

Continuing Medical Education Programme for Practising Doctors who are not taking CME Programme for Specialists

Guidelines on Credit Point System

1. Objective of the Programme doctors

The purpose of CME Programme for Practising Doctors who are not taking CME Programme for Specialists is to encourage practising doctors who are not taking CME programme for specialists to keep themselves up-to-date on current developments in medical practice so as to maintain a high professional standard. This programme is based on a “Credit Point System” with credit points awarded for participation in CME activities recognised by the Medical Council.

2. The Credit Point System

2.1 The “Credit Point System” awards credit points in the following categories :

- (a) Active and Receptive CME
- (b) Publications
- (c) Self study

2.2 All doctors registered for certification of their CME activities are required to submit proof of attendance, photocopies of published articles, transcripts of courses taken or documentation of self-study programmes, etc. to the CME Programme Administrators.

2.3 CME Point Allocation

- Two points per hour for active and one point per hour for receptive participation in educational activities
- A maximum of three points for a half day programme
- A maximum of five points for a whole day programme
- A maximum of ten points for a programme lasting two or more days
- Each CME activity claimed can only be accredited credit points under one single CME category

3. Criteria for Recognising (or approving) CME activities

3.1 Active and receptive CME

This includes activities in which a registered doctor participates and may include the following :

- (a) Active participation as speaker, chairman, panelist, presenter or passive participation as attendant in any accredited activity (two points per hour for active and one point per hour for passive CME).
- (b) Participation as teacher / trainer / trainee in formal, non-bedside didactic post-graduate course (two points per hour for teacher/trainer and one point per hour for trainee).
- (c) Participation in a hands-on clinical course as trainer or trainee in a hospital or clinic (one point per hour up to a maximum of ten points).

3.2 Publication

Publication includes papers on public health, clinical and/or academic interest published in professional journals, books and newsletters of professional bodies that have been accredited by the CME Programme Accreditors (2 points per publication).

3.3 Self-study

This includes self-study programmes such as self-assessment programmes accredited by local medical organisations, colleges and overseas professional bodies that have been accredited by the CME Programme Accreditors. Credit points of each course will be assessed individually and a maximum of 20 points can be awarded for self-study per year.

3.4 Other criteria

- (a) Activities such as symposia, conferences, scientific meetings, panel discussions, workshops, etc. need to be organised by professional bodies, either local or overseas, and conducted by specialists or experts related to the field.
- (b) Regularly held activities of doctor-groups with attendance of a minimum of 5 doctors may be recognised as CME activities. These include journal meetings, case presentations, X-ray meetings, clinical pathological meetings, audio-visual viewing sessions and invited talks/presentations.
- (c) Network educational programmes which have received prior approval by accredited professional bodies, organized distance-learning programmes, diploma courses, etc. will be granted credit points upon individual application.