Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education

Continuing Professional Development Newsletter

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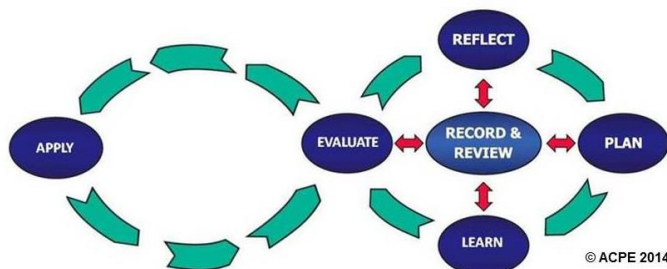You may access CPD newsletters and other information about Continuing Professional Development on the ACPE website.

Please do not hesitate to contact ACPE staff with questions related to Continuing Professional Development. Reach us by phone at 312.664.3575.

1. Guidance on CPD for the Profession of Pharmacy

At their January 2015 meeting, the ACPE Board of Directors approved the *Guidance on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for the Profession of Pharmacy*. The document was developed by ACPE's CPD Steering Committee and incorporates feedback from a broad survey of the profession that was conducted in July 2014. The *Guidance* defines CPD as a self-directed, ongoing, systematic and outcomes-focused approach to lifelong learning that is applied into practice. It involves the process of active participation in formal and informal learning activities that assist in developing and maintaining competence, enhancing professional practice, and supporting achievement of career goals. CPD provides a process for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians to meet and maintain defined competencies in areas relevant to their respective professional responsibilities.

The *Guidance* describes each stage of the CPD cycle and articulates the key component of the CPD approach is linking learning to practice (refer to figure below). The document also provides types of learning activities that may contribute to the professional development of both pharmacists and pharmacy technicians beyond continuing pharmacy education (CPE).

The CPD Cycle

2. Call for CPD Implementation Projects

In an effort to facilitate further awareness and understanding of approaches to self-directed lifelong learning in the pharmacy profession, ACPE is inviting stakeholders to share their experiences in implementing models of Continuing Professional Development (CPD). We are interested to learn of your strategies, practices, and outcomes in promoting self-directed lifelong learning among those you assist or support in their professional development (e.g., students, residents, faculty, pharmacists, technicians). Your experiences and lessons learned will help further CPD adoption, allow others to draw from relevant initiatives, and aid in enriching available resources.

Submission of CPD implementation projects will use the following format:
- brief description of setting and drivers for CPD implementation;
- methods used in CPD implementation;
- outcomes/impact of CPD implementation;
- monitoring strategies and lessons learned; and
- future plans, if any.

ACPE will work with contributors to format the project into a case study to appear on the ACPE website and/or in ACPE publications, e.g. CPD newsletter. Common themes and best practices may be collated across the submissions and shared anonymously within presentations. In addition, we encourage contributors to share their tips and tools for application in practice to be featured on the ACPE website (e.g. resource documents, video/webcast segments).

To access the CPD Implementation Project form, please click **HERE**. Submissions are due by **April 15, 2015**. We encourage you to share the link with peers and colleagues who have been involved with CPD implementation. Questions? Contact ACPE staff.

3. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Steering Committee

The ACPE Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Taskforce was established in 2010 to serve in an advisory capacity to the CPE Commission and ACPE Board of Directors on matters relating to CPD in order to facilitate profession-wide adoption and implementation of CPD concepts and approaches. At its June 2013 meeting, the ACPE Board of Directors approved new terms of reference for the Taskforce to be restructured as the ACPE CPD Steering Committee. The function of the Committee remains unchanged in its charge to generate and prioritize ideas and recommendations to the Board as well as striving to develop strategic partnerships in advancing the concepts of CPD for individual learners and the profession. The Committee established two overarching goals to guide their work:
1) facilitate profession-wide implementation of CPD through education, awareness, and resources; and
2) promote research into the CPD model and its ability to improve the process and outcomes of self-directed lifelong learning.

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CPD Steering Committee Members

Janet Cline, RPh
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Creative Educational Concepts, Inc.

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Jennifer Moulton, RPh
Chief Executive Officer
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CPD Speakers Bureau

Consistent with the CPD Steering Committee's goal to advance awareness and education about CPD, ACPE is interested in developing a speakers bureau of qualified individuals who have experience in continuing professional development to assist those organizations seeking a greater understanding of CPD concepts and components or who have a desire to further CPD implementation.

If you have an interest in being part of the speakers bureau or becoming involved with the CPD Steering Committee (e.g., serving on the committee, participating in workgroups, or project-specific initiatives), please contact Jennifer Baumgartner, Assistant Director, CPE Provider Accreditation Program.

4. International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) CPD/CE Global Report

In September 2014, the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) released a key report on CPD/CPE at their World Congress held in Bangkok, Thailand. The report, *Continuing Professional Development/Continuing Education in Pharmacy: Global Report*, reports the status, activities and trends of continuing education and continuing professional development in pharmacy around the world. The report emphasizes the critical need for lifelong learning in pharmacy and pharmaceutical sciences as technology and healthcare evolve. Key components and recommendations for developing and advocating for the transformation of CPD/CE systems are introduced. The report can be accessed from the FIP website or directly here.

5. CPD Resources

CPD WordPress Sites

The CPD Steering Committee maintains two web-based CPD resource sites: CPD Scholarship, which categorizes and profiles articles about CPD in pharmacy, and CPD News and Resources, which provides CPD-related information and resources. Visitors are welcome to follow both sites to receive notifications of new posts. Additionally, recommendations of articles and resources to be added to the database can be made directly on each website.

CPD Webinar Series

A series of educational webinars is available on the ACPE website which provides information and exercises related to the CPD approach to lifelong learning. The webinars offer handouts, worksheets, and opportunities for self-assessment of the content. The following topics are addressed:

- CPD101 - describes the concepts and components of CPD, the need to improve how pharmacists approach their continuing education and lifelong learning, and compares and contrasts the traditional CE model with a CPD model.
- Inventory of Learning Styles - discusses the role of self-reflection in CPD and how to apply learning styles theory to facilitate self-reflection.
- Using Reflection to Create a Learning Plan - describes the importance and application of reflection in personal and professional development and how to design learning objectives that address the personal and professional goals identified through reflection.
- Act, Evaluate, and Record Your CPD - describes how to implement a personal learning plan to accomplish identified learning objectives, evaluate your learning and overall CPD process, and develop and maintain a CPD portfolio.