

From: Steve Walker, Assistant Programme Director, National Programme for IT
To: GP Clinical System Suppliers

26 November 2003

MIQUEST Support

MIQUEST has been referred to in RFA since version 4 (1997) and has been mandatory since 1999. RFA 99 v1.2 Section RM.2 states:

“The system **shall** comply with version 4.2.3 of the MIQUEST Specification”

In recent guidance to suppliers and the NHS I have confirmed the following with respect to the GMS Payments Project:

“The specification for the QOF MAS will include a clear generic definition of what data suppliers must make available from clinical systems. The project will **not** be publishing queries or sets of queries in a specific language e.g. MIQUEST.”

The purpose of this note is to ensure that suppliers are fully aware that the continuing support of MIQUEST remains mandatory under RFA accreditation and that withdrawal of support for MIQUEST will result in the de-accreditation of systems under RFA.

While the national specifications to support the new GMS Quality and Outcomes Framework Management System will be generic, there is still a clear and critical need for clinical systems to support MIQUEST for a range of clinical purposes and particularly for PMS practices