



Process for Performance Improvement CME Projects

Eligible Providers: Physicians, Physician Assistants and Nurse Practitioners

In 2006, the American Medical Association added Performance Improvement (PI) projects for CME credits. In 2007, Tobacco Cessation Centers of New York State in conjunction with the University of Buffalo, developed the Tobacco Cessation Process Improvement Project. This 20 AMA Category 1 CME initiative, facilitates the adoption of evidence-based practices reported in the Public Health Service Clinical Practice Guideline for Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence (2000) by individual practitioners in New York State. A brief outline of the three stages follows.

Stage A Benchmarks

5 credits awarded after completion

1. Provider will assess current standard of care for Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence.
2. Provider will assess current educational level and identify additional educational needs.
 - ✓ Provider must complete a retrospective chart review of 60 charts.
 - ✓ Provider must complete Stage A evaluation: "Learning from current practice performance assessment" (This assesses what they are currently doing).
 - ✓ Complete the CME Credit Claim Form.
 - ✓ Fax the forms to the Cessation Center who will review and forward to The University of Buffalo.
 - ✓ CME credits will be forwarded to provider in about two weeks.

Stage B Benchmarks

5 credits after completion

1. Provider and staff must have successfully participated in education opportunities collaborated by Cessation Center staff.
2. Provider must implement a standard of care that incorporates the following benchmarks from the Clinical Practice Guidelines:
 - Ask: Institutionalize a system that identifies tobacco users and prompts clinicians to talk to their patients about quitting at every visit.
 - Advise: Provide a personalized advice statement to identified tobacco users to quit.
 - Assist and Arrange: Provides brief intervention (including counseling and pharmacotherapy). Provides assistance to quit by referring to the NYS Smokers' Quitline (though use of Quitline Cards or Fax-To-Quit Program), refers to local cessation programs, offers self-help materials. Provides follow-up.

Stage B continued

- ✓ Provider must complete Stage B evaluation: “Learning from the application of PI to patient care.”
- ✓ Complete a chart audit form for the first quarter.
- ✓ Complete the CME Credit Claim Form.
- ✓ Fax all (three) forms to your Cessation Center who will review and forward to The University of Buffalo.
- ✓ CME credits will be forwarded to provider in about two weeks.

Stage C Benchmarks

5 credits + 5 bonus credits

1. Provider will receive and review data feedback in collaboration with Cessation Center staff. This review will identify areas of strength, areas in need of improvement.
2. Subsequent process improvement initiatives will be derived from this review.
 - ✓ Provider must complete Stage C: “Learning from the evaluation of the PI effort.”
 - ✓ 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarterly audits will have been completed at appropriate time on the chart audit forms. This information will be sent to the Cessation Center for review after each quarter.
 - ✓ Complete the CME Credit Claim Form at the end of the 4th quarter.
 - ✓ Fax the following forms; Stage C form, the 4th quarter audit form, the CME form to the Cessation Center who will review and forward to The University of Buffalo.
 - ✓ A general assessment will be done by appointment with your cessation representative.
 - ✓ 5 CME credits plus 5 Bonus CME credits for completing the program will be forwarded to the provider.

Funding for the Tobacco Cessation Performance Improvement Project is
made possible by the
New York State Department of Health Tobacco Control Program.