

**Westchester Academy of Medicine**

**Planning A CME Activity**

The Westchester Academy of Medicine (Academy) has been granted the ability to accredit CME activities for *AMA PRA Category 1™* credit by the Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY). The policies and procedures herein are based on the ACCME’s Essentials and Standards adopted by MSSNY and the Academy.

**Joint Providership** is a relationship between an accredited and non-accredited entity collaborating to provide a CME activity. As an ACCME-accredited provider and joint provider, MSSNY must ensure all CME activities are compliant with the Essential Areas and Elements and Accreditation Policies via written documentation from the non-accredited provider. **Meeting the educational requirements for a CME activity is the responsibility of the entity making the application.**

**Planning CME Activities to Meet the Criteria for AMA PRA Category 1™ Credit**

1. CME consists of educational activities, which serve to maintain, develop or increase knowledge, skill and/or professional performance a physician needs to provide services to patients, the public or the profession. The content of CME is that body of knowledge and skills generally recognized and accepted by the profession as within basic medical sciences, the discipline of clinical medicine, and the provision of health care to the public.

2. *AMA PRA Category 1™* CME activity covers a subject area in the scope and depth that is appropriate for the intended audience. The activity is planned, administered and evaluated in terms of educational objectives that define a desired result to change learner’s level of knowledge, competence or patient outcome.

3. A provider chooses educational formats appropriate for the setting, objectives and desired results of the activity. The provider develops activities in the context of desirable physician attributes (e.g., IOM / ACGME Competencies) while keeping in mind adult learning principles.

4. A provider identifies the educational needs that underlie the professional practice gaps of their learners. Closing the gap occurs through changes to physician knowledge, competence, or performance. The Academy and MSSNY expect CME providers will analyze gaps in order to understand the causes, thereby determining the best or most appropriate educational intervention. A practice gap is what is found between current practice and best practice. Needs, including supporting documentation, a description of educational objectives of the activities and a description of the target audience must be provided.

5. A Provider must follow ACCME Standards for Commercial Support℠; appropriate commercial support agreements must be executed, and all planners/presenters must complete a Relevant Financial Relationship disclosure. All financial decisions must be transparent, allowing both the Academy and MSSNY access to the process.

6. Each accredited CME activity must be evaluated. The mechanism used to evaluate the activity must be performed at each educational activity and participants should be urged to participate.

7. CME activities may be monitored by an Academy designee and a written report submitted to the Academy CME office. This review allows the provider to demonstrate performance in practice, especially regarding compliance with those Standards and Policies that can be measured through direct observation of an activity.

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