BOPA Digital SACT Verification Passport
Frequently Asked Questions

To help BOPA members understand more about how the BOPA Digital SACT Verification Passport will work and be developed, we’ve written a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs). We hope we’ve covered most topics below, but please do contact the project team if you have any other queries.

We’ll keep the FAQs updated with the answers to any further queries we receive.

Key questions

What’s happening?

BOPA has previously published the ‘Cancer Pharmacy Education & Training Standards’. This programme was developed to ensure that there is a baseline standard for training for all pharmacy staff within the UK who verify SACT prescriptions or discuss treatment with cancer patients. This document was based on, and referred to the Pan-London SACT Verification Passport for Pharmacy. This Pan-London SACT Verification Passport for Pharmacy was produced by the Royal Marsden Partners Medicines Optimisation Group, working with pharmacy colleagues from the North Central and East London Cancer Alliance and the South East London Cancer Alliance.

It was agreed by the BOPA E&T committee, the BOPA Executive Committee and The Royal Marsden Partners Medicines Optimisation Group to update the London passport and at the same time make it UK wide and digital.

This means that future verification passports will be completed and maintained entirely digitally, through the Compassly app.

Why?

The concept of a passport is that you can move from one organisation to another without having to redo hours and hours of training that is the same or similar to what you have already done. It will also help standardise the minimum requirement of training across the UK. As well as saving student time, it will also support our more senior oncology pharmacy colleagues in re-training, re-writing, updating and marking training programmes.

The digital version will allow a live copy to be saved in the cloud and allows tutors to oversee the entire process far more easily.

As a BOPA member, will I now need to pay for this new app?

No, BOPA free associates or paid members will never be charged to use the SACT Verification Passport. The Compassly app is free to download and use, and access to the SACT Verification Passport is included as part of your BOPA membership.
How will it be developed?

BOPA are working with a company Tefogo who have an existing competency passport solution called Compassly, which will be adapted to work with the SACT Verification Passport. Tefogo have direct experience in this field, and are also digitising the UKONS SACT Competency Passport on Compassly. See below for further details.

Timelines

When will it be available?

The project team are working on the new digital solution, and it will be launched at the 2023 BOPA Symposium in Wales, 6th-8th October 2023.

How will you roll it out?

After the app is developed, we will pilot with a small group of early users, to test and gather feedback before any wider roll-out. The app will then be available to all BOPA members in the autumn.

What happens until then?

Please continue to use any existing paper competency assessments you have until the app version is tested, piloted, and launched. We will include a mechanism for you to import those paper passports into the app and switch over to the digital version.

Will the project continue after the app launches?

Although the formal project will finish once the app is fully rolled out, Compassly as a product will continue to be improved, and this will bring new features to the BOPA SACT Verification Passport too.

We will also listen to feedback on the usage of the new digital passport and continue to refine the content and aim to release further versions of the passport itself.

Existing paper / PDF Competencies

Can I continue to use a paper record?

You should continue to use your existing paper/PDF passports/training packages, and anyone new to the passport should use existing training programmes until the digital app version is launched.

If I’ve completed the initial passport / training on paper, will I need to redo it digitally?

No, you will not have to repeat any completed paper passports/training digitally. If you are part-way through the paper passport when the digital version launches, then you will have the choice of whether to complete on paper or transition to the digital version.

What about annual renewals?

All live records will be kept digitally, including renewals.
Process to develop it

Who from BOPA is involved in the project?

As a working project, it is being overseen by the BOPA Verification Update Project Steering Group.

- Netty Cracknell  Verification Project lead
- Heather Dalrymple  Standards pillar lead
- Clayton Wong  eLearning pillar lead
- Michal Sladkowski  Assessment pillar lead
- Sana Mahmood  Digital passport pillar lead
- Netty Cracknell  Digital passport pillar lead
- Raakhee Shah  BMT pillar lead
- Vicky Holden  Paediatric pillar lead
- Lamia Samrin  Paediatric pillar lead

This group also provides updates to the BOPA E&T subcommittee and finally the BOPA executive board, who have ultimate responsibility for the project.

As well as the steering group members there were over 80 other oncology pharmacist staff involved in various parts of the project. We will publish the entire list of volunteers on the website in the near future.

What is included in the SACT Verification Passport?

There will be approx. 16 modules to select. These will each consist of steps to complete before sign off by the tutor is possible. An example is shown in the diagram below.

