Accreditation – what is all the fuss about?

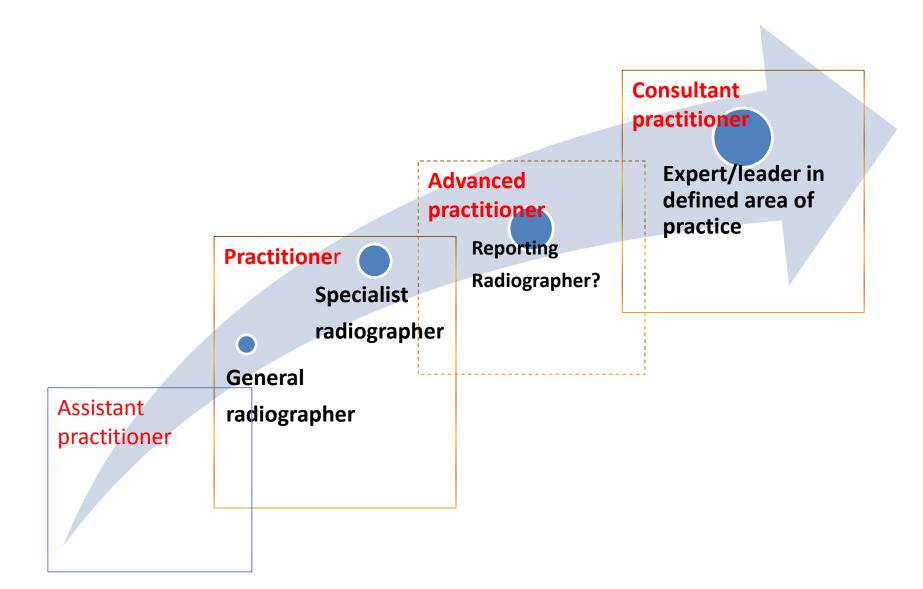
Sue Johnson

Professional Officer (clinical imaging) Society and College of Radiographers

Where to start and what to cover...

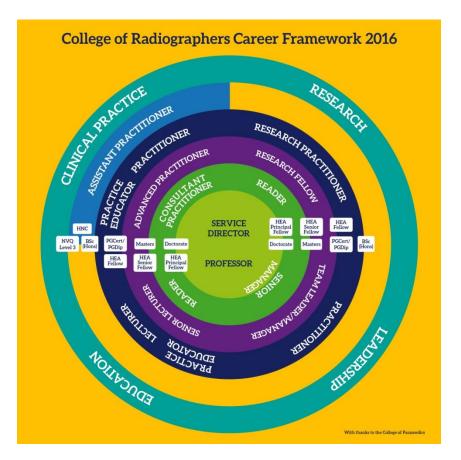
- Once upon a time there was a radiographer...
 - Historical evolution
 - Current requirements and definitions
 - The future?

Career progression?



Assistant, advanced and consultant practice

- Defined by SoR Scope of Practice (SoP) document
- Advanced/consultant practice defined by DoH across professions
- HCPC registration and CPD relates to SoP (not ass practs)



Scope of practice

- a member of the professional workforce can develop his or her own scope of practice as he or she determines, provided that he or she is adequately educated and trained and competent to practice
 - CoR approved postgraduate course
 - Audit and assessment
 - Clinical supervision and support
 - Appropriate CPD

Scope of Practice 2013 http://www.sor.org/learning/document-library/scope-practice-2013

How does your practice measure up?

- What qualifications and underpinning knowledge do you have that support your practice?
- What is the patients perception of your role?
- How do you measure quality and impact?
- What are you worth?
- How do you keep up to date?
- How do you ensure 'best practice'?
- How do you know you meet the standard?

SCoR solution

Accreditation



Defining accreditation

"To attest to and approve as meeting a prescribed standard"

"Reward or recognition for those who meet the standards"

"A process in which certification of competency, authority, or credibility is presented"

Several unauthoritative websites (2013)

What do we accredit?

- Services
 - Imaging Services Accreditation scheme ISAS
- Individuals
 - CPD
 - Assistant practitioners
 - Practice educators
 - Advanced practitioners
 - Consultant practitioners

What is the value?

- National consistency in the standards of practice.
- Transferability of those standards across the NHS and other health care sectors.
- Recognise explicitly the professional achievements of individuals.
- Clarity for professionals and service users on the nature of practice.

