

# GUIDELINES ON CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR DENTAL PRACTITIONERS IN MALAYSIA

Malaysian Dental Council June 2011

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#### 1. Introduction

**Continuing Professional Development (CPD)** is the means by which members of professions or professional associations maintain, improve and broaden their knowledge and skills, and develop the professional and personal qualities required of them in their professional lives. CPD requires a conscious commitment by the professional to keep up-to-date and to continuously seek to improve knowledge and competence.

All dental practitioners should therefore, participate in CPD, as CPD courses aim to ensure that dental practitioners are updated and competent to provide high-quality oral healthcare that assures patient health and safety.

To ensure subscription to CPD, accumulation of CPD points is now required for renewal of the Annual Practicing Certificate (APC) or Temporary Practicing Certificate (TPC) to practice in Malaysia. All dental practitioners who practice in Malaysia, citizens and non-citizens, are subject to this requirement, including those who work on a contract basis.

# 2. Objective

The objective of this document is to clarify the mechanism for dental practitioners to claim CPD points for the purpose of APC or TPC renewal under the Dental Act.

#### 3. CPD Activities

Activities considered as CPD thus rendering participants eligible for CPD points include the following:

- ✓ Congresses or conferences
- ✓ Scientific meetings
- ✓ Workshops, courses or attachments
- ✓ Continuing Dental/ Medical Education sessions
- ✓ Presentation at accredited congresses/ conferences/ forums
- ✓ Publication of articles in journals or reports
- ✓ Self study
- ✓ Degree or post-graduate programmes

- ✓ Involvement as committee or project members in Quality Initiatives, research projects or training activities
- ✓ Editor or member of editorial board or referee or reviewer
- ✓ Other supporting activities related to personal development and self improvement
- ✓ Office bearers of societies/associations/NGOs or the equivalent.

It is recommended that dental practitioners attend activities related to clinical updates, and in addition give focus to other areas of health and safety (e.g. medical emergencies, infection control, radiography/radiation protection), legal and ethical issues, handling of complaints and issues of public health.

CPD points may be obtained through various methods of CPD delivery, and need not necessarily be achieved only from attending courses. Such activities will be approved by the CPD Points Awarding Committee appointed by the Malaysian Dental Council.

The courses that will be eligible for CPD points should be organised by the providers to be relevant to the practitioners. The main providers in Malaysia include the following:

- ✓ Ministry of Health
- ✓ Ministry of Higher Education
- ✓ Ministry of Defence
- ✓ Malaysian Dental Association
- ✓ Other Professional Bodies/Affiliates (including organisations such as the World Health Organisation, Federation Dentaire Internationale)

CPD points can also be obtained by attending courses or activities in the country or overseas, for example those organized by the Dental Associations, Universities or other relevant organization.

# 4. CPD Credit Point System

The CPD credit point system adopted by the Malaysian Dental Council (MDC) (**Appendix 1**) covers the CPD activities listed above.

# 5. CPD Points Requirements for Renewal of Practising Certificates

All dental practitioners must produce evidence of CPD points for renewal of APC or TPC. Dental practitioners should ensure that the majority of CPD activities they undertake are relevant to their practice of dentistry.

#### 5.1 APC Renewal

CPD points shall be totaled from 1 January - 31 December for each calendar year.

CPD points to be considered for APC renewal for the forthcoming year shall be based on the CPD points of the preceding year. For example, APC application in the year 2011 for renewal of APC for 2012 will consider CPD points gained in 2010. This will enable dental practitioners to apply for APC renewal for the forthcoming year any time after 1 February of the current year, ensuring that the application and payment are received by the Council before 1 December.

Please note that practitioners who are not in practice and therefore do not apply for APC in any given year, will still have to obtain CPD points to be submitted with any application for APC in the future.

# **5.1.1** APC Application / Renewal for the Newly-Registered Dental Practitioner

Newly-registered dental practitioners shall be exempt from showing evidence of CPD points for APC renewal for the first 3 years of practice.

However, collection of CPD points is still mandatory within this 3-year period to ensure approval of APC renewals in subsequent years. Application for APC renewal for the  $4^{th}$  year of practice will require the new dental practitioner to show proof of CPD points from within the 3-year period.

