



HONG KONG ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

CME/CPD NEWS BULLETIN

J U N E 2 0 0 8

PARTICIPATING ACTIVELY IN CME/CPD

Development of CME/CPD Materials

Participation in development of CME/CPD materials for self-study or e-learning is accepted as a form of CME/CPD and counts towards the 15 points required for non-passive participation. The Academy encourages Colleges to contribute CME/CPD materials regularly to the Academy for online learning at the iCMECPD website. The materials can be journal articles, case studies, video clips of meetings, etc. with quizzes in true/false or multiple-choice format. Interested Fellows may contact their parent Colleges or the Academy (email: icmecpd@hkam.org.hk) for details of materials submission and accreditation.

Publications

Publications normally include papers published in academic journals, books and newsletters of professional bodies that have been accredited by Colleges. CME/CPD points may be awarded to the first author and co-authors with specific criteria as prescribed by Colleges (e.g. articles should be published in the approved journals, contents must be specialty-related, etc). Some Colleges may not award CME/CPD points to theses or treatises. If Fellows are not sure whether their papers can be awarded CME/CPD points, they should consult with and obtain agreement from Colleges prior to publication.

Workshops on Quality Assurance (QA)

QA includes a variety of activities to enhance quality of care such as clinical review and audit, peer review of operative practice or activities and many many others. The Academy recognises the need of Fellows to become familiar with QA and acquire practical knowledge about how this should be implemented and effectively maintained. Based on this need, the Academy will plan and organise QA workshops in this year. Details will be announced in due course.

The Bulletin can be accessed through the Academy's website <http://www.hkam.org.hk> (clicking on the "Academy News" link) or delivered via e-mail by sending a request to icmecpd@hkam.org.hk

Activate iCMECPD Account

Fellows who want to check their personal and CME/CPD profile MUST activate their iCMECPD account first. Please go to <http://www.icmecpd.hk> and click **CMe-Learning** or **Member's Area**, then click the sentence: <<**For newcomers, please click HERE to activate your account NOW!!>>** . If Fellows come across any problem, please contact the CME/CPD Office at 2871 8888.

CME/CPD EXEMPTION

All Academy Fellows who are on the Specialist Register (SR) of the Medical Council of Hong Kong (MCHK) or the Dental Council of Hong Kong (DCHK) are required to fulfil the CME/CPD requirements of the Academy to remain on the SR. Fellows, except those who fulfil the exemption criteria stipulated below, must also fulfil the CME/CPD requirements to maintain the Academy Fellowship.

Eligibility for exemption

If a Fellow has retired from active practice in and outside Hong Kong; or is not in active practice due to acute/prolonged illness or permanent disability, he / she can apply for exemption from CME/CPD by submitting a written declaration to the Academy on these two conditions.

Fellows should note that while the Academy can exempt their CME/CPD requirements for keeping the Academy Fellowship if they fulfil the above criteria, the Medical Registration Ordinance and the Dentists Registration Ordinance have made no provision to exempt their CME/CPD requirements for inclusion in the SR. If a Fellow's name is included in the SR, the Academy will inform MCHK/DCHK that he/she will cease to do CME/CPD. The procedure at MCHK/DCHK is that the Fellow's name shall be removed from the SR. Instead of being "removed" from the SR, the Fellow may consider voluntary resignation from the SR. MCHK/DCHK will only accept resignation submitted DIRECTLY from a registered doctor/dentist. The Academy cannot do this on behalf of her Fellows.

Resuming active practice

A retired Fellow who subsequently wishes to resume active practice will be required to have obtained at least 90 CME/CPD points within 36 months counting back from the date of application for reinstatement in order to resume medical practice. A pro-rata number of the required 90 points must be obtained within the period between the date of retirement and the date of application for resuming practice. The CME/CPD records should be submitted to the Academy via Colleges for approval.

When a Fellow recovers from prolonged illness and resumes his medical practice, he will be required to re-start his CME/CPD cycle and to obtain at least 40 CME/CPD points in the first 12 months of the cycle.

Should a retired Fellow resume medical practice before he/she can fulfil the CME/CPD requirements as aforementioned, he/she will lose his status as a retired Fellow and his/her Fellowship will be suspended accordingly.

Fellow holding multiple Fellowships

If a Fellow is holding multiple Fellowships and wishes to be exempted from CME/CPD, he/she cannot claim retirement from active practice for one specialty while still practising in the other specialty/specialties. The Fellow can resign from a Fellowship for which he chooses not to continue with CME/CPD.

