



INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
CLINICAL SUPPORT CENTER

MISSION:

To advance the IHS mission, the Clinical Support Center will be the leader in health care education by providing:

- ◆ Continuing Education Programs
- ◆ Conference Support Services
- ◆ Education Information
- ◆ Professional Journal Publication/s
- ◆ Special Initiatives

VISION:

To be the premiere leader for Indian healthcare education.

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Continuing Education Coordinator's Bulletin

Winter Issue

FEBRUARY 2007

**IHS CLINICAL SUPPORT CENTER
Office of Continuing Education**

Welcome to the new Continuing Education Coordinator's Bulletin!! This publication will be available quarterly beginning February 2007. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide our continuing education coordinator's information and updates regarding accreditation requirements as well as viewpoints on how to improve continuing education processes in the local I/T/U communities.

Although the Indian Health Service Clinical Support Center's mission encompasses many venues; it's primary focus is accrediting professional continuing education activities to improve Indian Health Care across the country. We provide guidance and consultation for each of our sponsored continuing education activities which ultimately advances the overall health for our American Indian Alaska Native patients.

CSC Staff



Top Row (left to right): Wes Picciotti, Theresa Felix, Lisa Palucci, Arlene Miguel, Elaine Little, Sandra Moore, John Saari, & Ed Stein.
Bottom Row (left to right): Gloricita Johnson, Cheryl Begay, Dora Bradley, April Tinhorn, & Gigi Holmes.



Changes in Continuing Education Standards for Commercial Support

Although acceptance or use of commercial support for continuing education is rare in the Indian Health System, we are obligated to complete the disclosure process. The disclosure process is required by the ACCME, ANCC, and ACPE, the organizations that accredit the Clinical Support Center to sponsor continuing education.

Typically the CSC does not generally sponsor educational activities for which there is commercial support from prohibited sources, such as: research grants, speakers bureaus, and significant stock holdings. These are not necessarily a problem; it is simply required practice to let the audience know about such

relationships and resolve any conflicts of interest that may be disclosed.

New accreditation requirements state that "everyone who is in a position to control the content of an educational activity" must complete the disclosure process. Therefore, all coordinators, planning committee members, and speakers (without exception) should complete the Disclosure of Commercial Support form. Those individuals who are unable or unwilling to do so must be excluded from participating. The disclosure of commercial support form should be completed and forwarded to the CSC before the activity takes place.

If a person states that he/she

has nothing to disclose, then nothing further needs to be done other than letting the audience know that the process has taken place and that there is nothing to disclose, using the prescribed disclosure statements on the pre-conference publicity and on the course materials distributed at the meeting. If however, there is something significant to disclose, the new requirements state that not only must the audience be informed, but there must be "resolution of the conflict of interest".

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We're on the Web!!

[www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/
ClinicalSupport/](http://www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/ClinicalSupport/)

Accreditation Statements:

The Indian Health Service Clinical Support Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians.

The Indian Health Service Clinical Support Center is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

The Indian Health Service Clinical Support Center is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education as a provider of continuing pharmacy education.

What's New in Continuing Nursing Education Accreditation ?

Similar to all accrediting organizations, such as JCAHO, the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) is constantly evolving its accreditation process to accommodate advances in practice and technology as well as public demands for improved quality and accountability in the institutions that serve social needs. This has led the IHS Clinical Support Center, Office of Continuing Education to initiate excellence in continuing nursing education. It has now become important to link continuing nursing education to nursing excellence and quality outcomes. Several focus areas have been identified by the ANCC and have set a path for the CSC to begin the following trends:

- ◆ Increase our focus on evaluation and evidenced-based accreditation decisions.
- ◆ Enhance accountability for patient directed outcomes and how continuing education plays a role in overall improvement of patient care.
- ◆ Focus on cultivating programmatic excellence.

Commercial Support

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There are various types of relationships that might constitute a conflict of interest, such as the receipt of an honorarium, service on a speaker's bureau, etc... The Standards of Commercial Support have to examine those relationships in the context of the role that the person plays in the design and execution of a continuing education activity, and the scope of the educational content of the activity. The easiest way to do this is to contact the CSC whenever there is any potential conflict of interest and we will discuss the issue together and determine what needs to be done.

How to resolve a conflict of interest?

- ◆ Prior review of the presenta-

ANCC Accreditation Program Core Values:

- ◆ Maintain *integrity* of the accreditation process through a consistent, fair, and honest application of the CNE criteria.
- ◆ Promote and maintain *competence* in relation to standards, criteria, and components of *lifelong learning*.
- ◆ Foster the *peer review* process and *mentoring* within ANCC and its consumers.
- ◆ Maintain a high level of *accountability* and *responsiveness* to the community of interest.
- ◆ Value and encourage *innovation* in the accreditation process and in the delivery of continuing education.
- ◆ Maintain an accreditation process that is *purposeful*, *relevant*, and *responsive* to the community of interest.
- ◆ Focus on providing *quality* in the accreditation process and in the provision of continuing education.
- ◆ Recognize and value the *diversity* in the community of interest.
- ◆ Promote *inclusiveness* throughout the accreditation process.
- ◆ Assure a *fiscal responsibility* and *accountability* of the accreditation process.
- ◆ Value and engage in *lifelong learning*.

**As of January 1, 2007, continuing nursing education contact hours will be calculated
60 minutes = 1 hour**

For more information on continuing nursing education, please contact Lisa A. Palucci, MSN, RN: Nurse Educator

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tion content with special attention to the best available evidence, and requirements for revision.

- ◆ Recusal of the speaker or planning committee member from the activity.
- ◆ Divestment of financial relationship
- ◆ Assign speaker a different topic.

Written documentation of

what steps are taken to resolve the conflict of interest will need to be submitted and is a crucial component of the continuing education file.

For more information on disclosure of commercial support and physician continuing education please contact John Saari, MD;

Physician Educator
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Upcoming Continuing Education Activities:

Clinical Update on Substance Abuse and Dependence Training:
Phoenix, AZ; March 20-22, 2007

2007 IHS Continuing Education Seminar (APN/PA Meeting):
Scottsdale, AZ; May 21- 25, 2007

19th Annual IHS National Research Conference:
Phoenix, AZ; June 4-7, 2007

Executive Leadership Development Program (ELDP):
Denver, CO; May 5-11, 2007, June 18-22, 2007 & July 23-27, 2007

