Brief Summary of Peer Appraisal by the Faculty for Homeless and Inclusion Health

The Faculty for Homeless and Inclusion Health is a network of front line professionals and service users involved in health care for excluded groups. In 2014, with funding from the DH National Inclusion Health Board, they published a Standards document, setting out standards for health care providers and commissioners in a variety of clinical settings and with particular reference to homeless people, Gypsies and Travellers, vulnerable migrants and sex workers. The next step for the Faculty was to support and enable organisations to meet the Standards and to demonstrate that they are doing so, by means of a peer appraisal process.

The process has been piloted in specialist practices providing homeless health care and will be rolled out nationally. Practices complete a self-assessment template against 9 core values of the Standards. This is followed by a peer appraisal visit by a clinician, a service user and a Faculty moderator who rate the practice as “aspiring”, “achieving” or “excellent” against each of the values. Practices receive a detailed report and a certificate confirming that they have been validated against the Faculty Standards. When practices have undergone this process they plan to offer the validation reports to the CQC to contribute to intelligence gathering before an inspection.