

A practical guide for general practitioners

# Changes to the ACRRM PDP Program

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Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is a professional obligation for all general practitioners and is a registration requirement of the Medical Board of Australia (MBA). The MBA has proposed regulatory changes to strengthen CPD under the Professional Performance Framework (PPF), aiming to increase value and effectiveness.

A new ACRRM framework ensures access to a range of continuing educational activities to enhance clinical management and professional skills.

Activities will be measured in hours, rather than points, and members will need to achieve 150 hours throughout 2020–2022 and in subsequent trienniums.

Sonic Healthcare is proud to partner with ACRRM in the delivery of education to GPs in rural and remote areas, to maintain the highest standards of patient care.

## Professional Development Program (PDP) requirements

The new framework for the ACRRM Professional Development Program (PDP) facilitates the recognition of day-to-day practice-based learning, as well as traditional educational opportunities. Requirements are the same for both full-time and part-time GPs.

Educational activities	Some examples include:	
Lectures, presentations, meetings, distance education and self-directed learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Conferences, workshops, meetings &amp; seminars</li> <li>■ Practical training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Supervision of registrars</li> </ul>
Advanced Life Support (ALS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Minimum 1 hour course (must meet Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) guidelines)</li> </ul>	
<b>Educational activities requirements = 25% of 150 hours</b>		
+		
Performance review	Some examples include:	
Includes measures that analyse and reflect on your actual work process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Practice accreditation</li> <li>■ Clinical attachment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Patient feedback</li> <li>■ Clinical teaching visit</li> </ul>
Often includes feedback from peers, colleagues and patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Peer review - case-based discussion</li> <li>■ Published journal articles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Assessment of skills/practical training</li> <li>■ Educator, supervisor or examiner</li> </ul>
<b>Performance review requirements = 25% of 150 hours</b>		
+		
Outcome measurement	Some examples include:	
Can involve reviewing practice data and reflecting on your patients' health outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Clinical audit</li> <li>■ Review of medical records</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Publications</li> <li>■ Morbidity &amp; mortality meetings</li> </ul>
<b>Outcome measurement requirements = 25% of 150 hours</b>		
+		
<b>The remaining 25% can incorporate any of the above</b>		
=		
<b>Total PDP requirements = 150 hours</b>		

For a comprehensive list of CPD activities, please refer to the ACRRM Personal Development Program 2020–2022 Handbook, available via [www.acrrm.org.au](http://www.acrrm.org.au)

## Proudly supporting continued education

Sonic Healthcare is committed to providing a comprehensive medical education program, specifically relevant to general practice, and is a provider of ACCRM-approved activities in the 2020–2022 triennium.

The College's standards for professional development require accredited educational activities to be assessed against the PDP framework and curriculum. Our accredited activities have undertaken quality improvement processes and audits, to provide assurance of the quality of the education and adherence to ACRRM standards.

Across Australia, our Sonic Healthcare practices provide a variety of educational opportunities, including conferences, surgical audits, seminars and multidisciplinary meetings that focus on knowledge and skills, reviewing performance and measuring outcomes.



### Conferences & seminars

Featuring expert presenters and medical specialists, we offer a range of educational activities to ensure that GPs remain as informed and involved as possible on current procedures, updates and new developments in clinical practice.

Some examples of these activities include:

- Skin Cancer seminars (Part 1 & 2)
- Women's and Men's Health conferences
- Imaging and Sports Medicine seminars



### Short courses/workshops

Sonic practices present learning activities, dedicated to assisting GPs to reinforce and/or update existing knowledge and skills.

A variety of courses are also available online.

These courses include:

- Infectious Disease, Travel Medicine & Dermatology workshops
- Genetics information sessions (including NIPT and Reproductive Carrier Screening)



### Clinical audits

GPs can access a selection of clinical audits to assist in monitoring and evaluating current knowledge and processes or improve the quality of healthcare delivered by the practice.

The following audits are independent, Australia-wide programs with thousands of participating GPs:

- Clinical Audit Skin Cancer Surgical Audit
- Clinical Audit Cervical Screening Test Audit



### Sonic Dx

Sonic Dx provides doctors with accessible data and tools to reflect on their practice and measure outcomes. Using Custom Views, data sets can be extracted for review, using patients' results for a specific condition group (for example, diabetes, CST, lipids) or those who have had specific testing.



### Sonic Education online e-learning

Our new online e-learning environment allows doctors to undertake training in a flexible, self-paced manner. This can be via short seminars or videos, which are relevant to their scope of practice or areas of clinical interest.

### Maintenance of Professional Standards (MOPS) reporting

The ACRRM MOPS program is an optional extra level of PDP record keeping and reporting for members who have extended skills in procedural or emergency practice. ACRRM reports on behalf of members to the appropriate bodies for MOPS purposes. Activities undertaken for MOPS will also contribute to your overall PDP requirements. Sonic Healthcare programs often are awarded MOPS points.

For further information on conferences, seminars and other courses, please contact your local Sonic Healthcare practice or visit [www.soniceducation.com.au](http://www.soniceducation.com.au)