

## APPENDIX A – SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Since 2011 doctors have been required to demonstrate Maintenance of Professional Competence by enrolling in Professional Competence Schemes and recording their educational activities. This survey is about your attitudes to and experience of participation in Maintenance of Professional Competence. Your responses should relate to your experience in IRELAND ONLY.

Maintenance of Professional Competence	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1. Reassures patients and the public that doctors are fit to practice	1	2	3	4	5
2. Encourages doctors to continually learn and keep up to date	1	2	3	4	5
3. Raises the standard of practice of all doctors	1	2	3	4	5
Participation in Maintenance of Professional Competence	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
4. Encourages me to reflect more on my professional development	1	2	3	4	5
5. Encourages me to participate in more educational activities	1	2	3	4	5
6. Has resulted in changes in my practice	1	2	3	4	5
7. Provides benefits that are worth the time, effort and expense involved	1	2	3	4	5

Please indicate your agreement with these statements about BARRIERS to <b>your own</b> engagement with Maintenance of Professional Competence in Ireland	Not applicable	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1. I do not understand what I am required to do for Maintenance of Professional Competence		1	2	3	4	5
2. Lack of protected time makes it difficult to undertake activities to earn points	0	1	2	3	4	5
3. The expense of the annual Professional Competence Scheme fee is a barrier		1	2	3	4	5
4. The expense of Continuing Professional Development(CPD) activities is a barrier		1	2	3	4	5
5. The expense of paying a locum to allow me to attend CPD activities is a barrier	0	1	2	3	4	5
6. The requirement to record my learning activities through an online platform has been a barrier		1	2	3	4	5
7. Lack of audit skills has been a barrier		1	2	3	4	5
8. Difficulty identifying a suitable audit topic has been a barrier		1	2	3	4	5
9. Please provide details of any other barriers or reasons for not participating in Maintenance of Professional Competence here:						

Please indicate your agreement with the following statements about factors which SUPPORT <b>your own</b> engagement with Maintenance of Professional Competence in Ireland	Not applicable	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1. The CPD activities I need to address gaps in my knowledge and practice are currently available		1	2	3	4	5
2. I can access high quality CPD activities		1	2	3	4	5
3. My Professional Competence Scheme provides enough flexible ways to meet requirements		1	2	3	4	5
4. My Professional Competence Scheme provides useful information to help me to meet requirements		1	2	3	4	5
Please indicate your agreement with the following statements	Not applicable	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
5. Maintenance of Professional Competence is a tick box exercise		1	2	3	4	5
6. I match my CPD activities to gaps in my knowledge and practice		1	2	3	4	5
7. I would welcome the opportunity to use patient feedback to demonstrate my professional competence	0	1	2	3	4	5
8. I would welcome the opportunity to use feedback from colleagues to demonstrate my professional competence		1	2	3	4	5
9. I would welcome the opportunity to submit a quality improvement initiative rather than an audit	0	1	2	3	4	5
10. I am concerned that information I provide to my Professional Competence Scheme about my knowledge and practice could be used against me if my competence was in question		1	2	3	4	5
11. It is important to my patients that I meet the requirements for Professional Competence	0	1	2	3	4	5

12. It is important to my colleagues that I meet the requirements for Professional Competence		1	2	3	4	5
13. Doctors who do not participate in Maintenance of Competence risk being removed from the register		1	2	3	4	5
14. I am confident that I can fulfil the requirements for Maintenance of Competence		1	2	3	4	5
15. If you are not confident of meeting the requirements for Maintenance of Competence, please indicate why not here						
16. Please rate your intention to comply with requirements for Maintenance of Competence in the future	Intend not to comply	Probably won't comply	Unsure about my intentions	Probably will comply	Intend to comply	
17. If you could change two things about Maintenance of Competence/ Professional Competence Schemes to make them more relevant, efficient and effective for you, what would they be?						
Would you be willing to participate in a <b>confidential interview</b> on the topic of Professional Competence Schemes.? We are particularly interested in talking to doctors who have not enrolled or participated, or who have found doing so difficult.	YES/NO					
If so please provide an email contact						

