



Circular No. (1/2020)

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| From | Department of Healthcare Professions – Accreditation Section / Ministry of Public Health |
| To | All CPD Providers in the State of Qatar |
| Subject | Conducting Accredited Online CME/CPD Activities |
| Date | 26 April, 2020 |

In the pursuit of the Department of Healthcare Professions to provide the utmost support for CPD provider, ensure the safety of CPD activity participants and to mitigate the potential effects of the current COVID-19 pandemic on the healthcare practitioners' compliance with the National CPD program requirements in the state of Qatar, **DHP-AS is encouraging all CPD providers to plan and provide more accredited group learning (Category 1) activities in online format.**

In this regard, **DHP-AS would like to emphasize on the following:**

1. The National CME/CPD accreditation system has encompassed wide variety of activity types and formats from its launch. Online synchronous and blended group learning activity type and the online format of other activity types were always encouraged and promoted.
2. Accreditation of online group learning activities can be granted for activities provided by accredited CPD providers, as well as non-accredited CPD providers.
3. In addition to fulfilling all administrative, educational and ethical standards of the National CME/CPD Accreditation System, **online group-learning activities must fulfill the following requirements** to be eligible for accreditation:
 - The activity objectives, content and expected outcomes are suitable to be provided using an online format (e.g. activity does not include hands-on or simulation components that need to be conducted or evaluated face-to-face).
 - The activity must be live broadcasted allowing for real-time (synchronous) interaction with the participants.
 - Participant attendance must be continuously monitored and recorded throughout the whole activity.



- The provider organization must select and provide access (for the faculty & participants) to an online platform/program that fulfills the mentioned technical requirements (live broadcasting, interactivity and attendance monitoring).
4. Previously accredited CPD activities, which were approved to be provided using a face-to-face format and whose accreditation is still valid, can be provided using an online format, after fulfilling the previously mentioned requirements and getting DHP-AS's official approval.
 5. Non-accredited CPD providers may submit applications for accrediting new online category 1 activity under "Online Synchronous or Blended Group Learning" activity type.
 6. Accredited CPD providers can notify DHP-AS of accreditation of new online Category-1 CPD activities using the following rules:
 - Regularly Scheduled Series (RSS) activities shall be notified selecting the activity type as "educational round" or "journal club" and the activity format as "online".
 - Other category 1 activities shall be notified selecting the activity type as "online synchronous or blended group learning" and the format as "online".

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Essam Elsayed Abdelrafaa: eabdelrafaa@MOPH.GOV.QA;

Dr. Heba Salaheldin Soliman Elbanawy: helbanawy@MOPH.GOV.QA

Ms. Muneera Ali H Abdullah: mabdullah@MOPH.GOV.QA

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