



**Consortium for the
Accreditation of
Sonographic Education**

**British Medical Ultrasound Society
Recruitment, Retention & Development
Study Day 2024**

Gill Dolbear – CASE Education Officer

The role of CASE in terms of recruitment, retention and development for practitioners without CASE-accredited qualifications



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What is CASE?

- The Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education (CASE) was founded in 1993 and currently consists of the following seven member organisations:

British Medical Ultrasound Society

British Society of Echocardiography

Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

College of Radiographers

Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine

Royal College of Podiatry

Society for Vascular Technology of Great Britain and Ireland



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The role of CASE in terms of recruitment, retention and development for practitioners without CASE-accredited qualifications



The primary role of CASE is to accredit high quality education and training programmes/courses that promote best ultrasound practice and ensure that ultrasound practitioners are safe and competent to practise, whilst considering informed views of service needs



Work with education providers with a view to achieving successful accreditations and reaccreditations



Annual evaluation and analysis of CASE-accredited programmes and courses using the CASE Annual Programme Monitoring Review (APMR) process to obtain a range of performance data



Provide training sessions for education providers and CASE accreditors



Co-production of guidance documents with individual member organisations



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The role of CASE in terms of recruitment of practitioners without CASE-accredited qualifications

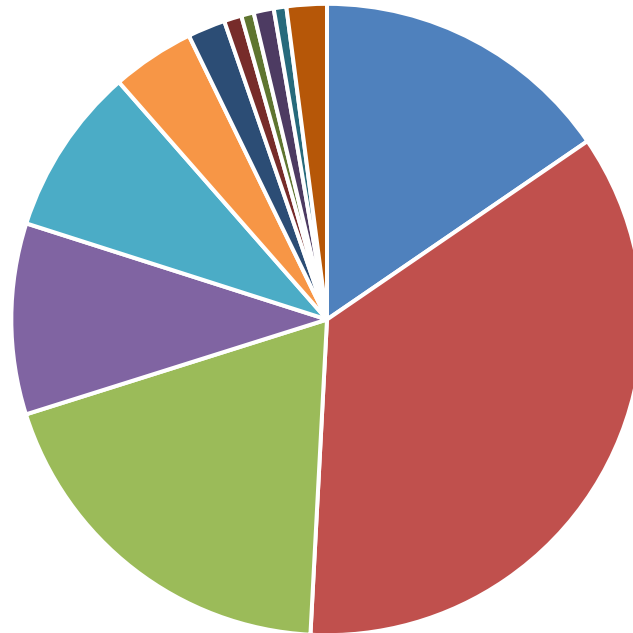
- To determine whether entry requirements are appropriate in order to facilitate student success. For example, an initial audit of the suitability of the proposed clinical placement
- To determine whether education providers have robust on-boarding procedures that do not disadvantage practitioners without CASE-accredited ultrasound qualifications
- To determine whether domestic and international student fees are applied accurately, with a range of payment options available
- To determine whether education providers offer a wide range of programmes/courses which meet the needs of applicants wishing to undertake continuous professional development to extend their scope of practice



