

Subject: MEDICAL STAFF – CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION	
Effective Date: 01/01/2023 Supersedes: 01/01/2022	Category: Medical Education Committee - CME: Content Validation
Medical Executive Committee Approval Date: 12/20/2022	Responsibility for review and maintenance of this policy is assigned to: The Medical Education Committee
Policy Applies to: CME: Content Validation	Author and/or Designee: Mina Kang, MD, Chief Medical Officer

POLICY

In keeping with the mission and values of Saint John's Health Center, it is the policy that in order to ensure a propriety outline that complies with accreditation requirements of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) and California Medical Association (CMA) to teach evidence-based, valid content.

All of the recommendations involving clinical medicine in a Continuing Medical Education (CME) activity must be based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contradictions in the care of patients.

All Scientific research referred to reported or used in CME in support or justification of a patient care recommendation must conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis.

DEFINITIONS

1. ACCME – Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education is the nationally recognized accrediting agency for continuing medical education.
2. *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*™ - AMA's Physician Recognition Award Credit System; also, referred as Category 1 CME.
3. CMA – California Medical Association is an advocacy organization active in the legal, legislative, reimbursement and regulatory areas on behalf of California physicians and their patients.

4. CMA is responsible for CME accreditation in the state of California.
5. CME – Continuing Medical Education: educational activities which serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships that a physician uses to provide services for patients, the public, or the profession.
6. CME Provider – Hospitals, professional societies and other entities that provide accredited CME to physicians.
7. Content Validation means that all content presented in an accredited CME activity be validated as evidence-based.

PROCEDURE/GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. CME accreditation cannot be given if activities promote:
 - a. Known to be ineffective in the treatment of patients;
 - b. Known to have risks or dangers that outweighs the benefits;
 - c. Recommendations, treatment of manners of practicing medicine that is not within the definition of CME.
2. CME Committee members have the responsibility of determining if each CME activity requested meets the definition of evidence-based. This will be determined prior to approval being granted for annual Regularly Scheduled Series (RSS) or for an individual activity.
3. Chairs of RSS will be responsible for reviewing content in advance and ensuring that all content presented during the RSS meets SJHC policy.
4. For individual activities, such as Medical Staff Meetings, live courses, or enduring material, all faculty will be required to complete and sign a Speaker Agreement Form which outlines the following:
 - a. The gaps, needs and learning objectives for their lecture,
 - b. The content expectations of the Medical Education Committee, as follows:

“I agree to provide a balanced view of therapeutic options, that all of my recommendations involving clinical medicine will be based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for the indications and contraindications in the care of patients, and that all scientific research referred to, reported or used in my presentation to support or justify a patient care recommendation will conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection and analysis.”

5. CloudCME (CME software-system) will keep the completed, digitally-signed Financial Disclosure-Speaker Agreement in the electronic activity file.
6. If there are concerns regarding the content that will be provided, a physician member of the Medical Education Committee and/or their designee will review the content in advance.

REFERENCE(S)/RELATED POLICIES

ACCME / CMA Accreditation Requirements, Standards for Integrity and Independence in Accredited Continuing Education 01/2021

AMA Physician's Recognition Award and Credit System 2017 revision

COLLABORATION

This policy was developed in collaboration with the following involved Departments

Medical Education Committee