



Continuing Medical Education in the Republic of Croatia

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Medical Profession Act

- The Chamber is responsible for ensuring and monitoring the professional development of its members
- Continuing Medical Education – a professional and ethical imperative
- Statutory requirement – medical doctors have the right and an obligation to develop professionally for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing the quality of their medical practices
- Professional development includes continuous monitoring of medical science developments as well as acquisition of new knowledge and skills

HLK Regulations

- The Chamber's CME Regulations prescribe the principles, content, deadlines, the procedure for continuing medical education and the activities of the Chamber's CME Committee as a body authorized for CME monitoring
- Regulations on the Issuance, Renewal and Revocation of Licenses to Practice prescribe a requirement of collecting 120 credits in order to be able to renew the license issued for a period of 6 years
- Medical doctors failing to meet this requirement must, as a license renewal requirement, take a professional knowledge test before a special Testing Commission of the Croatian Medical Chamber (HLK)

Types of CME Events for which Credits are Assigned/1

1. Congress/conference – international level – active/passive participation - 20/10 credits
2. Congress/conference – local level - active/passive participation - 15/10 credits
3. 1st, 2nd and 3rd category courses – international level – local level – active/passive participation - 30/20; 20/15;10/8 credits - 20/15;15/10;10/8 credits
4. Study visits (in the duration ranging from one week to one year) – in the country/abroad with a mentor - 15/10 credits per week, a maximum of 50 credits in one relicensing period; open-type visits to clinics – 1 credit per visit, a maximum of 10 credits in one relicensing period

Types of CME Events for which Credits are Assigned/2

1. Symposia (in Croatia, in Croatia with international participation, international)
2. Professional meetings in hospitals, HLK county committees, branches of the Croatian Medical Association, professional companies 3/2; 6/4; professional scientific lectures by an invited specialists 8/6; professional lectures as part of discussions on public health with the aim of raising public awareness and knowledge - 2 credits
3. Taking tests in written and electronic formats – 10 credits
4. Publishing scientific or professional articles in indexed magazines - 40-25 credits, non-indexed publications - 15 credits, preparation of a summary or poster for a particular congress, conference or symposium – 4 credits

Types of CME Events for which Credits are Assigned/3

1. Research levels, MD PhD - 60 credits, MD MSc 30 credits
2. Post-graduate professional study – 20 credits
3. Specialization/sub-specialization - 60/30 credits
4. Head Doctor title – 40 credits
5. Reporting drug side-effects- 2 credits
6. Mentorship and other forms of practical training – 5-10 credits per mentorship, a maximum of 20 credits in one relicensing period
7. CMC recognizes CME events which take place in other countries according to CMC regulation

Registering Professional Meetings with the Chamber

- Since 2007, registration has been possible via web application at www.hlk.hr – application is CMC original invention
- The application enables online registration of professional meetings/events by organizers
- The electronically registered professional meeting/event is evaluated by the Chamber's CME Committee
- The Chamber sends a notification concerning the number of credits which may be assigned for participation to the organizer's e-mail address
- After the meeting/event, the organizer is required to deliver the list of participating medical doctors in order to allow entering of the credits assigned to individual medical doctors into their so-called 'medical doctor's scorecards'
- Every medical doctor can access his/her medical doctor's scorecard in order to monitor the number of credits earned

A symposium organized by HLK Zagreb, April 4, 2014

„Organization of Continuing Medical Education for Medical Doctors
after Croatia’s Accession to the European Union”

Here are some of the topics discussed:

Continuing medical education of medical doctors and EU funds: opportunities and challenges – Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

Continuing medical education pursuant to Croatian legislation

Registration of professional meetings/events organized for the purpose of providing CME opportunities to medical doctors, education evaluation criteria

– Croatian Medical Chamber

The role of the pharmaceutical industry in the organization and realization of professional meetings/events on the topic of CME (ethical principles and funding problems)

A symposium organized by HLK Zagreb, April 4, 2014

When is the organizer of a professional meeting/event required to engage a travel agency (PCO) – Vice President of the Croatian Meeting Professionals Association

Formal requirements for the organization of professional meetings/events in Croatia – Director of the Association of Croatian Travel Agencies

Invited international lecturers:

From „Continuing Medical Education“ to „Pay for Performance“?

Otmar Kloiber, MD PhD, Secretary of the World Medical Association (WMA)

Accreditation of Live Educational Events in CME/CPD: why? how? what?

Edwin Borman, MD PhD, General Secretary of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS)

A symposium organized by HLK Zagreb, April 4, 2014

- The symposium has been recorded and is available via HLK's website as a new form of education
- Every interested member of the Chamber may access this online CME event and thus earn relicensing credits

Future CME Monitoring Activities of the Croatian Medical Chamber

- The procedure for signing a Cooperation Agreement with UEMS-EACCME is under way
- This agreement will allow the Croatian Medical Chamber to cooperate in the international CME event accreditation procedure, as well as ensure mutual recognition of CME credits and raise the quality of CME event accreditation procedures

In Conclusion

- The Croatian Medical Chamber considers continuing medical education extremely important since the scientific and technological progress results in continuous development of new medical diagnostic and therapeutic procedures
- Failing to embrace lifelong learning and continuing education as their obligation, medical doctors will not be able to ensure quality medical services or an adequate level of medical protection to their patients on a long-term basis
- The Croatian Medical Chamber has almost 20 years of experience in monitoring the continuing medical education of medical doctors
- The Croatian Medical Chamber is now assigning credits for new types of CME – online education

Thank you for your attention!

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