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Widening Participation

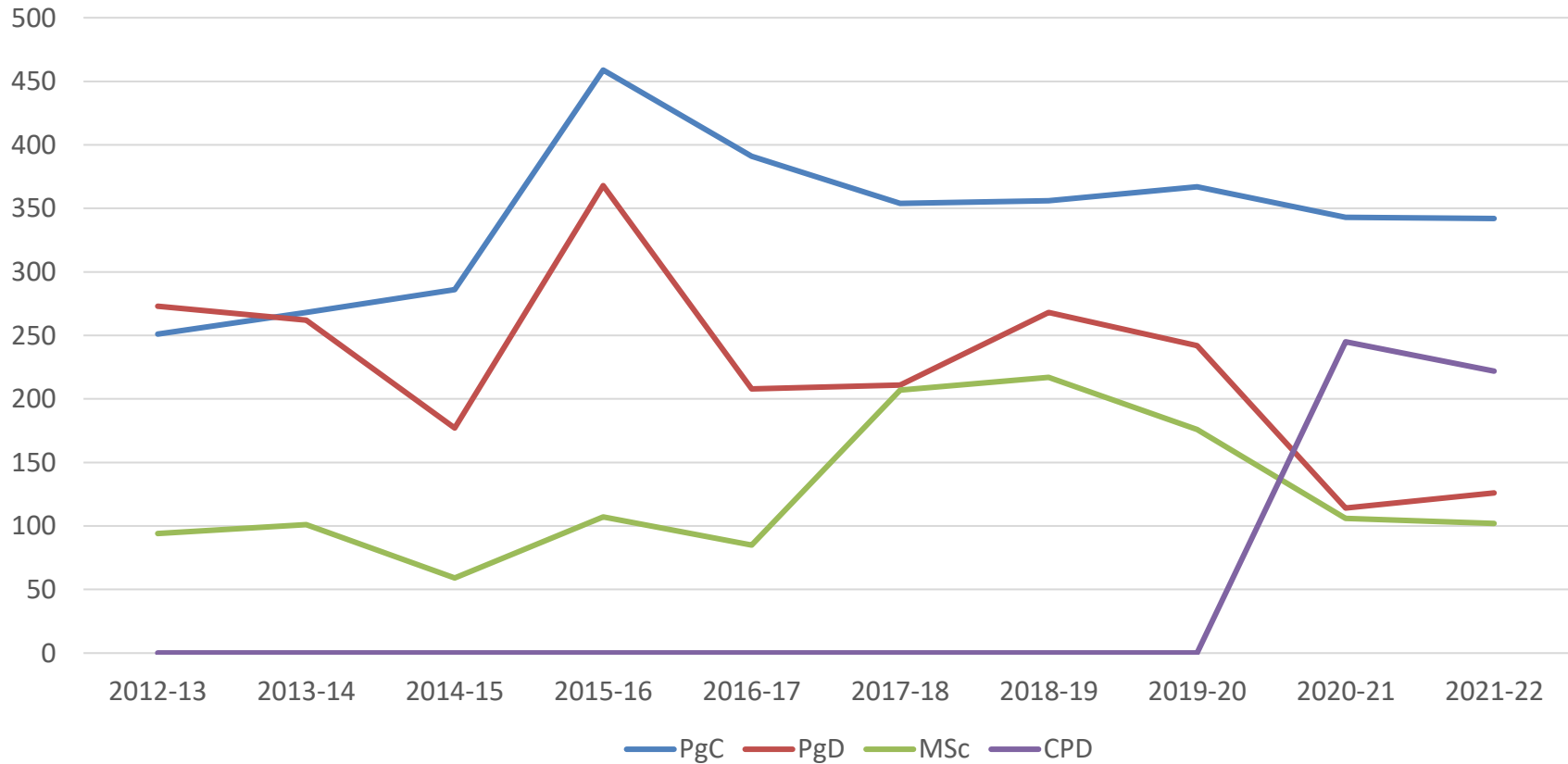
Professions of students recruited during 2021-22



- Sonographer (120)
- Radiographer (275)
- Physiotherapist (150)
- Midwife (76)
- Medical Doctor (67)
- Nurse (33)
- Other (15)
- Direct Entry (7)
- Osteopath (5)
- Chiropractor (8)
- Therapy Radiographer (5)
- Vascular Scientist (16)

Sonographic Workforce

Number of new students per academic year



The role of CASE in terms of retention of student practitioners without CASE-accredited qualifications

CASE has a significant role to play in terms of maximising student retention due to the following quality assurance (QA) aspects of its work:

