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A practical guide for general practitioners

Changes to the RACGP CPD Program



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.

The RACGP has developed new CPD Education Standards to ensure educational rigour and integrity of resources delivered to GPs.

The RACGP is using the 2020–2022 triennium to transition from the previous 2017–2019 program to the new requirements, to be implemented in the 2023–2025 triennium.

Sonic Healthcare is proud to partner with the RACGP in the delivery of education to GPs in order to maintain and improve provision of care for the community.

CPD triennium requirements

As part of the RACGP commitment to continually evaluate and improve the CPD Program, and in preparation for the PPF changes, CPD triennium requirements have been revised.

Mandated activities	Points	Some examples include:
2 x CPD Accredited Activity through an RACGP CPD Education Provider	80 (2 x 40)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">ConferenceSeminarSupervised clinical attachmentOnline modules with peer interaction, discussion or feedback
Basic Life Support (BLS)	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minimum 1 hour course (must meet Australian Resuscitation Council (ARC) guidelines)
Mandated activities total = 85 points		

+

Chosen learning	Points	Some examples include:
CPD Activity	2 per hour max. of 30 points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Short course/workshop
Self-Directed Accredited Activity	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Audit (practice/clinical)Published journal articlesHigher educationEducator, supervisor or examiner
Logged CPD Activity	2 per hour max. of 30 points	<div><ul style="list-style-type: none">Medical Committee or Board workOnline educational activitiesResearchPublications & presentations<ul style="list-style-type: none">Professional development plan (PDP)Peer reviewAccrediting/auditingMedico-legal workReview of medical records</div>
Chosen learning total = Balance of points		

=

Minimum CPD requirements = 130 points

Proudly supporting continued education



Sonic Healthcare is committed to providing a comprehensive medical education program, specifically relevant to general practice, and is an approved CPD Education Provider of the RACGP in the 2020–2022 triennium.

Our status as a CPD Education Provider means we undertake quality improvement processes and audits to provide assurance of the quality of the education and adherence to RACGP 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.



CPD Accredited Activity – 40 points

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



CPD Activity – 2 points per hour

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)



Self-Directed Accredited Activity – 40 points

CPD 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



Logged CPD Activity – 2 points per hour

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.



Logged CPD Activity – 2 points per hour

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.

For a comprehensive list of CPD activities, please refer to The RACGP Continuing Professional Development Handbook for General Practitioners, available via www.racgp.org.au/education

For further information on conferences, seminars and other courses, please contact your local Sonic Healthcare practice or visit www.soniceducation.com.au