Other modules included are:

- BOPA SACT Verification Passport: Core Module
  - Adult Level 2a/2b/2c solid tumour Module / haematology Modules (6)
- Paediatrics: Solid tumour and haematology core module (Level 2c)
  - Paediatrics solid tumour module / haematology modules (2)
- BMT: Adult and Paediatric Core Module (Level 2c)
  - BMT: Adult and Paediatric Autogulous / Allogeneic Transplantation / CAR-T Modules (3)
- Funding Routes for SACT: Private / England / Scotland / Wales / NI (5)

You will only assign or complete the modules that are required for your job role. e.g A solid tumour oncology pharmacy staff member working in NHS Scotland will need (total of 3): 1. BOPA SACT Verification Passport: Core Module AND 2. Adult Level 2c solid tumour Module AND 3. Funding Routes for SACT: Scotland
What about other competencies or digital projects?

The scope of this project is focussed on digitalising the existing SACT Passport, but if you have any suggestions on how it could be used further in the future, please contact that team at BOPA@compassly.com.

Getting involved

How will you make sure that the digital version fits the needs of those using it?

BOPA have engaged with members through online surveys and engaging volunteers from across all the devolved nations and specialist areas to ensure the broadest understanding of people’s needs.

We are also running demonstration sessions to gather wider user feedback and will continue to engage with BOPA members throughout development. To view the BOPA Verification Digital Passport Webinar Demo please visit: https://www.bopa.org.uk/resources/bopa-digital-verification-passport-demo-june-2023/

I have some general ideas and feedback I’d like to suggest; how can I get more involved?

We hope there will be plenty of opportunities to provide your input, but we’re always happy to hear your thoughts. For now, please email BOPA@compassly.com to contact the project team.

Using the new app

How will I access the new digital SACT Passport?

Compassly can be downloaded from the App Store (iPhones and iPads) and Google Play (Android devices). It is also accessible on the web. Once the BOPA SACT Verification Passport has been deployed to Compassly, you will be able to register and be added to the passport in Compassly.

Will my passport by locked to my device? What if I lose it?

The new digital passport will be saved in the cloud, and therefore not tied to any one device – even if you lose your mobile device, you will still be able to access it through the web or a new device using your username and password. If you lose your account details, Tefogo will be able to help you recover them.

What if I don’t have a smartphone?

Compassly is fully available on the internet, you can use it through a web browser on your computer if you prefer – you won’t have to download the app.

We aren’t allowed to use our own devices in my hospital / our hospital blocks external apps and websites

As the app is accessible through the internet, you should be able to access it through the organisation’s own computers. Your organisation may also be able to load the app onto their own devices if they prefer this approach.

We will be able to provide the information that IT departments should need to enable access or load the app onto the organisation’s devices, although we cannot of course guarantee that they will be willing to do so.
I’m still concerned about using the technology

One of the advantages of Compassly being an app-based system is the real focus on ease of use. We’ve found that even those who find traditional IT solutions difficult to use are much more comfortable with using Compassly.

We’ll be happy to address any issues with using technology throughout the project, and feel free to contact the project team (BOPA@compassly.com) with any specific concerns.

I have specific system accessibility needs that need to be supported

Compassly can make use of the built-in accessibility tools provided as part of the iOS and Android operating systems, but if you have specific accessibility needs and are concerned, please contact the team so that we can include you in early testing to help adapt the app to your needs.

Procurement

How did BOPA choose Tefogo and the Compassly solution?

BOPA ran an open tender exercise in January – February 2023, inviting suppliers to tender for the work.

From a competitive field, Compassly was selected as the preferred solution (and Tefogo as the preferred supplier) based on the criteria outlined in the tender document.

Who from BOPA was involved in the decision?

The procurement exercise was led by Netty Cracknell and Joe Williams, with oversight by the BOPA Executive Board.

Who will own the SACT Competency Passport going forward?

The intellectual property and responsibility for the content and administration of the SACT Verification Passport remains with BOPA.

More on Compassly

I can see Compassly on the app store – does that mean it’s ready now?

Compassly as an app is already available and in use within the NHS. Further adaptations are required to be developed and a new version released before it will be ready for use as the BOPA SACT Passport.

Can I use Compassly for other competencies?

Compassly is designed to work across multiple organisations and with any range of different competencies. If your organisation is using Compassly more widely then the SACT Passport will integrate automatically.

Use of Compassly for other competencies beyond the SACT Passport requires a paid licence – you can contact the Tefogo team at info@compassly.com for further details.

How do I find out more about Compassly?

Visit Compassly.com or contact info@compassly.com for more general enquiries.