

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT (PI) CME PROCEDURE

OVERVIEW

Performance Improvement (PI) CME credit can be earned through a structured, self-assessment process of continuous practice improvement. Physicians document their performance in practice based on evidence-based measures, participate in educational intervention(s), apply PI measures and strategies prospectively over a useful interval, and complete a post-intervention self-assessment to measure changes in clinical practice behavior and patient outcomes and to reflect on the PI exercise. Up to 20 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™] can be earned through this process. Your goal in using PI CME is to improve the care of your patients with chronic diseases and your practice performance by following 3 steps:

1. Identify gaps in care of a group of your patients with a particular disease such as diabetes by comparing measures of your care with accepted guidelines and the performance of your peers.
2. Take action to close these gaps by implementing 1 or more of the following methods: acquire new evidence-based knowledge, apply clinical tools and strategies at the practice management level, and/or improve communication and partner with your patients to better engage them in the management of their chronic disease. Apply changes in your practice over time.
3. Assess the improvements in your clinical practice and patient healthcare outcomes by reassessing your practice using the same measures of care for a group of your patients and comparing those results with your initial assessment and against evidence-based guidelines and the performance of your peers.

BENEFITS

- Improved patient outcomes
- Better organized practice
- Improved patient satisfaction
- Earn up to 20 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*[™] for each PI CME exercise
- Satisfy a Maintenance of Certification requirement (Part IV)
- File your patient data with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and qualify for a 2% bonus on all of your Medicare Part B charges in this calendar year through the Physician Quality Reporting Initiative (PQRS)

COST

- There is no charge for your participation; there is a \$20 fee for the CME certificate.
- Your investment will be in time spent to enter data, reflect on the findings, set goals, implement changes in your practice, and remeasure and analyze the results
- Your staff may assist you in this process by pulling charts and organizing data for entry
- The only direct cost to you is associated with your choice to participate in the PQRS program, in which case you will be charged a modest fee of \$195 per annual submission to CMS

For CME Credit:

Physicians may be awarded incremental AMA PRA Category 1 Credit for completing each successive stage of a PI activity. Incremental credits for PI activities are awarded as follows:

- Five (5) AMA PRA Category 1 Credits can be obtained for the completion of each of the 3 stages (A, B and C). Completion of the full PI cycle is not required.
- Physicians completing, in sequence, all 3 stages (A-C) of a structured PI activity may receive an additional five (5) AMA PRA Category 1 Credits, for a maximum of twenty (20) AMA PRA Category 1 Credits. This credit allocation acknowledges the best learning is associated with completing a PI activity.

How it works:

1. Provide the CME office with your objectives and the proposed timeline of the PI.
2. All participants in the activity must complete a disclosure form and identify any potential conflicts of interest and a mechanism to resolve any potential conflicts.
3. Complete and submit the application form for each stage of the process (A, B &C) that credits are requested. The information collected on the documentation form addresses the following areas:

Once the application is approved, a link will be provided with Stage A information where you may continue to add information for Stage B and C. The activity director will serve as mentor to all participants.

Additional educational contribution such as rounds, symposia, web sites with resource links and discussion boards are highly recommended for all PI activities. The OCME is available to assist all participants and will send periodic reminders to all participants to access the website and add Stage B and C information.

Executing a PI CME Activity:

Section I: Activity Planning (process that links needs with expected results):

Purpose/Objectives: describe in terms of knowledge, competence (knowing how to do something, but skills not yet implemented in practice) and/or performance (application of skills in practice). Specify the project timeline.

Disclosure/Commercial Support: It is the policy of the Office of Continuing Medical Education to ensure balance, independence, objectivity and scientific rigor in all CME activities. Anyone engaged in content, development, planning or presentation must complete a disclosure form. Persons who fail to complete this form may not receive CME credit for the PI activity.

Section II: Assess

Stage A. Needs are derived from an assessment of current practice, using selected performance measures. Participants are actively involved in the data collection /analysis process. **Stage A**

involves learning from current practice performance assessment and recognition of practice based need.

What did you discover from your patient data about your practice habits, and clinical management of patients with controlled and uncontrolled diabetes? Cite numbers and use statistics to quantify whenever possible.
What patient metrics do you plan to work to improve?
What performance improvement technique will you use to achieve this?
What methods will you learn to achieve your learning goal?
Why is this important (to you / your practice / your patients)?

Section III: Apply

Stage B. Participants identify an appropriate intervention and demonstrate learning from applying a practice change and assessing its impact on performance change.

You will begin by reflecting on the gaps you have identified, and decide which of these to address. Then you will set goals for improvement. Finally, you will determine the interventions to address the performance gaps. These may include application of evidence-based guidelines and/or suggested educational activities and tools and strategies designed to improve delivery of patient care processes and procedures. You will be able to choose from many offered resources in addition to selecting your own interventions. You will record your plan on the form provided, and monitor your progress over the timeline you establish.

Participants will be required to show 1)evidence of participation in group discussion (live or virtual), 2) learning through education sessions or reading of authoritative literature consistent with their personal needs and 3)documentation of effort through journaling, online feedback, EMR notes and/or strategy trial records.

Section IV: Evaluate

Stage C. Based on the pre/post intervention analysis, all practice, process and/or outcome changes that resulted from conducting the PI activity are summarized.

Compare pre and post aggregated data on patient change outcomes measured by clinical parameters consistent with IOM and NCQA standards.
Write a summary statement that includes your personal reflection.
How will this experience influence your clinical practice of managing your patient?
Determine your progress toward your goals. Compare your performance with your benchmark, the performance of your peers, and national goals.