Protected time for study needed

As soon as revalidation went live last month the Nursing and Midwifery Council hailed its launch a success and nurses reported finding the new process straightforward to complete.

But a survey by RCNi, Nursing Management’s parent company, revealed that many nurses are concerned they cannot revalidate because of lack of time to fulfil continuing professional development (CPD) requirements (analysis, page 8). It found that time constraints, inadequate backfill and resistance from line managers were primarily to blame.

In response, we have launched a campaign calling for employers to guarantee protected time for their staff to carry out CPD.

The #1hour2empower campaign urges employers to ensure their nurses complete the equivalent of one hour of training each month to meet the minimum 35 hours in three years required by the NMC for revalidation.

You can sign up to the campaign at rcni.com/newsroom/campaigns/1hour2empower and join the debate on Twitter using #1hour2empower.

Signing up and encouraging your employer to do the same will show solidarity with your staff, with the aim of making it easier for all nurses, including yourselves, to collect CPD hours.

Encouragingly, nurses have finally been promised much-needed support in the controversial area of whistleblowing (analysis, p11).

A national policy vows to offer full protection to any NHS member of staff who raises concerns about care in a bid to change the culture to one of transparency and improvement.

It sets out clear steps for nurses and other healthcare professionals to follow when faced with the dilemma of how and where to report poor practice or care.

This month will see the launch of NHS England’s new nursing strategy, Leading Change, Adding Value (news, page 6). Let’s hope this further empowers nurses to provide the high standards of care they want to deliver.

Our mission

Nursing Management inspires and shares professional excellence in nursing leadership and patient care. The journal is editorially independent and opinions expressed in it do not necessarily reflect the policy of the RCN, nor that of any contributor’s employing organisation, unless specifically stated.