

The GP Induction and Refresher Scheme, Portfolio Route Summary

The **GP Refresher Programme** is for qualified GP's (CCT, EU rights or CEGPR) with previous NHS GP experience who have been out of NHS GP work for 2 or more years and wish to return to work as an NHS independent practitioner

There are two pathways available to help you safely "return" to working in the NHS as a GP.

1. The **Assessment review route** which allows the doctor following a formal interview and career review to undertake the Learning Needs Assessments, an MCQ (both may be completed overseas if required) and subject to a satisfactory Band recommendation either for Band 5 direct entry in the UK to a short 1 month Practice Placement or for Band 3/4 following a Simulated Surgery (held in London) and a tailored Practice Placement with a satisfactory WPBA.
2. The **Portfolio Route** has the option to allow doctors who have previously worked in NHS general practice with in the previous 5 years and have been working abroad in an equivalent primary care setting to apply from overseas and on a satisfactory recommendation following the formal portfolio review enter directly to a short 1 month placement in the UK with a satisfactory WPBA.

It also aims to allow doctors planning to work overseas for a limited time (up to 5 years) to plan for and facilitate a return to practise by outlining the evidence required to enable them to easily return to independent NHS practice in the UK.

All this can and should occur (i.e. application and Portfolio route approval) before you give up your current job and plans move to UK and 1 month placement

Approval for entry to any I&R programme is subject to agreement with the responsible NHS England team

The first step is to register with the [GP National Recruitment Office](#) indicating that you wish to apply for the Portfolio Route. They will inform the appropriate HEE I&R Lead who will contact you to undertake the formal interview and career review to check you meet the criteria to apply for a PR application and seek approval from the NHS England team. Once these steps are confirmed the NRO will inform the RCGP that you may apply to them for approval through the Portfolio route.

The **Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) Certificate of Eligibility for GP Registration (CEGPR) panel** will consider the portfolio applications from doctors who have previous NHS GP work experience (minimum required is 2 years)

The RCGP CEGPR panel will evaluate the portfolio evidence of GPs who wish to apply for inclusion on the MPL by the Portfolio Route

The evaluation will consider the GMC's four domains of [Good Medical Practice](#) and how far this standard has been maintained while working in general practice overseas.

The evaluators will also consider whether the doctors have kept up to date with changes in primary care in England and NHS systems and processes that affect general practice. On-line learning modules about general practice organisation and medico-legal frameworks in the UK can provide useful evidence.

Charge is £950 which can be reclaimed on successful completion of the placement and full inclusion on the MPL from the NRO. If not approved candidate has 2 options

- o Reapply to PR and resubmit within 6 months (further charge non-reimbursable of £450)
- o Change to Assessments (standard) I&R pathway, i.e. MCQ etc.

Following a review of the evidence, the RCGP will make a recommendation to the HEE Local team I&R lead on whether the applicant's evidence demonstrates the requirements for independent UK general practice.

If approved by the NHS England MD/RO the applicant will be required to complete the I&R Induction e-modules, and undertake a short induction placement arranged through the HEE Local team of 4 weeks, from which a short report



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(WPBA) will be generated by the HEE Local team for the NHS England MD supporting your application for inclusion to the MPL.

Approval to join the National Medical Performers List remains the sole responsibility of NHS England, and if NHS England is not satisfied that the doctor is 'suitable' to be included on the MPL, it may then request that the doctor applies to the standard I&R pathways to gain admission.

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