

# RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & PIONEERS-BULLETIN

## No.2

### *UKRF RDP Workgroup update:*

#### *Achievements to date and aims for the next quarter.*

Since the establishment of the RDP in May 2004, the workgroup co-ordinators have identified the route map the workgroup will need to follow in order to satisfactorily gain recognition by the mainstream healthcare profession.

If we as Reiki practitioners wish to be accepted within the NHS and Primary Care Trusts, the following criteria must be established prior to acceptance:

1. A clearly structured research framework producing quality medical research the profession can both recognise and validate the efficacy of Reiki, irrespective of personal belief and experiences with Reiki.
2. In order to achieve the above, Reiki practitioners themselves need to be able to evidence clearly defined professional standards. This will be achieved by certification acceptable within the framework of clinical governance and have the following objectives:
  - By achieving mutually agreed minimum standards, the requirements with regard to the integration of clinical governance within complementary and alternative medicine will be met.
  - By establishing a mutually agreed frame of reference, the practice of Reiki within the medical paradigm can be accepted for what it can achieve without false claims or unprofessional conduct.
  - By working within a common framework, together we can address concerns within the mainstream medical profession about the perceived lack of professional standards.
  - Once commonality is established, it will be much easier to gain acceptance and support of a mutually research methodology to further support the efficacy and efficiency of Reiki as a healing modality.
3. Once the above aims and objectives have been agreed, the framework for a certified training course in relation to Reiki and clinical governance will have been established. To achieve this framework, the RDP workgroup will seek the advice of academic and medical professionals and suitably qualified members of the UKRF (nurses, doctors, academics and other suitably qualified healthcare professionals)

#### Actions:

Establish RDP presence on the UKRF website providing outlines of best practice in different fields as previously defined in RDP bulletin 1.

- Establish ground rules of purpose and capabilities of the RDP workgroup to manage expectations.
- Produce existing research documentation and links to existing appropriate Reiki research websites and recommend related literature.

**Example of Honorary Contract submitted by a member for a voluntary or paid position (Used in NHS trust for post of Volunteer Holistic Therapist)**

- The purpose of this post is to enable you to assist with patients on a voluntary basis as a holistic therapist at ..... NHS Trust.
- Your line manager will be .....(person, name and role) at .....(hospital or hospice) and you will be responsible to .....(person's name and role).
- The appointment is subject to termination at any time by a minimum period of four week's notice on either side.
- The appointment will be subject to the Trust's terms and conditions of service in so far as they are applicable to honorary staff. In order to ensure clarity the main points are contained below:

Your hours of work will be as stated in your timetable as laid down by the line manager.

There will be no payment made to you by .....NHS Trust and you do not have any entitlements to holidays, sickness payments or maternity leave payments.

You are required to maintain your professional accountability and adhere to the codes and rules of conduct of your profession (if you are a member of the UKRF you will have signed their Codes of Conduct), ensuring any statutory requirements for registration are maintained (UKRF membership fees and a recognised insurance provider).

You are required to maintain the strictest level of confidentiality at all times. Any matters of a confidential nature should not be divulged or passed on to an unauthorised person or third party under any circumstances except in the proper course of your employment or as required by the law, or by the ....NHS Trust.

This may include clinical information relating to the treatment and care of patients, personal information relating to employees' confidential records or other commercial and business information.

Should you have any grievance relating to your employment you are entitled to discuss the matter in the first instance with myself to whom you are responsible. Should you wish to view any policy of the Trust these are available in the .....

The Trust does not accept responsibility for your personal belongings which are lost or damaged at work by fire, theft, burglary or otherwise.

- You will also be required to satisfy the Trust's Occupational Health consultant that you are fit to undertake the post. An appointment will be arranged during the first week of your placement.
- If you agree to accept this appointment with the terms specified above, please sign the form of acceptance below. A second copy of this letter is attached and should be retained by you for your future reference.

Yours sincerely

.....(line manager,location)

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I hereby accept the offer of an Honorary Contract for the post of **Volunteer Holistic Therapist** subject to the terms and conditions as laid out in the foregoing letter.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

This offer and acceptance of it shall constitute a contract between the parties. The UKRF does not accept the implementation of the contract.

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*Caroline Anson and Robert Jefford.  
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