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Contact

If you would like further information on EPASS or would like to become an EPASS Provider, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

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Welcome Note

Dr Sally Al-Agilly, EPASS Clinical Lead

Welcome to the fifth issue of the EPASS Newsletter. It has now been a year since we first launched the first quarterly Newsletter and we hope that you have found reading them interesting and informative. If you have any feedback on the Newsletter, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please send any comments to epass@rcgp-scotland.org.uk

Over recent months, we have continued to receive an increase in the feedback from participants of EPASS accredited activities through the online Quality Assurance feedback tool. All feedback received to date has been very positive, which is extremely encouraging and is an excellent reflection on the hard work from all our EPASS Providers.

As you are aware, there have been a lot of developments to the EPASS scheme recently and we have enjoyed working together as a team with our EPASS Providers to ensure that high quality educational activities remain at the forefront and support the requirements of revalidation. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our EPASS Providers for their contributions and support and we look forward to continuing to work closely in future in preparation for the introduction of revalidation.

How can EPASS Providers support CPD Credits?

As part of Revalidation, General Practitioners (GPs) will be expected to achieve 250 credits of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities per 5 year Revalidation cycle. Below are a few key points as to how EPASS Providers can support GPs in achieving and recording these Credits:

- Provide a detailed programme with clear learning objectives to ensure that potential participants are aware of what they can expect to learn;
- Provide participants with an estimate of the number of hours of learning they may achieve from completing the EPASS accredited activity (including time for planning and reflection);
- Encourage participants to submit their learning needs/expectations prior to the activity and liaise with speakers/writers to ensure that these will be incorporated;
- Recap learning needs/expectations at the end of the accredited activity to determine whether these have been achieved to the participants' satisfaction;
- Use a variety of learning methods/visual aids to keep participants engaged in the learning activity;
- Provide participants with examples of how they can implement the new learning to have an impact on either themselves, their practice, patients or others, and therefore achieve additional credits (increase the number of credits achieved).

Do you have any questions regarding CPD Credits or Revalidation?

If you have any questions regarding Revalidation or the CPD Credits pilot, please send them to Leanne Brown at lbrown@rcgp-scotland.org.uk

We will compile any questions received and create an FAQ document providing the answer to these questions. We will publish the FAQ list to all EPASS Providers and upload it to the webpage to assist others who may have similar queries.

New EPASS Providers

We would like to welcome the following providers who have joined EPASS this quarter:

> Charles Bloe Training Ltd

> Infant Nutrition Network

**Forthcoming EPASS Accredited
Activities - Highlights**

March - May 2010

Date: 03/03/2010

Title: *Menopause and HRT*

Provider: Primary Care Facilitator Team

Date: 04/03/2010

Title: *Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
Workshop*

Provider: BMI Ross Hall Hospital

Date: 10/03/2010

Title: *Managing Difficult Epilepsy*

Provider: Epilepsy Scotland

Date: 11/03/2010

Title: *Ophthalmology Update*

Provider: NHS Dumfries and Galloway

Date: 11/03/2010

Title: *Travel Medicine*

Provider: RCGP Scotland

Date: 16/03/2010

Title: *Allergy and Anaphylaxis - Short
Course*

Provider: Kirkcaldy & Levenmouth CHP

Date: 23/03/2010

Title: *Diabetes 2010 and beyond -
knowledge into practice*

Provider: NHS Quality Improvement
Scotland

Date: 14/04/2010

Title: *IM&T Course for Vision - Gold*

Provider: NHS Education for Scotland

Date: 20/04/2010

Title: *Evening Medical Update:
Abdominal Pain*

Provider: Royal College of Physicians
Edinburgh

Date: 27/04/2010

Title: *SSPC Annual Conference -
Focusing our Research on Patients*

Provider: Professional Development
Academy

Date: 04/05/2010

Title: *ECG Interpretation Tutorial*

Provider: RCGP North East Scotland
Faculty

Date: 20/05/2010

Title: *ExpeMed*

Provider: Prometheus Medical Limited

Date: 21/05/2010

Title: *Minor Surgery in General Practice*

Provider: Cuschieri Skills Centre

Online E-Module

Title: *Stable Angina*

Provider: Charles Bloe Training Ltd

For further details on these accredited activities or to discover what other EPASS accredited activities are being held, please visit our webpage at www.rcgp-scotland.org.uk/events

Hot Topic "Launch of New RCGP Revalidation Leaflets"

In February 2010, the RCGP created and disseminated leaflets to provide an update on Revalidation to General Practitioners (GPs) and to Patients.

The first leaflet "RCGP Proposals for the Revalidation of GPs" is to explain the Revalidation process to GPs, to provide them with an overview of the supporting information that they will be expected to submit, gives information on the appraisal process and states the role of the RCGP in Revalidation.

The patient leaflet "Revalidation - Information for Patients" gives patients an overview of the purpose of the revalidation of GPs, briefly explains the process that GPs will be expected to follow and advises patients how they can assist revalidation to be an effective process in ensuring that all GPs are fit to practise. These leaflets are also available on the RCGP Webpage, via the following links:

www.rcgp.org.uk/pdf/Reval_Booklet2-11jan10.pdf

www.rcgp.org.uk/pdf/Reval_Patient_Leaflet_Dec_2009.pdf

In addition to the above leaflets, the RCGP have also released the third version of the "Guide to the Revalidation of General Practitioners" and the second version of the "Guide to the Credits-Based System for CPD" both of which are available in electronic format on the RCGP webpage at www.rcgp.org.uk

Featured Provider - PROMETHEUS MEDICAL LTD.

Gaining an insight into our providers and how they use EPASS



Ever Wanted Your Qualification to Take You Somewhere Incredible?

ExpeMed is the UK's longest running expedition medicine course for healthcare professionals and aims to provide them with the confidence, knowledge and practical skills to plan for an expedition, maintain the expedition's health and manage illness and injuries in a remote location.

Run in Herefordshire, this four day course includes expedition planning and preparation, pre-hospital emergency medicine in the field, improvisation techniques and health protection for expeditions. Key issues such tropical medicine, diving medicine, altitude medicine and climatic injuries are taught by the highly experienced instructional faculty of doctors, paramedics and expedition medics, HEMS doctors, Mount Everest expedition medics, former SAS doctors and specialists. For many years, ExpeMed has been the leading choice for healthcare professionals who wish to expand their knowledge of expedition medicine.

The number of expeditions leaving the UK for ever more remote locations each year is constantly increasing. The role of the expedition medic can be hugely rewarding and enjoyable but the responsibilities are numerous and varied. In addition to medical screening, vaccination advice, risk assessments and medical plans, pre-existing medical conditions are frequently exacerbated by environmental conditions and physical exertion, so the expedition medic must have a broad base of medical knowledge, skills and experience. Training in expedition medicine is therefore an important aspect in the preparation of the expedition medic.

ExpeMed's EPASS accredited course certificate can be used within a Personal Development Plan (PDP) for revalidation purposes.

To book a place or for further information, please visit www.prometheusmed.com

If you have any suggestions for topics for this newsletter, or would like your organisation to be the "Featured Provider", please contact the EPASS Team at epass@rcgp-scotland.org.uk Thank you!