

Supplementary Evidence by the MHRA

1. The Care Quality Commission will take over from the Commission for Social Care Inspection, the Healthcare Commission, and the Mental Health Act Commission on 1 April 2009. From April 2010 the new Commission will move to a new registration framework for all providers of regulated health and adult social care.
2. One of the key changes to the system will be that the requirement to register with the new Commission will be based on the kind of activity being provided (eg personal care, surgery, mental health care), rather than the organisation or setting that it is provided in (eg care home or hospital). That will mean that patients and users of services will have the same level of assurance of the quality and safety of their care and treatment, no matter who is providing it.
3. Our intention is that the future regulation framework will be proportionate to risk. In terms of the scope of regulation (ie which activities will require providers to register with the new Commission before they can provide them), this means we need to decide which activities entail risk to such an extent that they should be included within registration (and which should be excluded from registration).
4. The Department carried out a twelve-week public consultation on the new framework over the summer. The consultation included proposals on the scope of registration. The consultation closed on 17 June, but you can still read the consultation document (*A consultation on the framework for the registration of health and adult social care providers*) on the Department of Health website at:

www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Closedconsultations/DH_083625
5. We are currently considering the responses and will publish the Government's response to the consultation in due course. At the same time, we are developing a more robust risk assessment methodology. These different work streams will come together to inform a set of draft regulations, which we will consult on in the new year, before setting them in Secondary Legislation.

Proposals for services to be covered by regulated activities

1. The following tables contain the proposals we published in the consultation document earlier in the year, for the scope of the Care Quality Commission's future registration system, related to this policy area.

Proposed regulated activity name: Diagnostic services
Activity topic description: Intensive or invasive diagnostic procedures or laboratory diagnostics.

Examples of care we propose would need to be registered with CQC

- Diagnostic imaging services (excluding dental services – separate activity) including forms of endoscopy, X-ray, MRI, CT scanning, nuclear medicine, ultrasound, fluoroscopy and interventional radiology - to include both undertaking the procedure and reporting on images.
- Diagnostic laboratory services for example pathology, histopathology, cytology.

Care not proposed for CQC regulation as overseen by other regulatory systems:

- Non-invasive or simple diagnostics for example sight tests, blood pressure checks and 'pin-prick' blood tests (covered by professional regulation).