Circular No. (5/2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners (QCHP)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To</td>
<td>• All Healthcare Facilities in the State of Qatar</td>
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<td>• All Healthcare Facilities Focal Points in the State of Qatar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Adding a new request “Leave of Absence Request” on the Registration/Licensing Electronic System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>6 March, 2017</td>
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“Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners presents to you its compliments”.

In Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners’ pursuit to enhance the registration/licensing system and its procedures, the Registration Department announces the addition of a new request which is the “Leave of Absence Request”, as per the leave policy of the Registration and Accreditation Departments in QCHP. Using this request, all healthcare practitioners can adjust the CPD and CME points required to renew their medical license according to the approved leave/leaves by Registration Department, noting the following:

1- All leaves (except annual leave) will be approved as the leave shall not be less than (30) continuous days.
2- Practitioners must apply for “Leave of Absence Request” right after they resume work.
3- Practitioners apply for “Leave of Absence Request” after each leave they take during the validity of their medical license.

For more details on conditions and guidelines, please visit the link below.

Attachment:
• Leave of Absence Request User Manual
• Registration Department Leave Policy

For further information, kindly contact:
Dr. Souma El-Torky
Seltorky@moph.gov.qa
Jowaher Al Ali
Jalali@moph.gov.qa

Thank you for your cooperation,

Registration Team/ Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners
Practitioner/Employer User Manual (Leave of Absence Request)
Step 1. Visit [www.qchp.org.qa](http://www.qchp.org.qa) and click on “Registration & Licensing System”.

Guidelines on using the Registration & Licensing Electronic System (Leave of Absence Request)
Please visit: QCHP Website / Registration & Licensing System to SIGN IN.

Practitioner & Employer

Please enter registered Email/Username and Password and click on “Sign In” to LOGIN to the system.
After successful login from Practitioner account, kindly choose “Apply for Leave of Absence”

Follow the steps -

1. Personal Declaration

I hereby declare the above mentioned statements.
2. Personal Information Tab

Personal Information
- First Name on Passport
- Middle Name(s) on Passport
- Last Name on Passport
- First Name on Passport - Arabic
- Middle Name(s) on Passport - Arabic
- Last Name on Passport - Arabic
- Gender
- Passport Number
- Date of Birth
- Passport Country
- Passport Expiry Date
- Passport Scanned Copy

Allowed file extensions are .PDF, .JPG, .DOC, .DOCX, .PNG, .GIF
Select File: Choose File
- Maximum File Size is 2 MB
- Max Resolution is 400 DPI

File Description
### Personal Information Tab (continued)

#### Profession
- **Profession**: Physician
- **Scope Of Practice**: Cardiology

- **I am a visiting doctor (Non Resident)**

**Kindly attach both sides of your QID in one file**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Field</th>
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<tr>
<td>QID Number</td>
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<td>QID Expiry Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>QID Scan/Will Copy</td>
<td>![Choose File] No file chosen</td>
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#### Provisional License
- **Please note that the QID is mandatory for requesting a Provisional License**

**Circular (10-2015) - Granting provisional licenses to healthcare practitioners**

#### Part-time Clinician License
- **Kindly tick the below option only if you are applying for Part-time clinician license**

**Circular (03-2016) - Part-time Clinician Registration/Licensing Policy for healthcare practitioners**

#### Place of work
- **Institution Type**: Under Process
- **Institution**: Select

#### Contact Information
- **The following information will be used to contact you. Please make sure you enter accurate and valid contacts**

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<td>Corporate ID</td>
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<td>Mobile Number*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email Address*</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mphqhcp@qchp.com">mphqhcp@qchp.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address / P.O Box*</td>
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Tel.: +974 4407 0340 / 0319 / 0350, Fax: +974 4407 0831, P.O Box: 7744, Doha-Qatar  
www.qchp.org.qa
3. **Update Leave Details** – Provide necessary information
   - Leave Start date
   - Leave End date
   - Supporting document for the leave
   - Reason for leave
   - Comments (Additional information)

**Note** - Leaves can be applied only after returning from the leave. Leave duration should be more than 30 days.

4. Kindly submit the application (There is no payment for this request)
After submission of the request, the request’s status will be “Pending with employer” which means your employer representative should approve your request via the facility/institution account.

