**Imperial AHSC/CATO certification of clinicians undertaking research-based attachments at Imperial AHSC linked institutions**

**Context**

Clinicians often join Imperial College linked groups to learn research (and clinical skills), which they use to enhance their own work on returning home. The Imperial Clinical Academic Training Office (CATO) supports such activity and provides a mechanism for certification of attendance at such training, in relation to research or clinical research skills (and not purely clinical skills).

**Eligibility criteria**

* The certification is open only to: Departments or research groups working within the Imperial College Academic Health Science Centre partnership: Imperial College London, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust, Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Trust, Royal Marsden NHS Trust, Institute of Cancer Research and Chelsea and Westminster NHS Trust
* Departments can apply to CATO for certification if they demonstrate the appropriate learning outcomes and oversight of such training
* Certificates of completion of training in xxx (as defined by a specific research group) will be issued by the Imperial College Academic Health Science Centre (not Imperial College London), will not count as credit towards a formal University course, but can be used as evidence of research skills acquired, during appraisal, performance review, revalidation and personal development, and to demonstrate completion of a specific attachment within the AHSC
* Certification is available to clinicians from medicine and ‘non-medical\*’ clinical professions (\*NMAHPPs, Nurses, Midwives, Allied Health Professions, Healthcare Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists)
* Certification is available only to clinicians at Graduate level and above
* Applications for certification, if approved by CATO, will be valid for 3 years
* Completed FORM Bs will not be considered without a FORM A having been submitted and approved in advance of the proposed attachment

**Process**

* The host group/department applies to CATO using application FORM A prior to the start of the attachment. In the form they provide brief details of the nominated clinician undertaking the attachment, training being offered and formal learning outcomes
* One FORM A should be completed for each individual proposed applicant
* CATO considers the contents of FORM A and agrees training/attachment for certification
* Each individual/approved applicant applies for certification at the end of their attachment using a separate form, FORM B, countersigned by supervisor/Head of Department

* CATO issues certificate if appropriate, queries to be dealt with by Director of CATO.