BPC provided its response to the condition on 17 September 2025.
- 4.2 The BPC informed us that the register has been amended to designate the relevant registrants as 'registered with the General Medical Council'. This designation is only given after registrants have provided BPC with a GMC registration number, which is then verified directly with the GMC.
- 4.3 We checked the BPC’s register to confirm this was the case and randomly cross-checked against the GMC’s register to provide assurance that the designation of medically qualified was accurately recorded. We found no erroneous registration entries.
- 4.4 While GMC registration numbers are not displayed on the register, the statement on the BPC register that a medically qualified registrant is registered with the GMC supports a member of the public to check registration, by name, with both organisations if they choose.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The definition of ‘medically qualified’ has been provided and it only relates to individuals who would be dual registered with the BPC and GMC. Through our checks we have assured that only GMC-registered medical practitioners receive the designation of ‘medically qualified’ on the BPC register.
- 5.2 We therefore found that Condition One has been met.