ICO Task Force on Continuing Medical Education

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)
A simplified program to monitor individual CME activities

The program is based in a “point system.”

Each Society is sovereign to determine the classes of activities required, the number of points allocated to each activity, the type of certificates granted. Each member will keep his/her own records. The program needs to operate in a basis of trust, but ophthalmologists need to be aware that they could be required to show their personal CPD records. The ICO suggested CPD program is only a template that each country can adapt to their clinical and infrastructure circumstances.

The points system presented in this document is only an example.

Allocation of points (to be determined by each Society)

I. MEETING and COURSES
One point per hour of educational time? This includes:

- **Local meetings**: ground rounds, seminars, lectures, subspecialty meetings journal clubs at the hospital or teaching institution. Speakers at these meetings could be awarded 2 points.

- **National Societies monthly or periodical meetings.** One point per hour for attendees? Ten points for presenters of scientific papers?

- **Courses, Regional or National.** These Courses should be **accredited** by the National Societies, via their CME representative and CME Committee. If **accredited** by the Society, the Society CME Committee will determine the total number of CME points awarded to that
Course/Symposium, depending on the duration of the Course. Speakers could be awarded 5 points for each presentation.

- **National Congresses.** The Society CME Committee will determine the number of points for full attendance to the Congress. In doing so, CME Committee should consider the duration of the Congress and the total amount of time any person may realistically be expected to be engaged in productive educational activity over the period of the Congress. Maximum allocation of points could be 3 points for half a day of educational activity and 6 points for a full day of educational activity. Presenters of scientific papers or posters could be awarded 5 points. An allocation of 3 points could be made to participants in Symposia and Courses of the National Congress.

- **International Congresses and Courses.** National Congresses of other countries or Courses or Seminars accredited by the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) Accreditation of Meetings Sub Committee will also award points. The accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) of the country where the Congress/Course is held will designate the number of points for the entire meeting. If there is not an ACCME functioning in that country, 3 points could be awarded per half a day of educational activity and 6 points for a full day of educational activity.

- **Training in management, quality accreditation, administration, teaching, information, technology:** could be one point per hour.

II. **EDUCATIONAL VISITS TO OTHER UNITS** could be awarded 3 points per half day?

III. **SKILLS TRANSFER COURSES:** 3 points per hour?

IV. **TEACHING.**

- Monitoring ophthalmology residents or fellows: 5 points per year? Includes only instructors who always see patients at the clinic with a
resident besides him/her and usually have a resident in their surgery or assists and train residents at their surgeries.

- Lectures or programmed interactive teaching activities: 1 point per hour?
- Developing educational resources: 1 point per hour?

V. PUBLICATIONS
- Authoring a paper published in non refereed Journal: 10 points?
- Authoring a paper published in a refereed Journal: 20 points?
- Authoring book chapter or book, editor of book: 30 points?

VI. SELF DIRECTED ACTIVITIES
- Reading Journals: 1 point per hour? A summary of the paper studied should be available for audit.
- E-learning: one point per hour? Referencing the particular website. Example: American Academy of Ophthalmology or ICO educational programs, interactive on-line courses

VII. VIRTUAL COURSES THROUGH INTERNET
- Participants who registered, paid and completed the course: one point per hour of educational activity?
- Participants who also approved a virtual exam: two points per hour of educational activities?

VIII. PARTICIPATION on VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY OR RURAL WORK: 10 points?

Each Society defines the extent of verification and audit they require (An example: 5% of CDP records verified each year)
Note: This is a simplified approach. In the future this Proposal may be modified.

References:


- The Royal College of Ophthalmologists Continuing Professional Development Programme. January 2004 ([www.rcophth.ac.uk/about/cpd/](http://www.rcophth.ac.uk/about/cpd/))


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