➢ If you face any technical issues, please send an email to our technical support helpdesk: 
qchphelpdesk@moph.gov.qa
After login with employer username and password:

- Click on first link “Evaluation Licensing & Other Requests” after filtering by “Request type” as shown below.

- Click on Applicants/Practitioner name to Approve/Reject the request.

- To review/edit the request, click on the Request Number.
On clicking on the Name:

Agree to the employer declaration and click on “Next”

Review Leave details – Click on “Next”
Select Approve/ Reject and click on “Submit” to submit the Request to QCHP.
Registration Leave Policy

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Policy Name: Registration Leave Policy</th>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Code:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Version Number:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Developed by: QCHP-Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Consultants: N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reviewed by/Date:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approved by/Date: February 26th, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date Effective: March 6th, 2017</td>
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<td>Date of Due Revision: TBD</td>
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Validity: This policy is valid until updated, replaced or canceled by the Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners-Registration Department. Update, replacement or cancellation of this policy may occur without prior notice. However, all concerned individuals and parties shall comply with such once officially notified by the QCHP-Registration Department.
### DOCUMENT CONTROL

#### REVISION HISTORY

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#### REVIEWS BY QCHP-RD

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#### APPROVALS BY QCHP-RD

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1. **Introduction**

Healthcare practitioners may have to be absent from practice for extended periods of time during the course of their career in Qatar. There can be many reasons for this, from maternity leave to illness or otherwise. The length of leave of absence from the practice of healthcare might affect the healthcare practitioners’ ability to participate in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and comply with the requirements of the National Continuing Medical Education / Continuing Professional Development (CME/CPD) program.

2. **Policy Statement**

   2.1. All healthcare practitioners in the state of Qatar are required to participate in the National CME/CPD program and comply with the CPD credit requirements of their CPD cycle. For each healthcare practitioner, the start of each 2-year CPD cycle is aligned with their established date of registration/licensure. When healthcare practitioners are absent from full-time or part-time practice, their CPD cycle credit requirements can be modified, if their leave of absence fulfills the eligibility criteria.

   Leaves of absence eligible to modify CPD credit requirements must be:
   - 2.1.1. For reasons other than annual or casual leaves.
   - 2.1.2. Approved by the concerned authority (employer) of the practitioner.
   - 2.1.3. For, at least, 30 (thirty) consecutive days within the license renewal period. The duration shall be calculated from the day the leave started until the date of return to practice or expiry/renewal of licensure (end of CPD cycle), whichever sooner.

   2.2. Only eligible leaves that are filed correctly, online, shall be approved by the Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners (QCHP) - Registration Department (RD) and forwarded to QCHP Accreditation Department (AD).

   2.3. QCHP-AD shall modify the CPD credits requirements of Healthcare practitioners on eligible leaves according to QCHP-AD’s CPD Leave Policy so that CPD cycle end date will remain the same whereas the annual or cycle specific expectations, related to CPD cycle requirements, will be adjusted.

3. **Definitions**

   3.1. **CME/CPD Program** is an educational initiative designed by the QCHP-AD to support, enhance and promote the lifelong learning of healthcare practitioners.

   3.2. **CPD Cycle** is the time period established to complete the minimal expectations established by the QCHP-AD.
3.3. **Leave of Absence** is the period of time when a healthcare practitioner cannot participate in their full-time or part-time professional practice. Leaves under the scope of this policy include, but are not limited to:

3.3.1.1. Maternity or paternity Leave.
3.3.1.2. Sick Leave.
3.3.1.3. Unpaid Leave.
3.3.1.4. Other Leaves e.g. study leave.

4. **Abbreviations**

CME: Continuing Medical Education.
CPD: Continuing Professional Development
HCPs: Healthcare practitioners.
QCHP: Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners.
QCHP-AD: Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners Accreditation Department.
QCHP-RD: Qatar Council for Healthcare Practitioners Registration Department.

