



National Standard for Support of Accredited CPD Activities (the Standard) FAQs for Implementation

On Implementation

1. When did the National Standard come into effect?

Answer:

January 1, 2018.

2. Does the National Standard apply to accredited regular scheduled series, rounds, journal clubs, and small groups?

Answer:

Yes. Rounds, journal clubs and small groups must adhere to the National Standard.

3. If a CPD provider hosts an accredited CPD activity in the province of Quebec, are both the Conseil québécois de développement professionnel continu des médecins s ([CQDPCM](#)) Code of Ethics and National Standard applicable?

Answer:

Activities accredited for Royal College MOC or Mainpro+ credits must always comply with the National Standard. CnCode of Ethics the higher of the two standards shall prevail.

4. Does the implementation of the National Standard eliminate or replace the Canadian Medical Association's "Guidelines for Physicians in Interactions with Industry?"

Answer:

No. Physicians participating in CPD activities should still adhere to the CMA's [Guidelines](#)

[for](#)
[Physicians in Interactions with Industry.](#)

Wherever discrepancies exist between the National Standard and CMA's "Guidelines for Physicians in Interaction with Industry", the higher of the two standards shall prevail.

7. Do the Colleges have a list of recognized physician organizations?

Answer:

No, but any organization that meets the definition is considered to be a [physician organization](#).

On Co-Development

8. How can co-development be acknowledged in a way that is compliant with the National Standard?

Answer:

Co-developed program can be acknowledged by placing the Royal College's co-development statement on the CPD activity page.

19. Can a CPD provider organization, physician organization or SPC hire a third party to draft and initiate these agreements?

Answer:

Yes, a CPD provider organization, physician organization or SPC can hire a third party to draft and initiate a written agreement.

20. Are there guidelines on the maximum dollar amount for meals provided at accredited CPD activities?

Answer:

The Royal College has not set guidelines for the maximum dollar amount for meals provided at accredited CPD activities.

The CFPC Chapters have established limits on the costs of meals associated with Mainpro+ certified activities. The maximum values for breakfast, lunch, and dinner in each province are published in the [Mainpro+ Certification Standards](#).

The *CMA Guidelines for Physicians in Interactions with Industry* requires any meals provided to physicians during industry-sponsored CPD activities be modest³.

21. Are there guidelines on the maximum dollar amount for honoraria that can be paid to speakers?

Answer:

No, the National Standard has not defined the maximum amount, however, *the CMA Guidelines for Physicians in Interactions with Industry* requires that any honoraria paid to faculty be reasonable⁴.

On Managing Commercial Promotion

22. Regarding sub-

23. What is an example of a sponsor’s “branding strategy” as referenced in sub-element 5.2 which reads:

Beyond the standard acknowledgement statement of financial and in-kind support outlined in 5.1, the linking or alignment of a sponsor’s name (or other branding strategies) to a specific educational session or section of the scientific program within an accredited group learning activity is prohibited.

Answer:

A sponsor’s branding strategy might include, but is not limited to: logos, colours, graphics or any other visual that invokes a direct or indirect link to that sponsor or their product(s).

24. What is meant by the term “location” in sub-elements 6.2, 6.3, and 7.1?

6.2 Product-specific advertising, promotional materials or branding strategies cannot be included on/appear within locations where accredited CPD sessions are occurring (e.g. lecture halls, small group discussion rooms) immediately before, during or immediately after an accredited CPD activity.”

6.3 Commercial exhibits or advertisements must be arranged in a location that is clearly and completely separated from the accredited CPD activity.

7.1 “The SPC/CPD provider organization cannot schedule unaccredited CPD activities to take place at times and locations that interfere or compete with accredited CPD activities.”

Answer:

The term “location” refers to a room or space for promotional events/activities/exhibits that is clearly separated from the educational environment.

25. Can product ads be included in the CPD activities’ abstract book?

Answer:

No. Product-specific advertising, promotional materials or branding strategies cannot be included in abstract books, as abstract books are a part of the scientific program.

26. Can product ads be included in the Exhibit Hall Guide?

Answer:

Yes. Product-specific advertising can be included in the Exhibit Hall Guide as long as there is no educational content included in the guide.

27. Can exhibit hall hours be included in the preliminary or final program?

Answer:

Yes, exhibit hall hours can be included in the preliminary or final program, as long as they are not depicted as an advertisement.

