

## **CCO enacts two new CE requirements- What Does This Mean to You?**

December 16, 2015

### ***What are the current Continuing Education (CE) Requirements?***

CE requirements are divided into 20 hours of Structured and 20 hours of unstructured activities that must be met during every two year cycle.

### ***What are the new CE Requirements?***

1. Five, of the 20 structured hours shall be related to the controlled acts authorized to chiropractors under the *Chiropractic Act, 1991* or *Healing Arts Radiation Protection Act, 1990*
2. Maintaining certification in Emergency First Aid/CPR

### ***When do these requirements come into effect?***

**These new CE requirements will first come into effect for CE Cycle 4 – that is July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2018 – that is they must be completed before June 30, 2018.** They will be reported on as part of the 2019 renewal.

### ***Which Standard of Practice addresses CE?***

**Standard of Practice S-003: Professional Portfolio** sets out the requirements for all quality assurance initiatives related to the professional portfolio, including CE. Please see the standard of practice for more information.

### ***Why are these 5-hours of clinical learning Continuing Education Mandatory?***

- It is in the **public interest** for a member to continue to maintain his/her current clinical skills and to learn about new findings in healthcare.
- Controlled acts are restricted activities that are authorized to certain regulated health professionals in Ontario for the purposes of providing health care. Any member registered in the “General” class of registration may perform these acts and it is imperative that education and clinical competency in these acts is maintained.
- It confers a greater layer of protection for members in the event they find themselves the target of an allegation of professional misconduct or incompetence.
- It instills confidence in the public and enhances the image of the entire profession.

### ***What is included in the “controlled acts” requirement, as defined under the RHPA?***

**The mandatory “five hours relating to diagnostic or therapeutic procedures” for each CE cycle must align with one of the three Controlled Acts granted to chiropractors under the RHPA.** That is to say, a member must participate in a minimum of 5 hours of clinical skill learning that (i) address diagnostic skills or (ii) involve adjustment or manipulation of the spine, peripheral joints or (iii) involve adjustments or manipulations of the coccyx or any combination of these acts. The requirement must be fulfilled during every CE cycle. As well, the requirement could also include a CE program related to controlled act of ordering, taking or interpreting radiographs.

**Activities related to adjunctive therapies, such as acupuncture, exercise or nutritional counseling would not be acceptable for this requirement.**

***What constitutes an acceptable program for the purposes of this CE requirement?***

For the purpose of this CE requirement, any structured type of CE program would be acceptable. This can include in-person, online or correspondence courses, seminars, workshops, presentations or conference, clinical rounds or computer-assisted learning. Please consult Standard of Practice S-003: Professional Portfolio and the Professional Portfolio handbook for further information.

CCO does not specifically approve or endorse structured CE programs; however, generally speaking, a structured activity should have an agenda, learning objectives, attendance (either in-person or online), and a specified numbers of hours. CE is still largely self-directed, and it is up to each member to log their CE hours in their professional portfolio. Any program offered by a chiropractic organization, educational institution or private CE provider would be acceptable if it complies with the guidelines of Standard of Practice S-003.

***What is involved in maintaining First Aid/CPR certification?***

It will be a mandatory element of CE to maintain certification in emergency first aid/CPR. Following review of the practices of other health regulatory colleges and other chiropractic jurisdictions, as well as review of the feedback, the QA Committee has determined that it is the public interest for members to complete and maintain basic emergency first aid/CPR training. **This training can be taken from any organization that offers first aid/CPR training – examples are the Red Cross or St. John Ambulance basic courses that consist of a 6.5 hour course which provides certification for three years.**

Emergency situations may arise in all types of workplaces, especially health care offices, and it is essential that health care providers have the competency to respond to these emergency situations. This requirement may also assist members in complying with the workplace safety requirements under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1990* and the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997*.

Completion of the basic emergency first aid/CPR training may be used towards the structured CE hours required during each two year cycle.