For example, a new registrant in May 2010 need not show proof of CPD points for APC renewals for 2011 to 2013. However, APC

application in 2013 for renewal of APC 2014 or APC for private practice will require verification of CPD points collected in 2012.

#### **5.2** TPC Application / Renewal

Contract officers and academicians employed with a TPC on longterm employment and post-graduate student shall be exempt from showing evidence of CPD points for the first renewal of their TPC.

For example, a new application in May 2010 need not show proof of CPD points for TPC renewal for 2011. However, TPC application in 2011 for renewal of TPC 2012 will require verification of CPD points collected in 2011.

TPC applicants for external examiners or those attending short courses are exempt from having to show evidence of CPD points.

## 5.3 Annual CPD Points Requirement

The Dental Act sets 30 CPD points as the annual requirement for renewal of practicing certificates.

Take note that there is a maximum number of points that can be accumulated from each category.

# 5.4 Appeal Mechanism

Should a dental practitioner fail to achieve the required 30 CPD points in any year, he may appeal in writing to the President of the Malaysian Dental Council (MDC) at the following address:

The President
Malaysian Dental Council
Level 5, Block E10, Parcel E, Precinct 1
62590 PUTRAJAYA

Fax: 03-8888 6133 email: mdc@moh.gov.my

CPD points accumulated in previous years will be taken into consideration on appeals.

## 6. Submission of CPD points

**All practitioners are encouraged to submit their CPD points through** the MyCPD application of the Ministry of Health Malaysia. This programme has been linked to the DPIMS (in full) which will enable CPD points to be viewed when applying for APC/TPC renewal.

Dental practitioners can log on to <a href="http://www.mycpd.moh.gov.my/">http://www.mycpd.moh.gov.my/</a> (Appendix 2) to update their CPD activities. This site also provides several user manuals.

Practitioners who do not wish to apply online may submit their record of CPD activities and points together with their application for TPC/APC renewal using the requisite form in the Dental Regulations (Appendix 3).

#### 7. Evidence

Dental practitioners employed in government agencies will have their CPD points verified by an appointed authority ('supervisor'). The supervisors in various agencies are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Designated Supervisors in Various Agencies** 

| Agencies                             | Supervisors   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Ministry of Health<br>Malaysia (MOH) | Heads of Department, MOH at various levels  |
| Ministry of Defence,<br>Malaysia     | Director of Dental Division, Armed Forces   |
| Ministry of Higher<br>Education      | <ul> <li>Deans of Dental Faculties of the various<br/>universities<br/>OR</li> <li>Heads of Department</li> </ul> |

It is the responsibility of all other dental practitioners to keep a record and evidence of their CPD activities for at least 5 years. A dental practitioner will be required to show evidence of CPD participation at any time, for verification purposes.

Verification of CPD points requires evidence of attendance or undertaking as shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Evidence Required for Verification of CPD Points** 

| CPD      | Verification Accepted   |
|----------|---|
| Category | ·   |
| A1       | Proof of attendance (certificate or letter of participation)                                  |
| A2       | Proof of attendance (certificate or letter of participation)                                  |
| A3       | Proof of attendance (certificate or letter of participation)                                  |
| A4       | Proof of attendance (e.g. attendance sheet)   |
| A5       | Certificate or letter of appreciation for activity conducted / call letter & attendance sheet |
| A6       | Verified presentation or publication in programme book, abstract book, proceedings or journal |
| A7       | Proof from CME/CDE provider or synopsis of article /evidence table                            |
| A8       | Proof from CME/CDE - online provider  |
| A9       | Proof of post-basic or other diploma certificate  |
| A10      | Certificate or examination result(s)  |
| A11      | Letter of appreciation or appointment for activity  |
| B1       | Documentation of position held from journal or editorial board, or letter of appointment      |
| B2       | Certificate or letter of appreciation / appointment for activity                              |
| B3       | Certificate or letter of appointment  |

# 8. Enquiries

For further information, kindly contact us:

CPD Secretariat Malaysian Dental Council Level 5, Block E10, Parcel E, Precinct 1 62590 PUTRAJAYA

Tel: 03-8883 4559 Fax: 03-8888 6133 email: mdc@moh.gov.my This document has been prepared by a work group at the Oral Health Division, MOH for the CPD Secretariat for Dental Professionals, Malaysian Dental Council.

