

CLINICAL INSIGHT: The MSK Credential

CLINICAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES TEAM

In this article, the team explores what the MSK Credential is and what it means for clinicians.

Advanced practice is developing and in MSK the advanced practice standards have already [been published](#). This has led to NHSE Workforce and Education setting out the MSK credential requirements.

The term credential is used to describe standardised, structured units of assessed learning that are designed to develop advanced-level practice capability in a particular area such as MSK.

Credential Specifications

[Credential specifications](#) are intended for delivery by education providers and are not intended to support self-directed or informal workplace-based learning.

As education providers develop their MSK courses, we will see a standardised approach to the education of MSK advanced practice.

Why is this Important?

It's important because the development of practice is now really gaining a meaningful currency.

Over many years we compared CVs, how many courses clinicians had attended, or even Masters programmes, but now in England the standardisation will give far more assurance and a clear direction of travel for those clinicians wishing to develop to that level.

Capabilities to Aim For

As clinicians embarking on a career will now experience, the capabilities are now there to aim for, and this allows for the meaningful use of the information that is available and clarity of what that should look like via the standards for practice, and credential for education providers.

The frustration so many of us who have been in practice for a good many years have felt with regard to not being able to benchmark competency is now starting to be managed successfully.

Many clinicians will feel relieved to have externally-validated competencies that are national and not local. This has to be the way forward at all stages of clinical careers.

This with the MSK FCP RoadMap is a further big step for MSK practice within England in terms of quality assurance, and a great opportunity for so many new clinicians to aim for in their journeys.



AECC University College

Clinical
& Rehabilitation
Services