The Royal Colleges are committed to enabling healthcare providers to deliver the highest standards of patient care. The delivery of good care is not always straightforward, however, and there are many daily challenges for healthcare professionals and the teams they work in. When a healthcare provider needs an external expert opinion, a Royal College invited review can provide expert independent and objective advice in a confidential report.

We believe that invited reviews offer a highly valuable resource by providing healthcare organisations with independent expert advice through reliable, trustworthy peer review processes. Invited reviews support, but do not replace, existing procedures for managing performance.

The specific type and nature of the invited review services offered vary depending on the Royal College or professional body involved. Please see below for a breakdown of the services that are currently being provided by each College. The three main types of reviews offered amongst the different Royal Colleges are:

**Service Reviews**, which can help explore a range of issues from advice and assurance on matters of service safety and quality to achieving service improvement and best practice in service design. Areas that an invited service review might focus on include:
- Reviewing concerns that have been raised about a service
- Looking into the issues underlying a number of serious untoward incidents or never events
- Analysing a service’s outcome data
- Considering whether a service’s systems and processes are in line with key College and association standards and other nationally published guidance
- Team working, leadership and workforce
- Helping to plan a change to service configuration
- Providing advice on how the delivery of a service could be improved
- Working across a network of services or providers to reconfigure or develop pathways of care.

**Individual Reviews**, which can help healthcare organisations identify whether there is a cause for concern about any aspect of an individual’s practice and provide advice on how any problems identified can be addressed. These reviews can cover a number of different issues, including:
- An individual’s volume and scope of clinical activity
- Their standard of clinical decision making and providing or recommending treatment
- The quality of team working they have demonstrated in their clinical practice
- Their level of engagement with clinical governance systems.

**Clinical Record Reviews**, which provide an independent, expert opinion on the management of one or more episodes of patient care and whether this meets expected standards. These cases could include:
- Those which have been previously identified as potentially being of concern, either by staff or from patient complaints
- A strategic selection of cases, such as all of a service’s recent complications or deaths
- A group of randomly selected cases, designed to give an overall representation of an individual or a service’s scope of practice.
Each invited review is tailored to the specific requirements of the circumstances involved, for example a clinical record review element can be included as part an individual or service review. Terms of reference for a review will be agreed between the referring organisation and the College involved, to ensure the scope of what is to be covered is clear and commonly understood.

The 2016 Academy report *a framework of operating principles for managing invited reviews within in healthcare* sets out the basis for reviews conducted by Royal Colleges.

For more information on services provided please contact the relevant College contact below.

**Royal College of Anaesthetists**
Covers: Structural Reviews, service reviews, other types of reviews will be provided bespoke at the discretion of the Invited Review oversight group.
Contact: Nicola Hancock
0207 092 1571
invitedreviews@rcoa.ac.uk
Web: www.rcoa.ac.uk/art

**Royal College of Emergency Medicine**
Covers: Service reviews
Contact: Sam McIntyre
020 7067 1269
Sam.McIntyre@rcem.ac.uk
Web: www.rcem.ac.uk

**Royal College of General Practitioners**
Covers: No service at present
Contact: Mat Lawson
020 3188 7608
Mat.Lawson@rcgp.org.uk
Web: www.rcgp.org.uk

**Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists**
Covers: Service, individual and case note reviews
Contact: Farrah Pradhan
020 7772 6240
FPradhan@rcog.org.uk

**Royal College of Ophthalmologists**
Covers: Service reviews, case note reviews
Contact: Beth Barnes
020 7935 0702
Beth.Barnes@rcophth.ac.uk
Web: www.rcophth.ac.uk/standards-publications-research/invited-service-reviews

**Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health**
Covers: Individual, service design and case note reviews
Contact: Sue Eardley
020 7092 6091
Invited.reviews@rcpch.ac.uk
Web: www.rcpch.ac.uk/invitedreviews
Royal College of Pathologists
Covers: Individual & service reviews
Contact: Stella Macaskill
020 7451 6736
professionalism@rcpath.org
Web: www.rcpath.org/profession/professional-standards/performance/invited-reviews-service.html

Royal College of Psychiatrists
Covers: Individual, service and case note reviews
Contact: Lucille Shakleton
0203 3701 2583
irs@rcpsych.ac.uk
Web: www.rcpsych.ac.uk/workinpsychiatry/invitedreviewservice.aspx

Royal College of Physicians
Covers: Individual, service design and case note reviews
Contact: Jazz Sidhu
020 3075 2383
ISR@rcplondon.ac.uk
Web: www.rcplondon.ac.uk/invited-service-reviews

Royal College of Radiologists
Covers: Service reviews
Contact: Amanda Jackson
020 7406 5921
amanda_jackson@rcr.ac.uk
Web: www.rcr.ac.uk/clinical-radiology/service-delivery/service-review

Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh
Covers: Individual and Service Reviews
Contact: Amanda Hamilton
0131 527 1642
A.hamilton@rcsed.ac.uk
Web: www.rcsed.ac.uk/the-college/standards-office

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Covers: Individual, service, design and case note reviews.
Contact: Steven Wakeling
020 7869 6222
irm@rcseng.ac.uk
Web: www.rcseng.ac.uk/standards-and-research/support-for-surgeons-and-services/irm/service-reviews/