

Continuing Medical Education

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Mission Statement

Continuing Medical Education Purpose

The mission of the Office of Continuing Medical Education (OCME) is to provide high-quality continuing medical education (CME) that promotes lifelong learning for physicians, other healthcare professionals, and students. The overall goal of the OCME is to support the efforts of the College of Medicine-Tucson (COM-T) and University of Arizona Health Sciences (UAHS) to enhance competence and physician performance mainly in the following ACGME/ABMS core competencies:

- Patient Care and Procedural Skills
- Medical Knowledge
- Practice-based Learning and Improvement
- Interpersonal and Communication Skills
- Professionalism
- Systems-based Practice

The OCME provides education mainly to healthcare professionals in Arizona, but also to healthcare professionals located in other U.S. states and international locations.

Target Audience

We make CME activities available to physicians, medical educators, and other health professionals at the local, regional, national and international levels. However, we base the development of these CME activities primarily on the specific educational needs of the faculty, fellows, residents, and medical students of the COM-T and its affiliated hospitals and clinics. The participation of non-physician healthcare professionals who are associated with the COM-T and UAHS is also encouraged.

Types of Activities

The OCME offers a wide range of CME activities, including live seminars and conferences, interdepartmental public health symposia, specialty-specific regularly scheduled series (e.g. grand rounds, tumor boards, mortality/morbidity conferences, etc.), teleconferences, telemedicine activities, audio-conferences, and internet-based or other enduring materials. We select the educational design and methods for our CME activities based on the identified practice gap(s), the underlying educational needs required to close the practice gap(s), and the outcomes desired for both professionals and patients.

Content

The OCME collaborates with UAHS faculty and renowned community, state, national and international educators to develop, implement, and evaluate educational activities that enhance the ACGME/ABMS core competencies listed above. We develop content based on the needs of our physician audience and that frequently includes:

- 1) the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of disease;
- 2) efficient and cost-effective healthcare-delivery;
- 3) medical ethics;
- 4) clinical research; and,
- 5) professionalism for all clinical specialties.

Scope

The scope of activities involves the body of knowledge and skills generally recognized and accepted by the medical profession, including, basic medical sciences, clinical medicine, and the delivery of healthcare to the public.

Expected Results

The OCME fulfills its mission by increasing physician knowledge, competence, and clinical performance by providing high quality activities. The expected results include changes in a) physician's strategies, or skills and abilities to perform a task; b) perceived self-efficacy in clinical practice; c) physician performance; and/or d) patient health outcomes.

The Director of the Office of Continuing Medical Education; the CME Committee; and the CME Committee Chair review and approve the mission statement annually.