



Enquiries to: Dr Dichelle Wong
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Dear Applicant,

DESIGNATED MEDICAL PRACTITIONER (DMP) AND SECOND OPINION WORK FOR THE MENTAL WELFARE COMMISSION for Scotland (MWC)

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Designated Medical Practitioner/ second opinion doctor.

The MWC has responsibility for making arrangements for second opinions under both the Mental Health (Care & Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 and the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000. Doctors fulfilling the role under the Mental Health Act are known as DMPs.

DMP/second opinion doctors usually find the work rewarding, interesting and fulfilling. It provides the opportunity to visit services in other parts of Scotland, to learn from the practice of colleagues and share good practice and your experience. It is meaningful work to protect and safeguard the patients' rights.

In order to be eligible to become a DMP/second opinion doctor, consultant psychiatrists* need to meet the following criteria:

- possess MRCPsych or an equivalent qualification;
- be a Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 Section 22 Approved Medical Practitioner (AMP), registered with a health board and be on the local NHS list of approved medical practitioners;
- have at least three years of clinical experience in using the Mental Health Act as an Approved Medical Practitioner in Scotland (includes the experience gained during higher resident doctor training in Scotland);
- have full GMC registration and licence to practice for the duration of DMP work;
- demonstrate evidence of regular appraisals;
- be connected to a designated body and have a responsible officer;

- be in a CPD peer group and meet good standing of at least 50 hours of CPD per year;
- have a valid Disclosure Scotland Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) certificate for adults (and children, if you plan to do DMP assessments for children in future after a successful application).

*We also welcome applicants who are locum consultant psychiatrists or experienced non-consultant grade psychiatrists (including Specialty and Associate Specialist Doctors) who meet the above requirements and who are used to working autonomously including prescribing and making treatment plans without the need for supervision. Psychiatry higher resident doctors to please consider applying to become a DMP after they gain their Certificate of Completion of Training if they meet the above eligibility criteria. We may discuss the application with prospective applicants as part of the application process. DMPs will need to be able to discuss treatment plans with Responsible Medical Officers and be ready to challenge the plans if necessary. DMPs will need to have their own professional indemnity for DMP work.

Unless you are retired, the appropriate manager in your employing organisation should be informed of your intention to take up this work.

We ask applicants to provide us with a brief CV and the names and addresses of two professional referees, one should be a current medical manager or Medical Director who can confirm that you are in good standing and have participated in the appraisal process. The other referee should be a Consultant Psychiatrist who can comment on your skills to be a Designated Medical Practitioner/ second opinion doctor.

After we accept an application, we will invite applicants to attend a DMP induction seminar. You will require category 2 professional indemnity to cover the work as it is not provided by the MWC. (Please refer to the separate letter about indemnity.)

We will invite all DMPs to attend our annual seminar for DMP/second opinion doctors as ongoing professional development. We ask DMPs to keep their own CPD up to date, preferably with the Royal College of Psychiatrists. The DMP induction sessions are also open to DMPs/ second opinion doctors as refresher sessions. DMP training events may be counted for CPD points subject to CPD peer group approval.

We are currently offering a fee of £228.97 per assessment plus mileage. DMPs can claim a double fee if an assessment takes longer than 4 hours (includes consulting the patient and relevant people, travel time and time to complete the forms), or if they need to travel over 150 miles round trip.

If you would like to proceed with the DMP application, please complete the application form and send that to me by email together with your CV, the contact details of two referees, a copy of your current Royal College of Psychiatrists CPD certificate of good standing (or equivalent) and the completed indemnity form (on page 2 of the indemnity letter).

Please feel free to contact me at dichelle.wong@nhs.scot if you have further questions about the DMP application or DMP work.

We look forward to hearing from you and thank you for your interest in DMP/ second opinion doctor work.

Yours sincerely,

Dichelle

DR DICHELLE WONG

Consultant Psychiatrist for Safeguarded Treatments