

OFFICE OF CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

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Director's Comments

Welcome to the OCME Newsletter

Continuing medical education in the US is in the process of transforming in ways that are being likened to the changes introduced into undergraduate medical education by Flexner in the early part of the 20th Century. As change has been diffused across the continuum of undergraduate, graduate and continuing medical education, each area has been significantly affected. Undergraduate curricula are different from what they were 10 years ago, and residency programs have been retooled to be in line with a newly explicit set of competencies. Board certification has evolved into Maintenance of Certification (MOC).

CME is not immune to these environmental changes, nor should it be. Significant change in how CME is conceptualized, planned, and delivered is being instituted under the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) *Updated Criteria*. The focus is on outcomes of CME. New forms of CME, like Performance Improvement CME, have been recognized. At the same time, the relationship between CME and industry are being closely examined, and more change is to be expected in how CME is funded.

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It is against this background that we launch this newsletter. We want to help you understand the changing world of CME so they can incorporate new accreditation standards into their continuing professional development plans. Each issue of the newsletter will include information about changes in CME and their effect on CME at Jefferson

- The ACCME Update
- Commercial support issues and changing processes
- News about regulatory issues relating to CME

In addition, we will use this newsletter as a way to keep in touch with you, our constituents, and inform you about specific processes and procedures relating to Jefferson's CME activities in all its forms, and what Jefferson CME events are coming up.

We look forward to your comments and feedback.

Regularly Scheduled Conferences

Reminder- Please use revised forms for RSC's, which reflect the ACCME Updated Criteria: Session Documentation Form, Annual Evaluation, Letter of Agreement: we are also providing the new Speaker Forms on CME Content Guidance Information, COI Faculty Information, Credit for Teaching, and Philadelphia Business Privilege License. These forms can be found on the Office of CME web site at <http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/jeffcme/rsc>.

Upcoming Events

For More Information please visit our website,
<http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/jeffcme/>

Renfrew Center Annual Conference

**The Power of Therapeutic Relationships in the
Treatment of Eating Disorders**

November 13-16, 2008
Philadelphia Hotel Marriott

Philadelphia International Airport

20th Annual

Pan Philadelphia Neurosurgery Conference

December 5, 2008

The Union League of Philadelphia

7:30am Registration

Patient Safety Considerations in Nutrition Support

December 11, 2008
Bluemle Life Science Building, Room 101

6:30am Registration

7:00am-12:15pm Lectures

14th Annual JacXCs 2009

Jefferson Anesthesia Conference

February 21-27, 2009

Huntley Lodge- Big Sky, Montana

36th Annual Course

in Electrodiagnostic Medicine

March 3-6, 2009

Bluemle Life Science Building, Rooms 101

7:30am Registration

****A special thanks to everyone who attended the
5th Annual Alumni Weekend CME Symposium****



ACCME's Updated Accreditation Criteria

On September 5, 2006, ACCME released an update to its criteria for accreditation that reflects a shift toward Maintenance of Certification (MOC), asking CME providers to assess their own programs, identify areas for improvement, and improve in these areas, just as physicians are being asked to do for MOC and Maintenance of Licensure. The focus of future CME programs will be to design CME activities that enhance physician competence, performance and/or patient outcomes, as described in the ACGME and ABMS competencies.

What does this mean for you? These new criteria are mandatory for the continued accreditation of Jefferson Medical College, and will require significant changes to the way we have certified CME activities in the past. The old adage "that's what we've done in the past" will not hold up to these New Criteria. Beginning this fiscal year, an updated online CME Intake Application includes specific questions regarding which ACGME or ABMS competency area your program will address, what evidence-based data support the need for change in the competency area, and which evaluation method will best collect outcomes data on the impact of the educational activity in terms of changing physician competence, performance and/or patient outcomes. In addition, the Regularly Scheduled Conferences online CME application will include questions directed at these new criteria beginning July 1, 2009.

Under the Updated Criteria, the ACCME will award CME providers with one of three levels of accreditation: Level 1 – Provisional Accreditation for 2 years; Level 2 – Full Accreditation for 4 years; Level 3 – Accreditation with Commendation for 6 years. The bar has been significantly raised for Accreditation with Commendation encouraging CME providers to engage in their environments to enhance the role of their program, and of CME, in promoting quality and safety. CME providers will be rewarded for modifying and continually improving their practice of CME which will result in improved patient safety and practice improvement for their learner participants. Which Jefferson has been awarded Accreditation with Commendation for the past two recertification cycles, are implementing the New Criteria for the next recertification period, July 2012.

In July 2007, the Jefferson Committee of CME created a sub-committee organized to analyze the new criteria and develop an implementation plan to sequentially meet all three levels of accreditation, as well as create the documentation necessary for recertification. The sub-committee designed the questions directed at the Updated Criteria. The OCME continually seeks educational and discussion opportunities about the Updated Criteria via peer discussions, ACCME surveyor resources, and Committee on CME. The OCME provides regular updates on the Updated Criteria to the Committee. For more information, please contact Pauline Sylvester at (215) 955-5945 or email: pauline.sylvester@jefferson.edu.

Beginning this fiscal year, an updated online CME Intake Application has been designed to include specific questions regarding which ACGME or ABMS competency area your program will address, evidence based data, and program evaluation that will change physician competence, performance and/or patient outcomes.

- In 2006, ACCME changed its criteria for accreditation; the *Updated Criteria* reflect a shift toward Maintenance of Certification (MOC) approach to CME.
- Under the Updated Criteria, CME activities are designed to enhance physician competence, performance and/or patient outcomes, linked to the ACGME and ABMS competencies.
- Jefferson's CME process is being adapted to the Updated Criteria. You will be asked to draw specific connections between competency areas and CME activities, to document the evidence that supports the underlying need for the activity, and to show, through your program evaluation, how the participants changed their competence, performance and/or patient outcomes.