



EASTERN VIRGINIA
MEDICAL SCHOOL

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

OFFICE OF CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION	
NUMBER:	8.0
SUBJECT:	Criteria for Category 1 Credit Designation
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CME consists of educational activities that serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships a physician uses to provide services for patients, the public, or the professional. The content of CME is that body of knowledge and skills generally recognized and accepted by the profession as within the basic medical sciences, the discipline of clinical medicine, and the provision of health care to the public.

Formally planned AMA PRA category 1 educational activities must be developed by the organizations that satisfy all accreditation standards, and cover specific and scientifically valid topics. More specifically, the activity must:

- address a physician audience in both the depth and scope of its content;
- be sponsored by a US based, ACCME accredited provider or by a state medical society accredited provider or, in Canada, where special rules apply, by a medical school accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS);
- conform to the AMA definition of CME;
- conform to AMA ethical opinions on Gifts to Physicians from Industry and on Ethical Issues in CME as well as the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support of CME;
- address demonstrated educational needs;
- include clearly stated educational objectives;
- have content which will help physician learners meet the stated objectives;
- use learning methodologies appropriate to the activity's content and format;
- define evaluation mechanisms with which to assess program quality and relevance to the stated objectives of the activity; and
- include a means for the provider to record the actual credits claimed by each physician participant.

CONTENT VALIDATION:

1. All recommendations involving clinical medicine in a CME activity must be based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contraindications in the care of patients.
2. All scientific research referred to, reported or used in CME in support or justification of a patient care recommendation must conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis.
3. Providers are not eligible for ACCME accreditation or reaccreditation if they present activities that promote recommendations, treatment or manners of practicing medicine that are not within the definition of CME, or known to have risks or dangers that outweigh the benefits or known to be ineffective in the treatment of patients.

References: AMA Physician's Recognition Award Information Booklet for CME Providers, August 2002
ACCME Policy Compendium, 2002-B-09