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# Appendix 1

#### **CPD CREDIT POINTS SYSTEM FOR DENTAL PRACTITIONERS**

| Category | CPD CREDIT POINTS  CPD Activity  Description   | CPD Points<br>Attainable                                 | Additional Criteria Required   | Maximum<br>Points |  |
|----------|--|--|--|-------------------|--|
| CORE BUS | CORE BUSINESS (CATEGORY A)   |  |  |                   |  |
| A1       | Dental Congress / Conference (Local / International)  a. 1 Full Day (5-8 hrs/day) b. 2 Full Days c. 3 Full Days *amended by MDC CPD Secretariat, yet to be approved by the National CPD Committee.   | 10 Points 15 points 20 points                            | A Conference should:     a) Involve speakers of local / international standing     b) Contain plenary lectures/symposium     c) Have presentation of free communication/poster etc | 20<br>points      |  |
| A2       | Scientific Meeting of Chapters of Academy / Universities/ Colleges / Associations / Institutions / Ministry of Health & others  a) Less than 2 hours b) 2-4 hours (half day) c) 5-8 hours (full day) d) 2 full days e) 3 or more full days | 1 point<br>2 points<br>3 points<br>6 points<br>10 points | Points awarded according to hours  | 20 points         |  |

| Category | CPD Activity<br>Description  | CPD Points<br>Attainable                                 | Additional Criteria Required  | Maximum<br>Points |
|----------|--|--|---|-------------------|
| АЗ       | Workshop / Courses<br>/ Fellowships /<br>Attachment etc<br>(Include hands-on and<br>skill courses)   | Points per activity                                      | For professional attachment, credit points are awarded to participants from outside the place of work, e.g. Tertiary Hospitals,   | 20 points         |
|          | a) Half Day (2-4 hours) b) Full Day (5-8 hours) c) 2 Full days d) 3 or more full days e) Skill accredited structure courses by specific disciplines f) Study Tour approved by Head of Department | 4 points 6 points 10 points 15 points 20 points 5 points | University Hospitals  Proof of attendance   |                   |
| A4       | CDE/CME sessions /<br>other professional<br>activities e.g Topic<br>seminar, forum,<br>lectures, Journal club,<br>Formal ward round  | 1 points<br>/hour  | For ward rounds, credit points are awarded to participants from outside own hospital / establishment e.g. Private Practitioners verified by the CPD Chairman of that institution. | 20<br>points      |

| Ontoroni | CPD Activity  | CPD Points                                    | Additional Oritoria Descriped  | Maximum   |
|----------|---|---|--|-----------|
| Category | Description   | Attainable                                    | Additional Criteria Required   | Points    |
| A5       | Presentation at accredited meeting  a) Plenary lectures / long paper (>45 minutes)  b) Visiting lectures  c) Free paper / Short paper / Other lectures / talks  | 10 points 5 points 3 points                   | These credit points are in addition to full delegates attendances at congresses, scientific meetings or workshops.  Otherwise only credit points for presentation are attainable.  Visiting lectures – where one is officially invited to give a lecture at venue/function away from one's principal place of practice.  Documented proof of | 20 points |
|          |   |   | appreciation and participation.  |           |
| A6       | Publication of original articles in journal / chapters in book /reports a) Indexed /per reviewed journal Principal author Others b) Non-indexed journal Principal author Others c) Chapter in book - each chapter | 10 points 7 points 5 points 3 points 5 points | An indexed journal is one which has international standing and is listed in the Index Medicus or similar indexing system.  Maximum for writing chapters in a book is 10 points.  Verified presentation or publication.   | 20 points |

