Movement Analysis – Background to Accreditation

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1. Background to BS 70000

UKAS has been tasked by NHSE, with support from IPEM, to implement an accreditation scheme (MPACE) covering Medical Physics and Clinical Engineering. It has already undertaken a number of pilot activities in Radiotherapy Physics and Clinical Engineering (Management of Medical Devices). UKAS is now looking to engage with the Movement Analysis community to scope out activities which could be covered by BS 70000.

BS 70000 was published in 2017 and is entitled “Medical physics, clinical engineering and associated scientific service in healthcare – Requirements for quality, safety and competence”. Through the title, scope and examples in the standard it indicates that the BS 70000 is relevant to Rehabilitation Engineering activities. For example:

Scope (1)

- Optimisation and delivery of diagnostic and therapeutic procedures
- Provision of expert professional advice
- Process of scientific support in life cycle management of devices
- The testing, metrological confirmation and Quality assurance of equipment and facilities within healthcare

Annex A

- Assess needs and prescribe and provide solutions to address those needs.
- Test, evaluate and distribute technological solutions to problems confronted by individual with disabilities
- To meet clinical, functional and social needs of individuals with long term conditions.
- Functional areas of Rehabilitation Engineering cover :
  - Posture
  - Mobility

The requirements in BS 70000 could also ensure that a large part of the patient pathway is covered for Movement Analysis:

- Service delivery (4.5, 5.10.1 & 5.10.3)
- Patient focus (5.10.2)
- Appropriate facilities for equipment and patient (5.3, 5.10.4 & 5.10.5)
- Suitability of equipment with traceable measurements (5.5)
- Medical Device Management (5.5.1)
- Methods for testing are fit for purpose and valid (5.4)
- Handling of productions (5.8)
- Therapeutic reporting of results (5.13)

From the scope, requirements and examples it can be seen that accreditation, against BS 70000, could potentially provide assurance on the competence and reliability of from the referral to production of movement analysis reports and recommendation for a patient along with supporting
activities. It is recognised that some of the activities required to deliver the service maybe undertaken by multi-disciplinary teams where staff may not be under the direct control of the Movement Analysis department. BS 70000 is designed to accredited activities in a Service irrespective of the structure, however staff performing the tasks will need to be integrated into the same management system which supports the activities.

2. **UKAS Development Pilot in Movement Analysis**

The main aim of the MPACE project in Phase 2 is to develop an accreditation scheme which provides external assurance on quality and competence of Movement Analysis services and to drive improvement in standards within this area. UKAS will provide confidence to all service users, including patients and commissioners, and promote delivery of better-quality services that leads to better quality outcomes.

In order to demonstrate the applicability and value of accreditation in Movement Analysis, the aim is to find a minimum of two Services who will participate in a pilot programme to help establish a proportionate assessment approach.

The benefits of accreditation within the Movement Analysis area are:

- Ensure that the activities undertaken by multi-disciplinary teams are supported by accreditation
- Confirmation that services are technically valid by peers (similar to CMAS audits)
- External assurance and confirmation that services are implementing national and international recommended methods and quality controls.
- Identification of service improvements
- Support NHSE requirements to implement accreditation across diagnostic and scientific healthcare services
- Recognised source of information for CQC inspection programmes
- Enable Trusts to gain outstanding classification by CQC
- Meet contractual requirements (e.g. genomics contract require accreditation throughout supply chain, and Any Qualified Provider tenders)
- Output recognised nationally and internationally
- An enabler for Trusts to develop a collaborative approach to quality management whilst improving consistency and transparency to top management whilst removing potential duplication in running multiple systems.
- Provide a consistent measure across healthcare science area and provide the same level of assurance already expected by Trusts for Medical Laboratory activities.
3. UKAS Development Pilot

In order for UKAS to confirm the requirements of BS 70000 are applicable to Movement Analysis Services and also establish a proportionate and robust assessment approach for a given scope of accreditation a development pilot programme is required. The pilot programme will take the normal UKAS development approach and consist of the following steps:

1) Verification and Confirmation of the technical scope with the UKAS MPACE Technical Advisory Group. It is hoped that CMAS and IPEM will endorsement of the scope at this stage.

