GENERAL ADVICE TO DOCTORS APPLYING FOR FELLOWSHIP OF THE RCGP

I believe there are many GPs throughout the UK who deserve to be awarded a Fellowship of the Royal College of General Practitioners but are too humble and modest to apply.

You will need to write a 1000 word statement which outlines your key career achievements in relation to the criteria for Fellowship. The statement should be written in a reflective manner and not just bulleted lists or a copy of your CV. You should outline what you have done and maybe comment on what you have learned from your roles.

There are six potential areas in which you could provide evidence of suitability to become a Fellow. You do not have to have evidence in all of the areas.

1 - Clinical Practice - You will need to as part of your nomination to include copies of the summary, personal development plans and sign off appraisals of the last 3 years along with evidence you have acted on significant clinical points identified in the appraisals. Can you demonstrate you provide safe personal medical care to a good standard? How do you try to ensure you are providing good care to your patients?

2 - Patient-Centred Practice - Can you provide an example of where you have brought about practical changes as a result of patient suggestions? Are you involved in a patient participation group? What are the ways you learn from patient feedback?

3 – Leadership - Can you provide an example of where you have led at your practice or other levels to improve quality of general practice? Can you give examples of where you have brought about change which helped patients?

4 – Teaching and Education - Are you a GP Appraiser or GP Trainer? Do you have a post graduate education qualification? Do you carry out undergraduate or postgraduate teaching? Why do you teach or appraise?

5 – Innovation and Creativity - Can you provide an example of where you have changed clinical care or applied best practice to improve the quality of care provided? Can you provide an example of an idea you have implemented which has brought about improvements? Can you provide an example where you have brought about better teamwork?

6 – Academic and Research - Can you provide example of any research you have done?

General comments

Can you give examples where you exemplify the motto of the RCGP which means compassion empowered with knowledge?

Are there examples of other things you have done which have benefited patients and the public?

Please apply – your hard work and contribution to general practice deserves to be recognised.

See the RCGP website for more complete and detailed advice http://www.rcgp.org.uk/fellowship

Dr Sunil Gupta - 12th November 2013