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Dear Name,

April 5, 2005

EDUCATING THE RE-ENTERING PHYSICIAN

One of the cornerstones of CPEP's Clinical Skills Re-Entry Program is education. For physicians returning to practice after an extended absence, updating skills and knowledge is paramount. The CPEP program provides a structured process and plan to facilitate a safe transition back into clinical practice for the returning physician.



Built on a 15-year tradition of physician education, CPEP's Re-Entry program allows physicians to be a part of identifying their own educational needs. Program benefits include intensive supervisor/preceptor training and greater accountability from the physician for educational updating and integration. The CPEP staff works closely with the participant and their supervisor/preceptor to validate progress. A simple review of documentation is not enough. Both must demonstrate that learning is integrated back into patient care.

The education process begins after completion of the one-day initial skills evaluation. An education plan is developed with the participant's goals in mind. The first phase is the Supervised Clinical Experience, which typically occurs in a university or a community-based setting. This intensive supervision phase is where skills and knowledge are updated. For example, a surgeon enrolled in the re-entry program might first observe a

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peer surgeon, then move to assisting during surgery, and finally to performing procedures with supervisory oversight.

The entire process occurs concomitantly with an intensive review of current guidelines and updates. CPEP guides and monitors the individually designed process to ensure physicians receive the needed educational supervision. This allows a safe and smooth transition to clinical practice. Physician participants must meet the standards agreed upon by their supervisor, the CPEP Associate Medical Director and Education staff. Compliance, progress, clinical decision-making, awareness of limitations, and knowledge are only some of the components used to determine readiness to move into the next phase, a Transitional Clinical Experience.

The physician begins to see patients and perform straightforward procedures independently. In the monitored independent practice, monitoring continues through regularly scheduled reviews of patient encounters by a physician preceptor. At this critical juncture, CPEP's education staff maintains close monitoring of ongoing progress and the physician's commitment to updating skills. CPEP's Medical Director reviews complete charts to objectively verify progress midway through this phase. Physicians successfully "graduate" from the Clinical Skills Re-Entry Program when CPEP, the preceptor, and the physician agree all learning objectives were successfully met.

By Debbie Waugh, CPEP Director of Program Services

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Re-Entering Physicians Getting National Attention

Recently, *Medical Economics* completed a series of articles on career opportunities for physicians. The last in the series ran in the March 4th issue and covered how physicians re-enter practice after time away. "[Finding a Job: Returning to Practice](#)," was written by Dorothy Pennachio and examined the issue from the point of view of state medical boards, insurance companies, as well as physicians themselves. Various programs around the country were profiled including the CPEP Clinical Practice Re-Entry program. The article is well worth reading.

(04 Mar. 2005) Pennachio, D.L. "Finding a Job. Returning to Practice"

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Patient Care Documentation Course Dates

September 12, 2005

December 2, 2005

This interactive seminar is designed to provide participants with more efficient and effective methods for meeting heightened expectations in all aspects of patient care documentation.

This year's course includes:

Pre-Course Individualized Feedback: Participants submitting charts prior to the seminar have the opportunity to review their charts with a skilled physician reviewer. This feedback session prepares the participant to better focus on specific areas within the full eight-hour course.

Comprehensive Content: The on-site portion of the program combines presentations, group exercises, demonstrations, practice workshops, and evaluations. The full-day course covers Outpatient and Inpatient Documentation.

Individualized Follow-Up: This year's course also provides an optional individualized follow-up program. The revamped portion will provide more detailed information documenting progress and achievement for participants. Participants will receive follow-up evaluations from a skilled physician reviewer at two month, four month, and six month intervals. The reviewer will provide detailed verbal and written feedback to the physician. Participants and their referring agencies will receive a final summation of the participant's successful completion of the course.

CME Credit and course discounts are available. Since there are only two more classes in Colorado for 2005, individualized and on-site group instruction options are also available.

To register or request more information, call us at (303) 750-7150 or visit our website www.cpepdoc.org.

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CPEP in Texas

CPEP representatives will be attending the annual meetings for Administrators in Medicine and the Federation of State Medical Boards in Dallas, TX this year. Both events will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel from May 11th through May 14th. The CPEP booth will be open throughout the FSMB meeting. If you and/or members of your staff plan to attend, please make it a point to stop by and say hello. We look forward to seeing everyone in the Lone Star State!

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