5. **Scope**

This policy applies to all licensed healthcare practitioners in the State of Qatar.

6. **Roles/ Responsibilities of Auditors**

6.1. Healthcare practitioner is responsible to complete an online leave of absence request/ application and submit the form to their employer.

6.2. Healthcare practitioners are responsible to have documentation from their employer (where applicable) detailing the reason for and duration of their absence of practice.

6.3. The employer is required to review and approve the leave of absence request/ application before submitting it to QCHP-RD.

6.4. QCHP-RD will review and approve the leave of absence request/ application; and notify the QCHP-AD of the approved leaves of absence request/ application.

6.5. QCHP-AD will be responsible to adjust the CPD cycle requirements within the CPD portfolio based on the duration of absence from practice as stipulated by the documentation provided from the healthcare practitioner’s physician or employer.
7. Procedures/Guidelines

7.1. Healthcare practitioner submits an online leave of absence request/application to request an adjustment to their CPD cycle requirements based on the duration of leave of absence. The online form must be reviewed and approved by the employer prior to forwarding to QCHP-RD.

7.1.1. The request shall be submitted by the healthcare practitioner or his/her employer after returning from leave or at the date of expiry/renewal of licensure, whichever sooner.

7.1.2. If a leave of absence falls between two CDP cycles, the 1st part of the leave (prior to date of license expiry/renewal) shall be reported (submitted) as leave of absence (if eligible i.e. for 30 consecutive days or more) at or immediately before expiry/renewal of licensure (end of CPD cycle). The 2nd part of the leave (following the date of license expiry/renewal), if eligible (for 30 consecutive days or more) shall be reported (submitted) after returning from leave.

7.1.3. Request must include the date of when the healthcare practitioner leave of absence started and the date when he/she returned or is planning to return to work (QCHP-RD must be informed by the actual date of return to practice or professional duties, once it occurs).

7.1.4. There is no limit on the number of requests that can be submitted during an established 2-year CPD cycle.

7.1.5. As per the scope of this policy, no retrospective leave of absence submissions will be accepted after the licensure expiry date (end of CPD cycle). However, healthcare practitioners may submit to QCHP-AD a request to review non-compliance with CPD program requirements within 30 days of CPD cycle closure (Refer to QCHP-AD’s CPD Cycle Appeals Process Policy).

7.2. QCHP-RD reviews and processes the submitted leave of absence request.

7.2.1. QCHP-RD evaluates leave of absence eligibility (as per items 2.1 and 7.1 of this policy).

7.2.2. QCHP-RD approves and records the duration of eligible leaves absence in the registration database.

7.2.3. The leave of absence recorded in the registration database will be automatically notified to QCHP-AD.

7.3. Healthcare practitioner’s CPD cycle requirements will be adjusted in the CPD e-portfolio (as per QCHP-AD’s CPD Leave policy). QCHP-AD informs the healthcare practitioner of the approved changes to CPD cycle requirements.
8. **Flowcharts**

8.1. Registration Leave Policy – Appendix 1

9. **References and Sources for Further Reading**

N/A

10. **Related Policies**

10.1. QCHP-AD CPD Cycle Policy (MOPH/QCHP/AD/CPD/002)
10.2. QCHP-AD CPD Exemption Policy (MOPH/QCHP/AD/CPD/003)
10.3. QCHP-AD CPD Recording Policy (MOPH/QCHP/AD/CPD/005)
10.4. QCHP-AD CPD Portfolio Audit Policy (MOPH/QCHP/AD/CPD/006)
10.5. QCHP-AD Cycle Appeals Process (MOPH/QCHP/AD/CPD/007)
10.6. QCHP-AD CPD Leave Policy (MOPH/QCHP/AD/CPD/004)
10.7. QCHP-RD License Renewal Policy

11. **Governing Law or Regulations**

11.1. Amiri Decree No. 7 for the Year 2013 and its amendment.

12. **Attachments/Appendices**

12.1. Flowchart: Registration Leave Policy