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# **CME Requirements for Relicensure in Connecticut:** *Physicians and Advanced Practice Providers*

*Hartford HealthCare's Continuing Medical Education Department  
October, 2018*

# Physicians and APRNs

# Physicians & APRNs

- **What is needed?**

- Education in an area of provider's practice
- Must reflect the individual's needs in order to meet the needs of the public

- **How much is needed?**

- 50 hours
- Minimum of 1 hour in each mandated topic

- **When is it needed?**

- First renewal period where CME is needed (2<sup>nd</sup> renewal)
- In the 24 months preceding annual re-licensure
- Mandatory topics @ least once every 6 years

# What are the CT State Mandated Topics? *For Physicians & Surgeons*

- **Infectious Diseases** (*1 hour*)
  - including HIV & AIDS
- **Risk Management** (*1 hour*)
  - including pain management & prescribing controlled substances
- **Sexual Assault** (*1 hour*)
- **Domestic Violence** (*1 hour*)
- **Cultural Competency** (*1 hour*)
- **Behavioral Health** (*2 hours*)
  - including at least 2 hours in mental health conditions common to veterans & their family members

# What are the CT State Mandated Topics?

## *For APRNs*

- **Pharmacotherapeutics** *(5 hours)*
- **Infectious Diseases** *(1 hour)*
  - including HIV & AIDS
- **Risk Management** *(1 hour)*
- **Substance Abuse** *(1 hour)*
  - including pain management & prescribing controlled substances
- **Sexual Assault** *(1 hour)*
- **Domestic Violence** *(1 hour)*
- **Cultural Competency** *(1 hour)*
- **Behavioral Health** *(2 hours)*
  - including at least 2 hours in mental health conditions common to veterans & their family members

# As of 10-01-16, Veterans' Behavioral Health Education must include...

- Determining whether a patient is a veteran or family member of a veteran
- Screening for mental health conditions prevalent in veterans, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, risk of suicide, depression, and grief
- Suicide prevention training

# CME Waivers and Exemptions

- **Exemptions**

- When applying renewal for the FIRST time
- Not actively practicing
- Medical disability or illness

- **Waivers**

- 10 hours only
- Documented service as member of:
  - CT Medical Examining Board (physicians)
  - Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Nursing (APRNs)
  - Medical hearing panel (physicians)
  - DPH boards and commissions

# Required Documentation and Record Retention

- Providers will attest to satisfying the continuing education requirements
  - Submit records and certificates ONLY if requested by Department of Public Health
  - Submit within 45 days of DPH request
- **Physicians:** Retain records and certificates for a minimum of 6 years from the year AFTER the activity was completed
- **APRNs:** Retain records and certificates for a minimum of 3 years from the year AFTER the activity was completed



# Physician Assistants

# What are the CT CME Requirements for PA's?

- Pain Management and Prescribing Controlled Substances
  - every 2 years
- Attest to meeting requirements for renewal
- Fulfill CME requirements of the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA)
- Pass any examination the NCCPA may require

# NCCPA CME Requirements

- **10-year Recertification (began phasing in, 2014)**
  - Pass recertification examination every 10 years
  - 100 hours logged with NCCPA by Dec 31<sup>st</sup> of each even year of certification cycle (5 cycles)
    - 50 hours Category 1
    - 50 hours Category 1 OR Category 2
  - NCCPA Certification Maintenance Fee by Dec 31<sup>st</sup> of recertification year
- **6-year Recertification (began phasing out, 2014)**
  - 100 hours logged with NCCPA by Dec 31<sup>st</sup> of each even year of certification cycle (3 cycles)
    - 50 hours Category 1
    - 50 hours Category 1 OR Category 2
  - NCCPA Certification Maintenance Fee by Dec 31<sup>st</sup> of recertification year

# NCCPA Category 1 CME

- **Regular** CME Credit from the following:
  - AAPA Category 1 CME credit from the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA)
  - Category 1-A credit from the American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
  - Prescribed Credit from the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
  - *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)<sup>TM</sup>* by the Accreditation Council on CME (ACCME) or a recognized state medical society
  - Royal College MOC credits by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)
  - Mainpro C or Mainpro-M1 CPD credits by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)
  - Mainpro C or Mainpro-M1 CPD credits by the Physician Assistant Certification Council of Canada (PACCC)
  - ECMECs from the European Union of Medical Specialists/European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EUMS/EACCME)
- **Self Assessment** CME
  - ONLY AAPA approved sponsors
- **Performance Improvement** CME
  - ONLY accepted from AAPA, ABMS, or AOA approved sponsors

# NCCPA Category 2 CME

Any educational activity that relates to medicine, patient care, or the role of the PA that has not been designated for Category 1 credit

# NCCPA Bonus Credit

- In recognition of the value of very interactive types of CME
- 50% additional credit for all activities designated for self-assessment credit
- The first 20 PI-CME credits logged during every two-year cycle will be *doubled*

# Required Documentation and Record Retention

- All credits must be logged in NCCPA website
- NCCPA randomly audits providers
  - Proof of credits documented for past 2 years
  - If fail:
    - Must retake CME hours
    - Will be audited in *NEXT* 2 year cycle
    - Will be audited in *one of 3 following* cycles
- Retain current and prior cycles' worth of education documentation

# References

- DUBY, N., *Connecticut's Opioid Drug Abuse Laws*, Office of Legislative Research, Research Report 2016-R-0143, October 28, 2016.
- Physician CME Requirements
  - [www.portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/Physician/Continuing-Medical-Education](http://www.portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/Physician/Continuing-Medical-Education), (retrieved 10-23-18)
- APRN CME Requirements
  - [www.portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/APRN/Continuing-Education](http://www.portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/APRN/Continuing-Education), (retrieved 10-23-18)
- PA CME Requirements
  - [www.portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/Physician-Assistant/Continuing-Education](http://www.portal.ct.gov/DPH/Practitioner-Licensing--Investigations/Physician-Assistant/Continuing-Education), (retrieved 10-23-18)
  - [www.aapa.org/learning-central/cme-faqs/](http://www.aapa.org/learning-central/cme-faqs/), (retrieved 10-23-18)





**For any questions...**

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