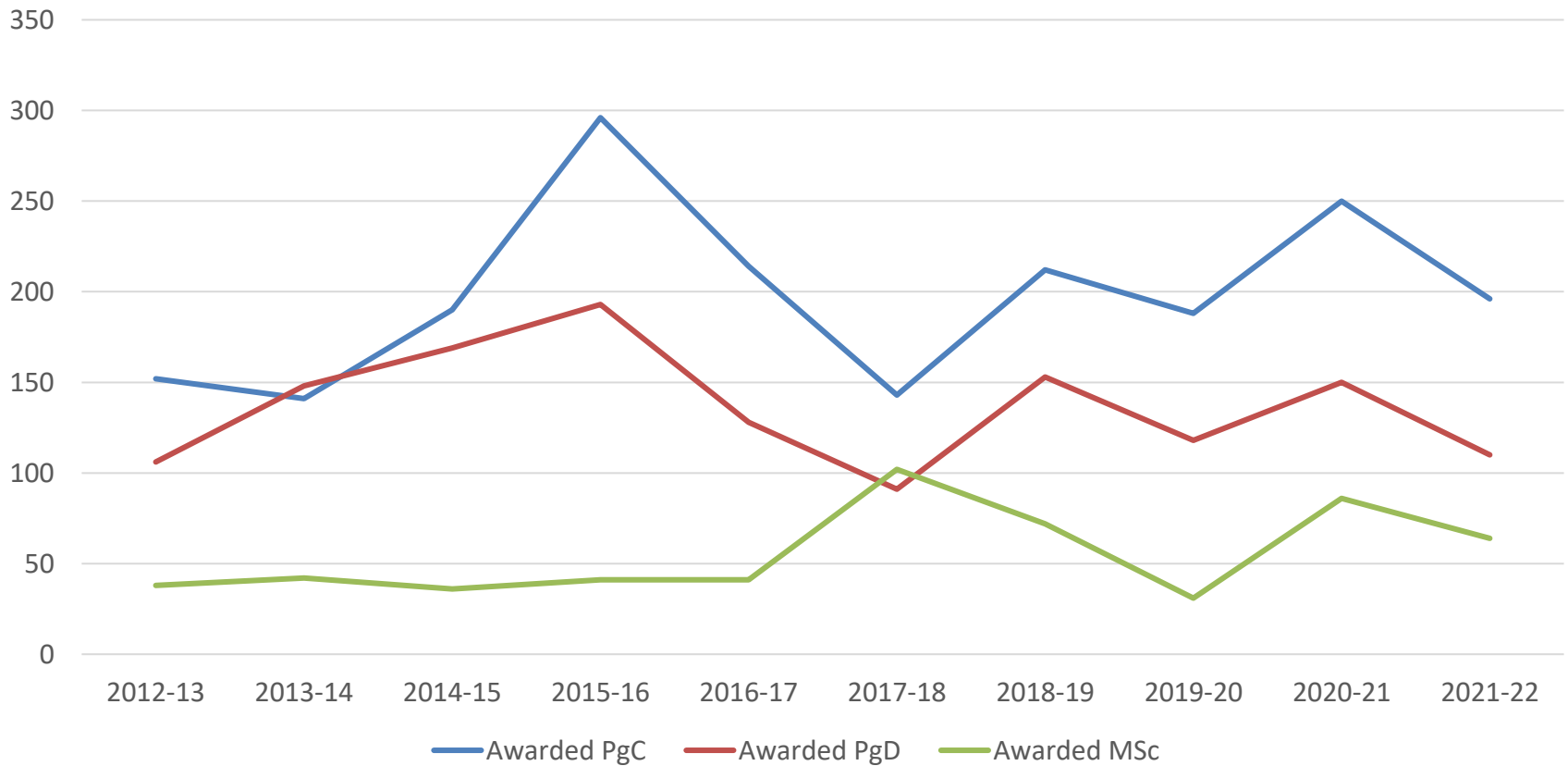
- **Accreditation of new programmes and courses**
- **Reaccreditation of existing programmes and courses**
- **Interim reviews of programmes and courses**
- **Approval of minor and major changes to programmes and courses**
- **Annual programme monitoring reviews (APMRs) which include scrutiny of the External Examiners' reports**
- **Support for new programme and course leads**



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APMR Data on Student Retention

