

Continuing Professional Development

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

1. Davis D, Thompson O'Brien MA, Freemantle N, Wolfe FM, Mazmanian P, Taylor-Vaisey A. Impact of formal continuing medical education. Do conferences, workshops, rounds, and other traditional continuing education activities change physician behaviour or health-care outcomes? *JAMA* 1999;282:867–74.
2. Silver I. A beginner's guide to a practice audit. *CPD Dialogue* 2000;1(2):2–3.
3. Houlden RL, Yen D. The practice audit: addressing the difference between knowing and doing. *Annals RCPSC* 2000;33:270–2.

CPA Announces Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Psychiatrists will have two more opportunities to maximize their continuing education credits by attending the International Continuing Professional Development (ICPD) and Ski-CPD conferences hosted by the CPA early next year.

Now in its ninth successful year, the ICPD conference is notable for its unique, learner-driven curriculum. As in the past, feedback from attendees has been integral to determining the locale, format and content of the 2004 conference, which is scheduled for Feb. 23–27 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

Program chairs Dr. Jon Davine and Dr. David Goldbloom have assembled a cast of expert teachers and clinicians to lead interactive sessions focusing on topics such as

first-episode psychosis, physician mental health, interpersonal psychotherapy and dementia.

In addition to the ICPD conference, the CPA will be hosting the second annual Ski-CPD meeting from Mar. 4–7, 2004, at the Fairmont Tremblant in Mont-Tremblant, Quebec. The program planning committee, which is headed by Dr. Susan Abbey, plans to follow up on the critical success of last year's meeting with a program that is both relevant for psychiatrists and accessible for family physicians.

As of press time, details concerning the Ski-CPD meeting's theme and faculty were not yet confirmed; however, a full program brochure will be circulated in November, and details will be posted on the CPA Web site as they become available.

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 octobre Toronto, ON
46th International Conference on the Prevention and Treatment of Dependencies

Information: International Council on Alcohol and Addictions (ICAA) Web site: www.icaa.de/index2.htm

October 23–24 octobre 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 octobre– November 2 novembre 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 novembre Halifax, NS
23rd Annual Scientific Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
 Web site: www.canacad.org

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

November 17–18 novembre 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 novembre Calgary, AB
4th Canadian HIV/AIDS Skills Building Symposium
 Web site: www.hivaids-skills.ca

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

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

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

National 2004

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

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

June 13–16 juin 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 octobre – November 2 novembre Boston, MA
55th Institute on Psychiatric Services: Access to Integrated Mental Health Care
 Web site: www.psych.org

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

November 19–21 novembre Monte-Carlo, Monaco
4th International Forum on Mood and Anxiety Disorders
 Web site: www.aim-internationalgroup.com/2003/ifmad

December 4–7 décembre 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 janvier San Diego, CA
15th Annual Conference of the Academy of Organizational and Occupational Psychiatry
 Web site: www.aoop.org/home.shtml

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