



## GCRB Registration for UK and for overseas genetic counsellors

Diana Scotcher  
on behalf of GCRB

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## Eligibility to register: UK applicants

- MSc Genetic Counselling (Set A)
- Nursing qualification and experience (Set B)
  - Plus counselling training
  - Plus Human Genetics course
- Two years full time role or equivalent as a genetic counsellor (post qualification)

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## Registration process

- Submit Intention to Register Form Feb-March
- Submit completed portfolio 30<sup>th</sup> April
- Applicant meets Sign-off Mentor regularly
- One cohort annually
- Fourteen each year accepted
- Fees from 2017:
  - £100 to register
  - £100 annually

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## Portfolio content 1/3

- Reflections and implications for practice on 60 hours Continuing Professional Development (CPD) over 2 years
- Log of involvement in 50 cases, varied
- Record of evidence of competence, using GCRB competencies
- Reflective record of 2 genetic counselling sessions with patients, with a counselling supervisor
- Signed off by SOM

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## Portfolio content 2/3

- Three case studies 2000 words
  - Counselling
  - Scientific
  - Ethical
- One essay 5000 words or published paper
- Signed off by SOM as being own work

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## Portfolio content 3/3

- References
  - Use of counselling supervision
  - Practicing within the AGNC\* Code of Ethics and the GCRB Code of Conduct
- SOM
  - Comments on 5 observed genetic counselling consultations
- Manager
- Sent directly to GCRB

\*Association of Genetic Nurses and Counsellors

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## Genetic Counsellor status



- Registration is voluntary
- Expectation is that UK employers will employ only genetic counsellors who are GCRB registered or working towards registration
- GCRB has applied to have Accredited Registration (AR) with the Professional Standards Authority which oversees statutory regulation and accredited registration of health and social care organisations in UK. Decision imminent
- Renewal of registration currently every 5 years
- GCRB regulates and monitors genetic counselling practice

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## Overseas applicants: current reciprocity guidelines



- Outline the routes to UK GCRB registration for genetic counsellors from overseas
- Different routes to registration depending on qualifications achieved in their home country
- Allow for registration for genetic counsellors from USA, Canada, Australasia, where training courses have been 'recognised'

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## Overseas applicants



- Full portfolio
  - as if UK applicants
- or
- Reduced portfolio
  - CPD 5 years
  - Log of involvement in 5 cases, varied
  - Reflective record of 2 genetic counselling sessions with patients, with a counselling supervisor
  - Case study 2000 words
  - Essay 5000 words
  - References from SOM, UK and overseas managers

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## Routes to GCRB registration: overseas applicants



- Reduced portfolio
  - Genetic counsellors and genetic nurses who have completed a 'recognised' overseas qualification and certification/registration
  - Genetic nurses who meet the Overseas Nursing Eligibility Criteria for Registration (which includes working as a genetic nurse for 2 years in the UK) who have also certified as an Advanced Practice Nurse in Genetics (US)

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## Routes to GCRB registration: overseas applicants



- Full portfolio
  - Genetic counsellors who have completed a 'recognised' overseas qualification but who have not yet completed certification/registration in their own country (will have to work as a genetic counsellor for 2 years in the UK)
  - Genetic nurses who meet the Overseas Nursing Eligibility Criteria for Registration (will have to work as a genetic nurse for 2 years in the UK)
  - Genetic counsellors/genetic nurses/social workers/psychologists who have completed a 'non-recognised' genetic counselling training and/or certification may be considered on a case by case basis

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## Changes since 2011



- Registration systems established in Europe and South Africa
- Progress towards reciprocal registration with some countries

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## Planned changes



- GCRB will offer registration to genetic counsellors whose home country registration board recognises the UK trained and GCRB registered genetic counselling qualification and offers reciprocal registration
- GCRB will no longer consider applicants who do not have either an MSc in genetic counselling or nursing qualification

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## Overseas applicants



- MSc Genetic Counselling applicants who have not completed the registration process in their home country require 2 years experience (or the equivalent) in a UK based genetic service before submitting a full portfolio to register
- Nursing applicants are currently under discussion

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## Overseas applicants who will not be eligible to register



- Applicants from countries with whom we do not have reciprocal arrangements
- Applicants who do not have an MSc in Genetic Counselling or a nursing qualification
- Applicants from countries other than Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and USA

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## Timeframe for proposed changes to guidelines



- GCRB conducting audit of genetic counsellors currently working in the UK who may be affected by proposed changes – these applicants will be eligible for registration under current guidelines provided they submit eligibility application by June 2017 and complete registration process by 2018
- GCRB to contact registration boards in Europe, South Africa, Canada, Australasia and USA to confirm reciprocal arrangements in 2016-2017
- New guidelines to be agreed at GCRB meeting in January 2017 and apply to all applicants from 2018 cohort onwards

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## Thank you



- See the new GCRB website for information
  - <http://www.gcrb.org.uk>
  - Evaluation of Eligibility to Register Form can be found on the GCRB website

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