Number of Students Awarded per Academic Year





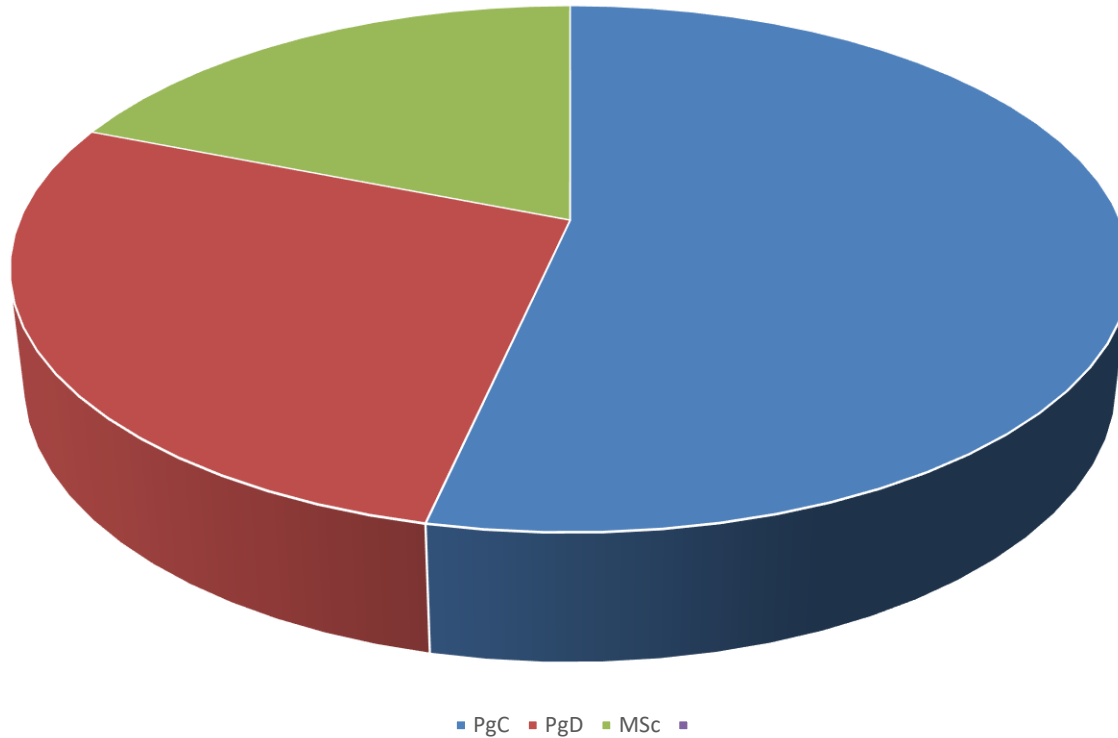
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APMR Data on Student Attrition

- Exactly 1000 students were undertaking CASE-accredited programmes of study during the 2021-2022 academic year
- 58 (5.8%) students withdrew from their programme without achieving their intended award

APMR Data on Student Attrition

Student attrition according to award



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The role of CASE in terms of development of practitioners without CASE-accredited qualifications

Ultrasound practitioners will have individual training needs based on:

- Service delivery demands
- Their own areas of interest and career aspirations
- Niche patient care pathways or areas of specialism
- New patient care pathways
- Use of new technology
- Requirements associated with new policies e.g. RCR requirement for interpretive, actionable reporting
- Change of role or workplace
- Return to work

A variety of options therefore need to be available to meet these CPD requirements



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Ensuring that Education Providers' offers reflect contemporary and cutting-edge practice



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- MSc programmes
- PgD programmes
- PgC programmes
- Individual modules
- Negotiated modules
- Microcredentials
- Clinical competences
- Theoretical knowledge and understanding



Register of Clinical Technologists

- Ultrasound practitioners with a CASE-accredited award can make a straight-forward application to be added to the register
- Ultrasound practitioners without a CASE-accredited award can apply via the equivalence route; however, these applications are currently taking over a year to process

**Any
questions?**

