



Message from the Faculty of Radiologists

We are currently in the second year of the Professional Competence Scheme, and wanted to keep you up-to-date with some developments that have taken place recently.

Should you require clarification on anything in the newsletter, or have any queries on the Professional Competence Scheme, please don't hesitate to contact the office by phone (01-402 2139) or by email (pcs@radiology.ie).

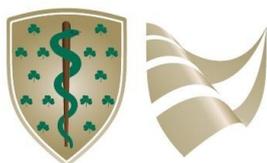
Dr Anthony Ryan
Chairman
QA/PCS Committee

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Faculty of Radiologists



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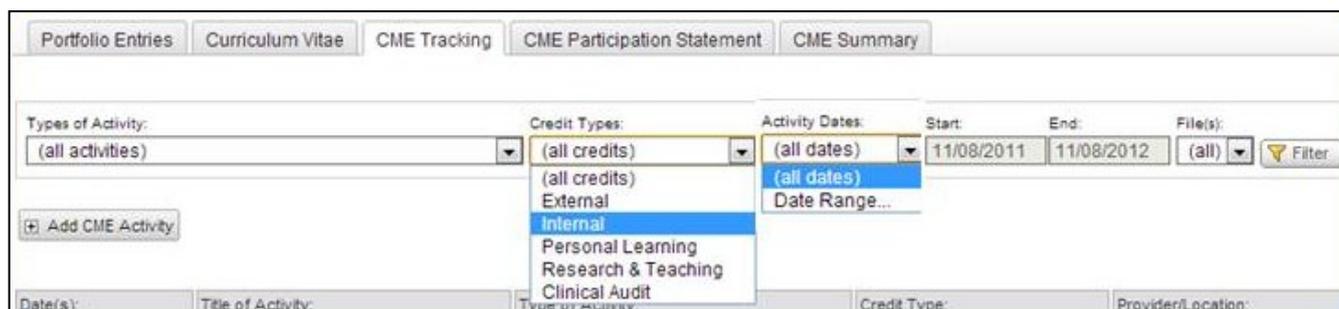
Comhairle na nDoctúirí Leighis
Medical Council

Professional Competence
Reaching for Improvement

Upgrades to MedHub

A number of upgrades were carried out recently on MedHub. These changes are as follows:

- The importing of in-house conferences now takes place automatically, so in future if you attend a Faculty conference, those credits will appear in your portfolio without the need to choose the 'import in-house conference' option
- The 'Add CME activity' button has been moved to the top of the portfolio to make it more accessible
- You will receive a reminder from MedHub on 1st March and weekly reminders from 1st April if deficient in credits in certain categories
- To see the current status of your credits on MedHub, you can use the filters in the CME tracking section. You can choose the category of credits under the 'Credit types' menu (image below). By clicking in the 'Activity Dates' menu and choosing 'Date Range' you can also view credits within a specific time period.



- The system of adding credits to MedHub has changed slightly. Now when you add credits, you will choose the credit type from the drop down menu, and directly below the credit type is a list of activities relating to it. Here is an image of what it looks like:



Credits for Faculty meetings

The Faculty will enter the following credits onto MedHub for Registrants:

- Faculty organised scientific meetings
- Faculty Committee meetings
- Teaching carried out on behalf of the Faculty, as part of the training programme teaching schedule

Please note that credits for question setting and examinations will not be added by the Faculty, as there is a lot of unscheduled time involved in this and the examiner would be best placed to determine the level of hours/credits involved. These credits should be entered in the Research & Teaching category.

Clarifications

Audit

To comply with Medical Council regulations, you will need to add 12 credits to MedHub annually to meet the target in the audit category, calculated on the basis of 1 credit per month.

External Credits for Didactic Events

The current regulation set out by the Forum of Postgraduate Training Bodies regarding didactic events is that the maximum number of credits that can be claimed in the external category is 6 per day; however, it is recognised that many events are longer than 6 hours. Thus, in order to get the full benefit from meetings exceeding 6 hours in duration, the balance of credits may be added to the Personal Learning category (on a one credit per hour basis). Thus, an 8 hour day should be submitted as 6 hours external credits and 2 personal learning credits. Please note that the following activities do not count towards CPD credits: Registration time, breaks, lunch or dinner, award or prize-giving ceremonies, announcements, welcome address.

Internal Events

If you are adding events in the internal category that are taking place in your hospital, the provider/location should be listed as the hospital, rather than as RCSI.

Reminders

- Evidence should be uploaded to support all credits
- Please ensure that no confidential information or patient identifiers are uploaded to MedHub

QA Activity

A meeting took place recently with Dr Paul Kavanagh of the Medical Council to clarify how practitioners can claim credits in the audit category for QA activities.

The Council has stressed the importance of practitioners taking an active role in Audit. QA activities such as discrepancy meetings can be counted towards Audit credits; however, it should be noted that the Council's intention is that these meetings do not replace formal audit activity but should prompt audit projects addressing personal, departmental or service deficits. Registrants are thus urged to engage in audits arising as above in addition to passively attending meetings.

Audit is recognized as having three elements:

- (1) Measurement – measuring a specific element of clinical practice
- (2) Comparison – comparing results with the recognised standard (in circumstances where comparison is possible)
- (3) Evaluation – reflecting on outcome of audit and changing practice accordingly

Maternity Leave

Following correspondence from the Medical Council, we can confirm that for practitioners on maternity leave, if targets are not met in one year, the balance of credits should be obtained in the following year.

Statements of Participation

Statements of Participation for PCS Year 1 (1 May 2011 - 30 April 2012) will remain available to all registrants on MedHub so that they can be printed off at any time. If you are chosen for audit by the Medical Council, you will be required to produce this certificate. Should you have any difficulties accessing your statement, please let the office know.

New section on the website

This page lists all upcoming meetings accredited by the Faculty of Radiologists, in addition to those accredited by other Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies that may be of interest to Radiologists/ Radiation Oncologists:

<http://www.radiology.ie/professional-competence-scheme/events-accredited-for-cpd/>