- Promote the value of practice skills and status.
- Support the development of practitioners in a systematic way.
- Support practitioners to remain demonstrably at the leading edge of their practice.
- Build on existing frameworks to enhance practice.

Accreditation – why wouldn't you?



Linking higher roles to the 4 core functions of higher level practice

- 1. Expert practice
- 2. Professional leadership and consultancy
- 3. Education, training and development
- Practice and service development, research and evaluation

Department of Health (2000) *Meeting the Challenge: A Strategy for the Allied Health Professions,* London: Department of Health.

The road to accreditation



Assistant practitioners

- Mandatory accreditation to access
 Professional Indemnity insurance for assistant practitioner role as a member
- Must be within SoR agreed Scope of Practice
- Approved course = automatic approval on application
- Other route = CPD plus attestation and evidence of SoP, reaccredit 2 yearly.

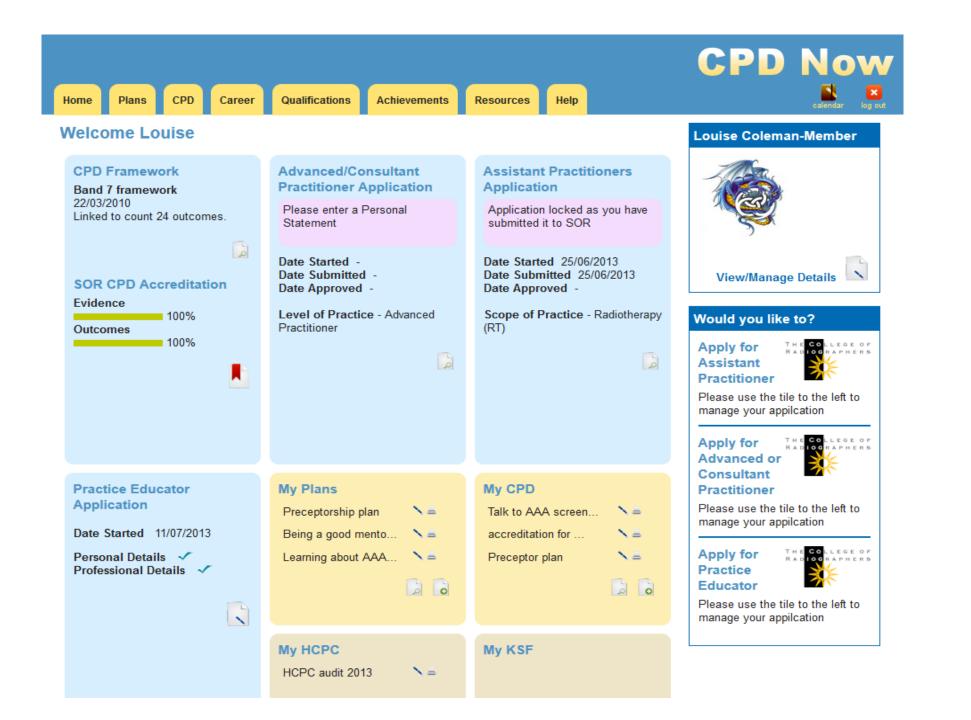
Practice educator accreditation scheme

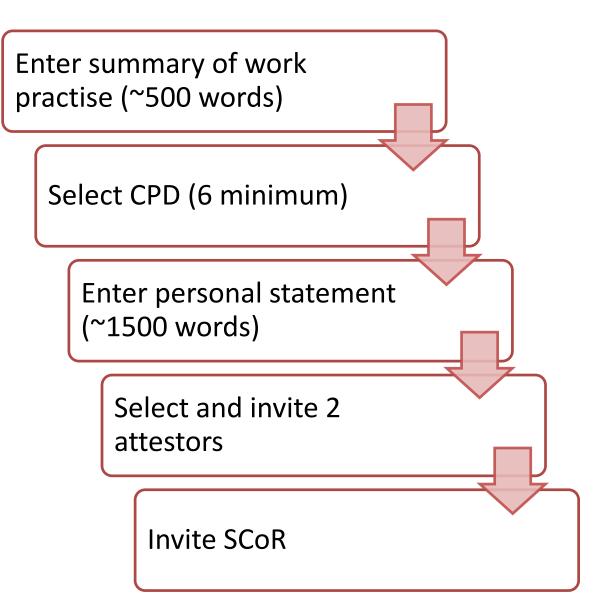
- Apply via 'approved' higher education programme
- Or
- CPDNow Experiential route
 - Define scope of practice (who, what, when and how?)
 - Provide evidence of underpinning knowledge
 - Demonstrate sessions/programmes and outcomes
 - <u>https://www.sor.org/career-progression/practice-educators</u>

