

Frequently Asked Questions for Countersignatories

May 2024

What is a countersignatory?

All BPC Registrants must have a countersignatory for registration. The countersignatory must have heard their work and can agree they do not know any reason why they cannot continue their registration with the BPC.

Who can act as a countersignatory?

The countersignatory should be psychoanalytically or psychodynamically trained and have regularly discussed the clinical work with the Registrant. It is likely the countersignatory will be the supervisor (individual or peer) or a senior colleague.

The countersignatory must be regulated by an appropriate body such as UKCP, BACP or ACP, to an appropriate registration level. For example, BACP countersignatories must be accredited members.

The countersignatory cannot be a partner, close friend or relative.

Newly qualified Registrants are expected to have a supervisor / countersignatory who is appropriately experienced and more senior than them. Usually, they would be at least 5 years post qualified.

If I agree to act as a countersignatory, what does that mean?

If you agree to be a BPC Registrant's countersignatory you are agreeing that you have regularly heard their clinical work and have no concerns about their Fitness to Practise, and do not know of any reason why they cannot continue their registration with the BPC.

If I agree to act as a countersignatory, what do I need to do?

If you agree to be someone's countersignatory and have no concerns, you can confirm with the Registrant they can use your details as part of their registration or renewal with the BPC. You do not need to do anything else unless the BPC contacts you for further information.

If the Registrant is selected as part of our CPD audit, you will be contacted to confirm their audit form and that you are happy to act as their countersignatory.

If someone has asked me to be a countersignatory and I have concerns, what should I do?

If you have concerns about a BPC Registrant and their Fitness to Practise, please let us know as soon as possible. You can email us at hello@bpc.org.uk or call us on 0207 561 9240. You can find further information about raising concerns about BPC Registrants [here](#).

What should I do if I am aware that a Registrant has submitted my details as a countersignatory without my consent?

Please let the BPC know if your details have been provided as a countersignatory without your consent. You can email us at hello@bpc.org.uk or call us on 0207 561 9240.