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The design and implementation of a framework to support continuous improvements in nursing care, continuing professional development and the process of revalidating professional practice

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All registered nurses and midwives in the United Kingdom are required to revalidate their practice every three years and provide examples of the qualitative nature of their work as well as evidence of their on-going continuing professional development. Wales designed, developed and implemented a governance framework for post-registration nurse education and the underpinning principle of the model is a collaborative approach between nursing leaders, educational providers, nurse managers, nurses and midwives, patients and carriers aimed at delivering continuous improvement. It underpins a continuous cycle of improvement in care delivery and it is being used to support nurses, midwives and their managers in meeting the requirements of the revalidation process, including ensuring that prospective nurses and midwives are immersed in the process during their training to foster a seamless transition into the workplace on qualification. This approach has supported further developments in directing and developing additional skills for nurses in identified priority areas of healthcare, including diabetes management, mental health and dementia. It is argued that this collegiate model not only supports nurses' and midwives' professional development with positive impact on individual patient care but also informs planning for responses to healthcare priorities at a local and regional level.