**Implementation of NMC (2018) standards for student supervision and assessment.**

**For pre-registration Midwifery programs from September 2020**

**Overview**

Almost all NMC Nursing and Nurse Associate programmes will move to the new NMC (2018) standards for the supervision and assessment (SSSA) of students from September 2019. Although the new NMC standards for midwifery education and proficiencies are not yet published some Trusts and Universities will move to the new standards for assessment in September 2019 for both nurses and midwives. Some Trusts and Universities will remain with the current standards of assessment until September 2020 for Midwives. Check with your HEI or PEF lead to confirm changes.

**Who does this apply to?**

Your Practice Education Facilitators and HEI representative will give you correct information for when nursing programmes will move onto the new standards for assessment. All Midwifery programs will have the new programme standards for education in place by September 2021 but your Trust may have changed to the new NMC standards for student supervision & assessment in practice before this date.

**What will this mean in practice?**

NMC 2018 standards separate out the supervision of students and the assessment of students. This means that students will be allocated practice supervisors AND a practice assessor in placement. They will work closely with the student and both liaise with academic assessor from the University.

**Will practice supervisors be the current mentors?**

Practice Supervisors will be any midwife who is suitably prepared, a self- assessment form is available on Pare to support the registrants development, and they are a registered professional. There are now opportunities for more professionals to be involved in supervising students, which fits with the way services are delivered with health and social care integration. What is new is that all students can be supervised in practice by NMC registered nurses, midwives, nursing associates or other registered health and social care professionals. This means that a physiotherapist or social worker could be a supervisor where appropriate. The NMC expect that all registered nurses, midwives and nursing associates are capable of supervising students. This will be part of the pre-registration programs. Practice supervisors will communicate closely with practice assessors and record the progress of student midwives to help the practice assessor make decisions on the student’s progress. All midwifery and nursing staff are expected to undertake some preparation to become a practice supervisor.

**Will Practice Assessors be the current mentors?**

It is likely that midwifery mentors will become practice assessors in the early transition from current to new standards as this will help maintain the assessment process for our current students to continue before the new curriculums are implemented. Midwives who do not have a mentor qualification will need to complete appropriate training or preparation to become a practice assessor, the self0assessment form on Pare will support this.

**Will practice assessors be the current sign-off mentors?**

The role is different to the current sign-off mentor role, but most mentors are likely to have the relevant prior learning and experience to enable them to meet the new NMC standards for practice assessor. For pre-registration midwifery and RTP the practice assessor must be a registered midwife with the appropriate equivalent experience.

**Will mentors have to do another course to be a practice supervisor or practice assessor?**

No, but it is likely that some updating may be required to meet the new standards. All practice supervisors and assessors must be able to demonstrate they can meet the required outcomes for the role, and the focus has shifted from attending courses to demonstrating they can meet the outcomes on a continual basis. A self-declaration form will be used, and upskilling available via a range of methods. All practice supervisors and assessors will require to be updated about the new standards and approach for supervising and assessing students.

**How will the assessment of practice work?**

The practice assessor will obtain feedback from practice supervisors and service users/carers, and in addition must observe the student in order to provide evidence for the assessment decision. The practice assessor works closely with the academic assessor based in the University, and who ensures that the assessment decision is evidence based and objective. Some of this collaboration may be via PARE.

**For more details on the NMC standards see:** [**https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards-for-education-and-training/standards-for-student-supervision-and-assessment/**](https://www.nmc.org.uk/standards-for-education-and-training/standards-for-student-supervision-and-assessment/) **Version 1.1 April 2019**