Example

Doctor A is holding 2 Academy Fellowships - one under the College B with Specialty X, and another under the College C with Specialty Y. His name is currently included in the MCHK's SR under Specialty X. The following table shows the recommended actions for Doctor A under different scenarios:-

| Scenario | Action Recommended | Impact on SR |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Completely retired and ceases CME/CPD for both Specialties | Apply for exemption for both Fellowships | Name will be removed from the SR under Specialty X (unless Fellow resigns voluntarily from SR of MCHK) |
| Still practising; <i>but</i> Ceases to do CME/CPD for specialty Y and keep CME/CPD for specialty X | Resign from HKAM Fellowship under College C with Specialty Y <i>[A Fellow MUST fulfil CME/CPD for ALL Fellowships he keeps if he is STILL practising]</i> | SR status (under Specialty X) will not be affected |
| Still practising; <i>but</i> Ceases to do CME/CPD for specialty X and keep CME/CPD for specialty Y | Resign from HKAM Fellowship under College B with Specialty X <i>[A Fellow MUST fulfil CME/CPD for ALL Fellowships he keeps if he is STILL practising]</i> | Name will be removed from the SR under Specialty X (unless Fellow applies to MCHK for change from Specialty X to Specialty Y in the SR) |

If Fellows have further queries on CME/CPD exemption, please contact the HKAM CME/CPD Office.

QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?

We welcome your opinions and ideas — and we want to hear more as we continue to issue the Bulletin. Please write to the HKAM CME/CPD Office by mail, fax or e-mail:

Address: 10/F, HKAM Jockey Club Building, 99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong.
 Tel: (852) 2871 8888
 Fax: (852) 2505 5577
 Email: icmecpd@hkam.org.hk

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: I have already gained more than 90 credits, within the first year. Do I need to collect additional points during the current cycle?

A: The goal of the CME/CPD Programme is maintenance of professional competence in a continuous manner — collecting credit points is only an indicator but not its primary aim. It is possible that you reach the total required within 1 or 2 years. However, Fellows are strongly encouraged to engage in appropriate CME/CPD activities every year as recommended by your College during the balance period in the 3-year cycle. After all, continuous engagement in CME/CPD every year is good professional practice that should be pursued beyond regulatory requirement.

Q: I am currently working overseas and will not be in Hong Kong for the next few years. In view of my current situation, I don't think I can fulfil the CME/CPD requirement. Can I be exempted?

A: According to the Academy's CME/CPD Principles and Guidelines, only Fellows who have retired from active practice in and outside Hong Kong or suffered from acute/prolonged illness or permanent disability can be exempted from the CME/CPD requirements. Fellows residing overseas can still fulfil the CME/CPD requirements by joining overseas CME/CPD activities so long that the knowledge and skills acquired by the Fellow are relevant to medical professional development and the activity is accredited by his/her College.

ONLINE CME/CPD

Quizzes from the following Colleges are currently available at iCMECPD website for Fellows to study online for CME/CPD:

| HKAM / College | Topic | Deadline for Submission of Answer |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Otorhinolaryngologists | Sublingual immunotherapy for allergic rhinitis: an update | 30/Jun/2008 |
| Paediatricians | Quiz from Hong Kong Journal of Paediatrics Vol 13 No.2 | 31/Jul/2008 |
| Pathologists | Impact of Molecular Methods in the Diagnosis of Lymphomas | 30/Jun/2008 |
| Radiologists | HKCR Case of June 2008 | 30/Jun/2008 |

Please visit the CMe-Learning of iCMECPD website (www.icmecpd.hk) for the latest CME/CPD materials.

UPCOMING CONFERENCE(S) / SYMPOSIUM(S)

| Date | Conference(s) / Symposium(s) | Organiser(s) |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31 Oct-3 Nov/2008 | 3 rd Asia Pacific Regional Conference of the International Association for Suicide Prevention | Hong Kong Jockey Club Centre for Suicide Research & Prevention, HKU |
| 15-16 / Nov 2008 | HKAM 15 th Anniversary Congress | Hong Kong Academy of Medicine |
| 13-15 / Dec 2008 | 1 st Joint International Conference of the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists and the Royal College of Psychiatrists (UK) Advancing Psychiatric Care in the Emerging World: East Meets West | The Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists and The Royal College of Psychiatrists (UK) |
| 7-11/ May/2009 | The 31 st Asia Pacific Dental Congress | Hong Kong Dental Association, Asia Pacific Dental Federation |

Please visit the Calendar of iCMECPD website (www.icmecpd.hk) for the latest CME/CPD events.



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Prof LK Hung

Prof Cindy Lam

Dr Roch KH Lee

Prof Ronnie TP Poon

Dr CP Wong

CME/CPD Officer

Mr Ming Chan

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Hong Kong
Academy of Medicine
99 Wong Chuk Hang Road,
Aberdeen, Hong Kong, China
Tel (852) 2871 8888
Fax (852) 2505 5577
E-mail hkam@hkam.org.hk
Website www.hkam.org.hk