

## Introduction letter: COVID self-certification document

The purpose of this document is to highlight and acknowledge additional skills that health professionals gained or contributed during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes (but is not exclusive to) those who have provided patient care beyond the scope of their usual training curriculum in any of the following areas:

- care of COVID-19 positive patients (any setting including general medical wards)
- acute medical admission unit or acute respiratory admission unit
- palliative care
- high dependency unit (medical or surgical)
- critical care/intensive care unit: (the FICM self-certification 'skills passport' may be used instead for those who gained extensive procedural skills in critical care)
- redeployment outside usual area of clinical practice
- significant change in usual way of working even if not re-deployed
- contributions or other skills acquired during shielding i.e. virtual consultations

This document can be used by **any health professional (medical or non-medical)**. Transferable capabilities acquired can be categorised according to domains of the General Medical Council (GMC) Generic Professional Capabilities or other relevant professional code of conduct such as the nursing and midwifery council (NMC) code or the 4 Allied Health Professional (AHP) pillars.

An account of the skills and experiences gained can be summarised in the attached document which can be uploaded (PDF format) into the e-Portfolio and used to cross-reference curriculum competencies. This document is not a requirement for Annual Review of Competency Progression (ARCP) or other appraisal process but may be considered as additional evidence. The final decision rests with the appropriate professional body or training scheme.

The completed form can be emailed to **any consultant, nurse in charge, senior AHP or line manager** for verification; ideally one with whom the health professional has worked closely with during the pandemic. Alternatively, the document can be verified by the usual clinical/educational supervisor. **Electronic signatures are encouraged to minimise administrative burden of printing and scanning.**

In addition to completing this self-certificate, health professionals are strongly encouraged to write a reflection on their experience. The self-certification process is **completely optional**. Some health professionals may prefer to document their experiences of working during the pandemic by the following alternative means:

- a) usual e-portfolio work-place based assessment (WBPA) processes
- b) writing a summary reflective piece on their e-portfolio
- c) scheduled clinical or educational supervisor meetings/appraisals.

Please note: this self-certificate does not replace the need to evidence procedural competence by direct observation of procedural skills (DOPs) and should not be interpreted as evidence of independent practice or clinical competence.

**We would appreciate your feedback **AFTER** you have completed the self-certification process. Please click on this link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TBN3SCM> or copy and paste into your browser to complete the survey. The survey will remain open for a few months.**

Thank you.