

Covid-19 and QNOAMHS FAQ

When will QNOAMHS visits take place again?

The Royal College of Psychiatrists has cancelled all assessments and reviews until at least 31st August 2020. This is to ensure we can provide more certainty to our members and reduce the pressure of completing self-reviews and surveys at a time when capacity may be limited.

Can I book a visit for September?

We hope to be able to hold visits in September, but we cannot be sure yet. We cannot schedule new visits in at the moment, but we will get in touch as soon as we are able to.

Could visits be held remotely?

Over the next few months, we will be considering whether any parts of the visit could be held remotely. If we can establish an adequate way of conducting parts visits remotely this might mean that we can start to offer visits again. We will let you know if this becomes a possibility, but for the moment we are not able to do so.

What is happening to accreditation committees?

Our accreditation committees are still scheduled to go ahead. They will be happening remotely. If you are required to provide evidence at our upcoming committee, and feel you need extra time as a result of Covid-19, please contact the Project Team, as there is College guidance in place to support services on a case-by-case basis.

How can I familiarise myself with the 5th Edition Standards in the meantime?

As a network we would strongly encourage you to circulate our current standards to all staff, as these will be used when your service is due a visit. In addition, we have created an excel version of the workbook that we would ask services to complete should they want to know what a self-review process is like. We have made this available for all services.

Our accreditation is due to expire before 31st August, what should I do?

If your award is due to expire before 31st August 2020, we will extend your award by 6 months, as long as you are still a paid QNOAMHS member. We will check your most recent regulator's report for any concerns before we extend your award.

Our Interim report is due before 31st August, what should I do?

You will still need to complete your interim reports, but we realise some parts of the report will be difficult under the current situation. If you have trouble completing your report to the original deadline we can offer an extension, just let us know.

Will my QNOAMHS membership run out?

If your membership is due to expire, we will be in contact as usual in order to renew it, and where applicable, to ensure your accreditation status is continued. We are offering alternative services to members, including reflective spaces, best practice sharing, access to a Knowledge Hub, and a range of virtual events such as Peer Reviewer training, Webinars, and Special Interest Days.

Are the QNOAMHS Project team still at work?

Yes, we are lucky to be able to work from home, and so the team is still working hard behind the scenes for you, delivering as much of our service online as possible. The best way to contact us is by emailing us at Fatima.rahman-ali@rcpsych.ac.uk and Robert.low@rcpsych.ac.uk

I have other questions which are not answered here, who can I get in touch with?

Email us and we will be pleased to help.