



Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine

Role of the Clinical Validator for the LFFLM

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The medico-legal guidelines and recommendations published by the Faculty are for general information only. Appropriate specific advice should be sought from your medical defence organisation or professional association. The Faculty has one or more senior representatives of the MDOs on its Board, but for the avoidance of doubt, endorsement of the medico-legal guidelines or recommendations published by the Faculty has not been sought from any of the medical defence organisations.

Introduction

It is essential to have competent healthcare professionals to provide safe care for patients whether they are detainees in police custody or complainants/complainers of assault. There should be equivalence of healthcare and confidentiality in the custodial setting as compared to that enjoyed by patients in the outside community. The FFLM have produced Quality Standards in response to recognition by the Home Office that the FFLM is responsible for the standards to be expected from all healthcare professionals involved in custody healthcare and forensic examinations: *Quality Standards in Forensic Medicine* and *Quality Standards for Nurses and Paramedics in Forensic Medicine (GFM)*.

The FFLM examinations LFFLM GFM and/or SOM require candidates to identify and obtain the cooperation of a personal clinical validator (CV) to assist in fulfilling the requirements for the Part 2 examination.

The role of the clinical validator, who is usually a more experienced colleague and should be not be a current candidate in the LFFLM, is purely to certify the candidate's satisfactory completion of the tasks set out in the Compendium of Validated Evidence (COVE). A person specification is outlined below. The document allows for feedback to assist the candidate in the successful completion of the tasks. It is the candidate's responsibility to identify and obtain the cooperation of clinical validators.

Validators must not sign off a competency until they are sure that the standard required has been reached. They may find it helpful to indicate in the performance feedback section those components which they feel are requirements before a signature can be given.

For those candidates who meet the requirements, validators are encouraged to comment about how they met the standard and may wish to make recommendations for further improvement or commendations where exceptional skill has been demonstrated. These comments assist the Educational Supervisor who certifies the COVE and the examiner who assesses the COVE.

Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	Primary clinical qualification and full registration with the: GMC or NMC or HCPC, as appropriate for at least 5 years	Postgraduate qualification in education
	Holds LFFLM or Postgraduate Certificate – Advanced Forensic Practice (Sexual Assault and/or Custody)	MFFLM
Knowledge and Skills	Trained in: Equality and Diversity (updated every 3 years) Assessment methods (see the Educator Hub on E-learning for Healthcare (e-LfH), https://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/educator-hub) Training and experience as a clinical trainer/supervisor and/or educational supervisor Commitment to training and education and maintaining Quality Standards (FFLM) Effective communication skills and trained in giving feedback, supporting development of trainees and colleagues At least 2 years' experience (or full time equivalent) and current practice in sexual offence medicine and/or general forensic medicine	