

December 2010

Dear Colleague

The Faculty is offering an amnesty to achieving a Diploma and Letters of Competence until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2011.

Diploma of Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (DFSRH)  
Letter of Competence in sub dermal implants (LoC SDI)  
Letter of Competence in intrauterine techniques (LoC IUT)

The Faculty is involved in setting educational standards in education and service delivery. There is concern that many established practitioners with experience are practising in the field of contraception and sexual health but unable to achieve a letter of competence to address commissioning needs because they did not update their original JCC or revalidate their Diploma (DFFP or DFSRH). The old qualifications are the JCC (Joint Committee on Contraception and DFFP (Diploma of the Faculty of Family Planning) - see flow chart enclosed.

Commissioners are asking for a Letter of Competence in sub dermal implants or intrauterine techniques (LoC SDI or LoC IUT) to ensure service standards-these are not attainable without a Diploma. This has implications for the workforce and the services offered to women nationally.

#### Diploma of the Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Healthcare (DFSRH)

Experienced practitioners who are currently involved in delivering contraceptive and sexual healthcare and who in the past have held one of the above qualifications (DFSRH/DFFP or JCC) can apply for a Diploma if they can fulfil the following

1. Involved in delivering sexual and reproductive healthcare but did not certify older qualifications - JCC/DFFP/DFSRH.
2. Have completed 15 hr of relevant CPD in the last 5 years (this includes attending meetings, discussions, reading, auditing etc).
3. The above to include having completed module 8 (contraceptive methods) of the e-SRH programme on the e- Learning for Healthcare website\*. This is free to all who work in NHS and represents 1-2 hours of updating - see below.

#### Letters of Competence in intrauterine techniques (LoC IUT) sub dermal implants (LoC SDI)

Under this amnesty the LoC IUT allows for experienced fitters to 'fast track'. To apply one is required to

1. Have the Diploma-see above.
2. Self certify to fitting at least 12 devices per year and to be auditing results.
3. Have 2 fittings observed (by a Faculty Registered Trainer or a GP trainer who holds a LoC IUT).

4. Have completed module 18 of the e-SRH on e-Learning for Healthcare website\*-see below.

LoC SDI – The amnesty extends to those who have undertaken a non LoC training programme because they did not hold DFSRH at time of training. To apply one is required to

1. Have the Diploma –see above.
2. Provide details of the training in sub dermal techniques and if over 5 years ago to have also completed module 17 on e-Learning for Healthcare\* website – see below. Also to have taken part in Nexplanon updating.
3. Self certify that one is performing 6 procedures per year (at least one being a removal and one an insertion).

Application forms can be downloaded from the Faculty website. To remain valid these qualifications must be recertified every five years.

The Faculty is currently working with the RCGP to ensure that there is no duplication of qualifications. There are some individuals who are members of both education establishments and there has been commitment to looking at fees in the New Year. There is also commitment to look at improving numbers of available trainers in LARC methods.

The Faculty is a non profit making charitable establishment and has just achieved speciality status. Its membership is medical and multi-specialist. It aims is to set standards in education and training as well as service provision. In addition to supplying members with a journal four times per year, up dated information and advice is available via the website. This includes maintaining the UKMEC, service standard documents, new product reviews, method reviews, a member's clinical advice service and details of education events.

As this represents an amnesty please ensure appropriate colleagues are aware. Details of the process are shown in the enclosed flow chart.

\*e-Learning for Healthcare - This web site is free to all those working for the NHS It can be accessed using one's GMC number.

<http://www.e-lfh.org.uk/projects/e-srh/index.html> or  
<http://registration.e-lfh.org.uk/UserRegistration/RegistrationForm.aspx?pid=18>

Then access the e-SRH package (sexual and reproductive healthcare).

Module 8 is based on all methods and required for the Diploma under this amnesty.

Module 17 is the sub dermal implant module required under this amnesty for LoC SDI for those whose implant training is over 5 years old.

Module 18 is the intra uterine technique module required under this amnesty for LoC IUT.

Yours faithfully



Dr Amanda Britton FFSRH MRCGP

Honorary Secretary

Email: [Diana@fsrh.org](mailto:Diana@fsrh.org)

Tel: 0207 724 8169

Appendix A – Flow chart

**Amnesty until 31 July 2011**