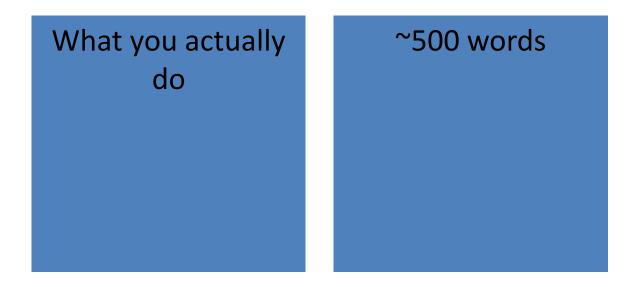
... Higher levels of practice

Advanced and Consultant practitioners must have CPD Now accreditation:

- 12 pieces of CPD evidence.
- Must be recent done within the last 2 years.
- Must be linked to at least 6 CPD Now framework outcomes.







- Be clear and concise
- Don't waffle
- Your job description/work plan might be helpful

At least 6 pieces Suggest no more than 8

- They should *clearly* show how you meet/are working towards the 4 core functions
- Use the terminology of the functions where possible
- Ensure evidence shows which function(s) it shows you meet

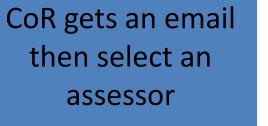
What to include

- Clinical expertise
 - Scope of practice
 - Job description/job plan
- Teaching/education
 - Mentoring junior staff
 - Link with HEI
 - Teaching other professionals
 - Writing for journals
 - SIG active member

- Leadership
 - SIG active member
 - Lead for expert area
 - Policy support/development
- Research/audit/ service development
 - Own practice audits
 - Service audits
 - Literature reviews leading to change of practice
 - Writing for professional journals



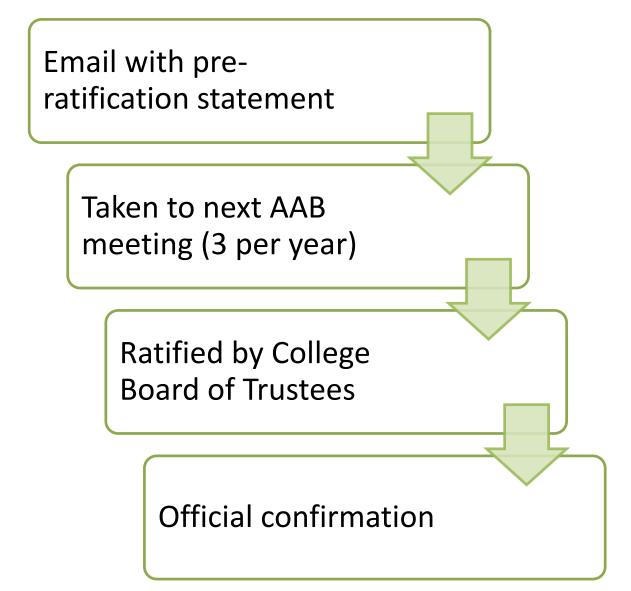
- Attestors get sent a link to your application
- This *isn't* a reference
- Both have to approve your application before it can progress





- A peer/recognised expert reviews the application
- Assessor only sees your application, not whole portfolio
- Approve or defer
- Feedback

Successful application - The CoR process



Hints and tips for a successful submission

- Proof read your submission
- Think about confidentiality
- Write clearly and concisely
- You at the centre of the application
- Be clear which evidence relates to which core function(s)
- Sell yourself! If it isn't in the application the assessor won't know you do it.

Summary

- The ECF will help applicants to meet the 4 core functions of higher level practice.
- Accreditation provides evidence that relevant practitioners meet professional body standards.
- Accreditation gives the public and colleagues confidence in your abilities.
- Accreditation may seem difficult it isn't.
- Planning is important check out CPD Now.

The future

- Mandatory to access PII?
- Employer requires accreditation for assurance otherwise won't sign off to practice?
- Link CoR accreditation to pay point?
- Supports innovative practice and professional development?
- ????

Thoughts?

- What works now?
- What could be better?
- What support do you need?
- How do you see the future?

• Questions?