

MPC Program expands to benefit pharmacists

Introduction

The MPC (Maintenance of Professional Competence) Program, launched in September 2000 with medical and dental practitioners as the target audience, is becoming expanded. Starting in September 2003, registration was open to pharmacists practicing in Kuwait.

What is CME/CPD?

It is essential for the practitioners in the health professions to keep abreast of the developments in their specialties and in other fields that affect their practices. By engaging in activities aimed at Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Continuing Professional Development (CPD), they would be able to ensure that their professional competence is maintained. The use of the term CPD reflects the position that learning needs to be in a variety of areas other than purely medical content, and that many categories of health professionals have important responsibilities in the health care delivery setting and that they all need to be engaged in appropriate learning to ensure that they remain competent.

Participation in CME/CPD

The organizers of CME/CPD activities would announce the events that have been registered. Prospective participants should apply direct to the organizers for enrollment. When the activity is completed, the organizer would issue a Certificate of Attendance to the participant. Practitioners are expected to maintain documentation regarding participation throughout the five-year cycle. A portfolio is available through the supplier (Visit www.kims.org.kw/cme) for use in documentation.

CME/CPD Providers and CME/CPD Organizers

The CME/CPD Provider is an institution that is accredited by the CME Center for taking

overall responsibility for accredited CME/CPD activities. Under the authority of the CME/CPD Provider, an individual, referred to as the CME/CPD organizer, would attend to the various administrative aspects of planning and conducting a CME/CPD activity.

Opportunities for CME/CPD

The CME/CPD providers should be contacted if practitioners wish to obtain details of the activities that have been accredited under the MPC Program. A wide variety of CME/CPD activities would be planned and conducted by the Health Sciences Faculties of Kuwait University, Kuwait Pharmaceutical Association, and the Department of Pharmaceutical Services of the Ministry of Health. In addition, distance learning formats such as CD ROMs and Internet websites would serve as other useful resources so that practitioners would be able to satisfy their CME/CPD requirements.

CME/CPD Certificate

Practitioners in the field of pharmacy are eligible for a *Certificate of Satisfactory Completion of CME/CPD* when they acquire a minimum of 125 credits within a five-year cycle.

Participation in approved programs offered by recognized educational and scientific institutions outside Kuwait could be considered for acceptance under the MPC Program.

Implementation of CME/CPD for Pharmacists

Two CME/CPD Officers have been appointed by the Director of the Department of Pharmaceutical Services, Ministry of Health, and the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Kuwait University to coordinate the CME/CPD activities in pharmacy and in other fields of interest to pharmacists. They should be contacted for information and any clarifications on how the scheme is administered and how it benefits pharmacists (www.kims.org.kw/cme).