**Practice Audit Tool to Be Piloted at CPA Meeting**

To introduce psychiatrists to the practice audit process and help them take advantage of double Maintenance of Certification (MOC) credits, the CPA will be piloting a practice audit tool in conjunction with the CPA–Eli Lilly cosponsored symposium, Beyond Acute Episodes in Schizophrenia/Bipolar Disorder: Optimizing Long-Term Outcomes.

The cosponsored symposium will be held during the CPA annual meeting in Halifax, which is scheduled for Oct. 30–Nov. 2, 2003. Program faculty have worked with the CPA to devise a tool based on the symposium material that participants will be able to take home and use to perform an audit of their own practices.

Practice audits fall under Section 5 of the Royal College’s MOC program. Although it is a useful continuing professional development learning tool, it is seldom used by Canadian psychiatrists. Despite the considerable evidence suggesting that practice audits can affect a physician’s practice, many psychiatrists avoid audits because they are unsure of the steps involved in performing one (1,2).

As described in an article by Houlden and Yen (3), the eight steps in performing a practice audit are as follows.

**Step 1:** Select a topic.
**Step 2:** Identify the specific aim of the audit.
**Step 3:** Establish the target criteria and standards.
**Step 4:** Devise a method of data collection.
**Step 5:** Collect data for the audit.
**Step 6:** Compare the chart data with the target criteria and standards.
**Step 7:** Agree on and implement practice changes.
**Step 8:** Evaluate the impact of the changes made as a result of the audit.

To document the audit, simply retain a copy of the audit proposal and forms, a description of your participation in developing the audit, the date of completion, the summary of findings and the outcomes for practice.

Fellows earn two credits for every hour they spend completing a practice audit, and there is no maximum on the number of credits that can be earned in Section 5 of MOC. Moreover, audits are ideal for psychiatrists who cannot attend conferences and meetings owing to time, financial or personal constraints, as they can be done at will using material that is readily available.

**References**

Meetings ● Réunions

For more details, please contact the host organization directly. To list a meeting, please forward the meeting name, theme, date, location, contact person and contact information to bulletin@cpa-apc.org. Indicate whether you would like the meeting listed on the CPA Web site. Meetings of interest to Bulletin readers will be included. More meeting listings appear on the CPA Web site (www.cpa-apc.org).

Pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez communiquer directement avec le comité organisateur. Pour annoncer la tenue d’une réunion, veuillez communiquer le nom de la réunion, le thème, la date, l’endroit, la personne-ressource et tout autre renseignement pertinent à bulletin@cpa-apc.org. Veuillez indiquer si vous désirez que la réunion soit affichée sur notre site Web. Les assemblées qui pourraient intéresser les lecteurs du Bulletin seront mentionnées. D’autres assemblées sont énumérées au site Web de l’APC (www.cpa-apc.org).

National 2003

October 19–24 October Toronto, ON
46th International Conference on the Prevention and Treatment of Dependencies

October 23–24 October Rimouski, QC
XIIe Colloque, Association québécoise pour la réadaptation psychosociale : un fleuve d’espoir et d’engagements Information: Gilles Lauzon. Coordonnateur de l’Association québécoise pour la réadaptation psychosociale (tel: 514-528-9494; fax: 514-242-5659; e-mail: aqrp@bellnet.ca)

October 30 October– November 2 November Halifax, NS
53rd Annual Meeting of the Canadian Psychiatric Association / 53e Assemblée annuelle de l’Association des psychiatres du Canada
Web site: www.cpa-apc.org

November 2–4 November Halifax, NS
23rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Web site: www.canacad.org

November 3–3 November Halifax, NS
Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatry
Web site: www.cagp.ca

November 17–18 November Toronto, ON
Helping Victimized Children and Families: Identification of High Risk Children
Information: Hinck Dellcrest Centre (tel: 416-972-1935 x3235; fax: 416-924-9808; e-mail: training@hinckdellcrest.org; Web site: www.hincksdellcrest.org)

November 20–23 November Calgary, AB
4th Canadian HIV/AIDS Skills Building Symposium
Web site: www.hivaidsskills.ca

November 21–22 November Vancouver, BC
Maternal and Child/Youth Health Conference 2003: Exploring the Links
Web site: www.interprofessional.ubc.ca

November 21–22 November Hamilton, ON
3rd Canadian Cochrane Symposium: Advancing the Knowledge Translations of Systematic Reviews
Web site: http://cochrane.mcmaster.ca/symposium/

November 22–24 November Montreal, QC
Strengthening the Foundations: Health Services and Policy Research—Canadian Health Care
Web site: ellisriley.on.ca/IHSPR/

National 2004

February 28 February – March 3 March Lake Louise, AB
9th Annual Canadian Academy of Psychiatry and the Law (CAPL) Forensic Section Winter Meeting
Web site: http://www.caplnet.org/

March 4–7 March Mont-Tremblant, QC
2nd Annual SKI-CPD Conference / 2e colloque annuel de ski-PPC Web site: www.cpa-apc.org

June 13–16 June St. John’s, NF
95th Annual Conference of the Canadian Public Health Association—Population Health in Our Communities Web site: www.cpha.ca

International 2003

October 29 October – November 2 November Boston, MA
55th Institute on Psychiatric Services: Access to Integrated Mental Health Care
Web site: www.psych.org

November 6–9 November Orlando, FL
16th Annual U.S. Psychiatric and Mental Health Congress Web site: www.psychcongress.com

November 19–21 November Monte-Carlo, Monaco
4th International Forum on Mood and Anxiety Disorders

December 4–7 December New Orleans, LA
14th Annual Meeting and Symposium of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry
Web site: www.aaap.org/

International 2004

January 16–18 January San Diego, CA
15th Annual Conference of the Academy of Organizational and Occupational Psychiatry
Web site: www.aoop.org/home.shtml

January 29 January – February 2 February Chennai, India
International Conference on Schizophrenia (ICONS of SCARF): From Investigation to Intervention—Optimising Schizophrenia Care
Web site: www.icons-scarf.org