



Recognising Quality Respiratory Care in Practice

An introduction



The Primary Care Respiratory Society UK (PCRS-UK) is grateful to Allen & Hanburys (the respiratory specialist division of GlaxoSmithKline), AstraZeneca UK Ltd, Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd/Pfizer Ltd, Chiesi Ltd, MSD UK, Napp Pharmaceuticals and Teva UK Ltd for the provision of educational grants to establish the development of the PCRS-UK Quality Award and its resources.

The PCRS-UK wishes to acknowledge the ongoing support of Allen & Hanburys (the respiratory specialist division of GlaxoSmithKline), AstraZeneca UK Ltd, Boehringer Ingelheim Ltd/Pfizer Ltd, Chiesi Ltd, Napp Pharmaceuticals and Teva UK Ltd in the continued development of this programme in 2012.

What is the PCRS-UK Quality Award?

The PCRS-UK Quality Award, developed in conjunction with the British Thoracic Society, Royal College of General Practitioners, Association of Respiratory Nurse Specialists, Asthma UK, British Lung Foundation, Education for Health and Respiratory Education UK, sets out the standards that best define high quality respiratory care in primary care, providing:

- Recognition of practices that deliver a high standard of respiratory care – serving as a quality assurance mark not only for patients but also commissioning groups and the wider NHS.
- A developmental framework that can be used at practice, locality and national level to promote, support and reward quality respiratory care in the primary care setting.

The Award, which focuses primarily on asthma and COPD as the most common chronic respiratory conditions managed in primary care, is awarded to successful participants following independent assessment of multiple examples of evidence and is valid for three years from the date of assessment.

- ✓ **'Achievable but stretching'** – any well organised practice, regardless of size or practice population should be capable of providing the range of services required, and submitting the necessary evidence.
- ✓ **Helps you to achieve your targets** – Links to and/or compliments existing national quality standards (including QoF), national guidelines for respiratory care and is compatible with national strategies and policies.
- ✓ **3 year award** – setting your practice apart: certificate for display in the practice and option to include the PCRS-UK Quality award logo on your practice materials.

In order to participate in this Award process, practices must be members of the PCRS-UK via the practice membership scheme – see <http://www.pcrs-uk.org/practice/>.

What is involved?

The award consists of 7 standards organised in 3 modules

- Clinical
- Organisational
- Practice team

For details of the standards please visit https://www.pcrs-uk.org/quality_award/standards.php

In order to apply for the award practices are required to submit evidence to PCRS-UK that they are achieving each of the 7 standards. In all 37 pieces of evidence are required, all which are well recognised forms including audit, case studies, significant event analysis, protocols and surveys. Much of the evidence you need may already be existence in your practice already.

An important development opportunity for the whole practice

The experience of practices taking part in the first pilot phase of the award was that it provided an excellent development opportunity for the whole practices and led to improvements in care.

“ It has given us the opportunity to take time to really look at our respiratory service in detail - and we're doing a good job ”

Carol Stonham,
Gloucestershire.

“ ...It was a motivating process and helped engage the whole team...”

Noel Baxter GP, London

I'm interested – what happens next?

Register your interest (visit http://www.pcrs-uk.org/quality_award/register.php) and we will send you a 'Getting Started' guide which explains exactly what evidence you will need to submit to achieve the award and takes you through step by step how to prepare to apply for the award.

Some practices that already undertake full audits (including reflection and implementation of changes) and have protocols and relevant processes in place will already be working at a standard such that they are ready to apply for the award straight away. Once you apply for the award you will have 6 months to collate and submit the necessary evidence.

For other practices, more preparation will be needed reviewing practice and implementing changes to meet the required standards. There is no limit on how long you can take to prepare for the award before you decide to apply. The work done before you apply will help ensure that you can meet the 6 month timeline to collate and submit all the necessary evidence once you have applied.

The evidence you submit will be reviewed by a team of trained PCRS-UK assessors and you will be notified of the outcome within 3 months of submission.

What support is available?

The PCRS-UK is committed to trying to ensure that all participating practices achieve the Award. In addition to providing you with the 'Getting Started' guide, once you have registered your interest you will receive regular emails offering tips and advice for participating practices.

In addition, **Tricia Bryant, the Award Manager** is available on **01461 600639** or email **tricia@pcrs-uk.org** to answer any queries you may have.

The Primary Care Respiratory Society, formerly known as the General Practice Airways Group, is a registered charity (Charity No: 1098117) and a company limited by guarantee registered in England (Company No: 4298947)

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