| 0.1.1    | CPD Activity  | CPD Points  | 4 L IIII - 10 II - 1 - 1  | Maximum      |
|----------|---|---|---|--------------|
| Category | Description   | Attainable  | Additional Criteria Required  | Points       |
| A7       | Self Study / Group<br>Study / Distance<br>Learning  a) Reading scientific<br>papers from indexed<br>journals / Audio Visual<br>/ Organised group<br>discussion under<br>accredited coordinator. | 1 point / paper or session                                    | Documented evidence (with verification ) needs to be produced e.g.:  a) Self study (selfadministered MCQ) b) Documented evidence in the form of synopsis/evidence table | 10<br>points |
| A8       | CPD On line   | 1 point /<br>article or<br>session                            | The CPD Board is ultimately responsible for accreditation of providers  | 20<br>points |
| A9       | Post-basic courses a. 1-2 weeks b. 2-4 weeks c. >1-3 months d. >3-6 months e. >6 months - 1 yr  | 10 points<br>12 points<br>15 points<br>20 points<br>30 points | Not applicable to dental practitioners  |              |
| A10      | a. Degree, Master Programs, postgraduate programs (for each stage of examination passed) b. PHD/DrPH c. c. Advanced Diploma/ Subspecialty training  | 50 points 50 points 50 points                                 | Allowed to also get points from other categories / sections   | 50 points    |

| Category | CPD Activity<br>Description   | CPD Points<br>Attainable                                  | Additional Criteria Required   | Maximum<br>Points |
|----------|---|---|--|-------------------|
| A11      | Involvement as committee or project member a. Quality Initiatives e.g. KMK, Innovations, TQM, Accreditation, ISO, etc b. Research projects (as researcher/ collaborator) c. Training activities (as facilitator/ trainer) | 5 points for<br>involvement<br>in each<br>area            |  | 20 points         |
| NON CORE | E ACTIVITIES ( CATEGORY B   | 3)  |  |                   |
| B1       | a) Editor. b) Member of editorial Board c) Referee / Reviewer (per article).  | 10 points<br>5 points<br>5 points                         | Pertaining to production of journal, special reports, bulletins, newsletters etc.  | 10 points         |
| B2       | Other supporting activities related to: Personal Development a. Leadership b. Management c. IT d. Organizing/ committee e. Member of professional Body etc  Level: a. Local b. State c. National d. International         | points per activity  2 points 3 points 5 points 10 points | These activities are not restricted to MOH function e.g. involvement in PIBG may also be considered. Documented evidence with verification needs to be produced.  Self interest for personal development.  Documented evidence with verification needs to be produced. |                   |

| Category | CPD Activity<br>Description   | CPD Points<br>Attainable | Additional Criteria Required | Maximum<br>Points |
|----------|---|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| В3       | Office bearer of a society /Association/ NGO *amended by MDC CPD Secretariat, yet to be approved by the National CPD Committee. | 10 points                |                              |                   |

#### Note:

1. **Maximum points** refers to the maximum that is accepted for each category per year e.g a practitioner attending 3 conferences in one year under A1 will only be eligible for a maximum of 20 CPD points.

#### **VIEW OR DOWNLOAD MANUALS**

To access MyCPD system, the dental practitioner should follow the steps below:

Directly access to MyCPD via http://www.mycpd.moh.gov.my/

Click on the **Document** link to view or download the relevant manuals.



Figure 2: MyCPD Portal

## RECORD OF CPD ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR .....

| CPD Points Achieved For The Year : |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Name :                             | _ |
| IC No:                             | _ |
| MDC No:                            |   |
| Address of Principal Practice:     |   |
|                                    |   |

| No.  | Activity   | Date                      | Duration<br>(days/<br>hours) | Organiser  | Category | Points<br>Achieved |
|------|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------|----------|--------------------|
| e.g. | 9th International<br>Conference of Asian<br>Academy of Preventive<br>Dentistry | 9/11/2010 -<br>11/11/2010 | 3 days                       | UKM & AAPD | A1       | 20                 |
|      |  |                           |                              |            |          |                    |
|      |  |                           |                              |            |          |                    |
|      |  |                           |                              |            |          |                    |
|      |  |                           |                              |            |          |                    |
|      |  |                           |                              |            |          |                    |
|      |  |                           |                              |            |          |                    |
|      | Total points achieved  |                           |                              |            |          |                    |