2) Publish a “Expression of Interest Announcement” on the UKAS website to identify any Services who may be interested in gaining accreditation in this area.

3) Production of a Pilot Terms of Reference. The terms of reference will give details of the scope, timescales and financial commitment a Service will need to agree to. There may also be some perquisites or desirables for applicants (e.g. Services already having a quality management system in place, support from relevant professional groups if activities cover multiple departments of line management)

4) Meeting of Interest Parties. UKAS will hold a meeting with the interested parties to provide background information on UKAS and accreditation. It will also cover the Pilot Terms or Reference and also summarise the requirements of BS 70000.

5) Identification and Recruitment of Technical/Peer Assessors. UKAS will need to generate a Technical Competence Criteria to select potential assessors against. A request for Technical Assessors will be advertised on the UKAS website. Potential assessors will be assessed for suitability and approximately 4-5 will be selected for the initial pilot. Contracts will be agreed with the assessors or their employees, who will be paid a daily rate of £300 for assessment activities. Assessor will receive training via a 3 days course and other single day activities (only expenses covered). In addition, this may also be an opportunity for Service to contribute to the pilot if they are not in a position to participant themselves.

6) Apply for Accreditation and Sign Up to the Pilot Terms of Reference – This is the first deadline for commitment to the pilot by a Service. Depending on numbers, UKAS may need to undertake a selection process based on the readiness of Services and also the Scope and type of Service.

7) UKAS confirms participants for the pilot

8) Workshop for Pilot Participants, Services will be asked to complete a gap analysis and then attend a workshop of all participants to discuss any potential gaps or ways of meeting the requirement of BS 70000. The costs of this workshop will be funded by UKAS/NHSE.
9) Pre-assessment (Potential), a pre-assessment of one of the pilot participants could be arranged whereby the others can observe. This will be dependent on the compliance of the participants after the gap analysis stage earlier.

10) Initial Assessment, the pilot participants will have to submit all documentation for review 1 month prior to a site visit. A UKAS team will attend site for 2-3 days (dependant on scope) to carry out its assessment.

11) Initial Assessment will take the form of reviewing documentation remotely prior to an onsite visit. The onsite visit will witness the key movement analysis activities, have discussion with staff, review records of implementation of processes and review validation and quality assurance protocol to confirm competence and appropriateness of the methods.

12) Close out of Actions raised on Initial Assessment. Depending on the level of compliance witnessed during the initial assessment UKAS will need to review corrective actions remotely or potentially by another site visit. UKAS will consider capping all costs for a given time periods so that the Service is protected from additional costs.

13) Grant of Accreditation. After completing the pilot assessments UKAS will confirm the assessment approach and then grant accreditation to BS 70000 for all Services who have meet the requirements on a given date. Participants who have not completed all corrective actions or wish to progress at a slow rate after identifying issues themselves may progress their application outside the timeframe of the pilot and gain accreditation at a subsequent date.

14) Ongoing Accreditation. Once the pilot is complete UKAS will open up application for other Services to apply. In addition, the existing accredited Service will move into an accreditation cycle whereby they have an annual assessment. The pilot exercise will determine the degree of assessment required and costs (will be less than Initial Assessments).

4. Next Steps

After the feedback from CMAS and Movement Analysis community it is hoped that the following activities will take place:

1) Agreeing an appropriate Scope for the Pilot of BS 70000 in Movement Analysis
2) Identify potential services who would be interested in being part of the Pilot
3) Develop Technical Competencies Criteria for Technical Assessors and also identify potential assessors
4) Undertake a Pilot Exercise
5) Open up accreditation to wider Movement Analysis community once benefits have been demonstrated.