



Circular No. (2/2020)

From	Department of Healthcare Professions / Accreditation Section - Ministry of Public Health
To	All Healthcare Practitioners in the State of Qatar
Subject	Participating in Accredited (Category 1) Online CME/CPD Activities
Date	26 April, 2020

In the pursuit of the Department of Healthcare Professions to provide the utmost support for healthcare practitioners in the State of Qatar and to ensure the safety of CPD activity participants amid the current COVID-19 pandemic, **DHP-AS is encouraging healthcare practitioners to participate in accredited online group learning (Category 1) activities relevant to their practice.**

In this regard, **DHP-AS would like to emphasize that online group learning CPD activities are recognized as Category 1**, according to the National CME/CPD Framework, **if they meet the following two conditions:**

1. The **CPD activity is broadcasted** live (i.e. not recorded) **and is synchronously interactive** (i.e. allows for participants' interaction during the live broadcast); and
2. The **CPD activity is accredited by QCHP** (if developed and broadcasted within Qatar) **or** by one of **QCHP-recognized International accreditation bodies** (if developed and broadcasted from outside Qatar).

It is worth noting that many of QCHP-accredited CPD activities, nowadays, are shifting to online platforms. In addition, live synchronous online activities are trending worldwide and many of those activities are accredited by QCHP-recognized international accreditation bodies, hence, credits granted for participation in such activities can count towards Category-1 CPD requirements of healthcare practitioners.

Lists of “Upcoming QCHP-accredited CPD Activities” and “QCHP-recognized International Accreditation Bodies” can be accessed from the healthcare practitioner’s e-Portfolio and healthcare practitioners’ resource page of QCHP website (<https://www.qchp.org.qa/en/Pages/CMECPDResources.aspx>).



It is also worth noting that the Department of Healthcare Professions has made several efforts to alleviate any burden that might be imposed on healthcare practitioners during the current COVID-19 Pandemic. Those included granting an exceptional 6-month extension of license validity for healthcare practitioners whose licenses were due for renewal during the crisis time (those willing to proceed with license renewal, however, are allowed to apply as usual), facilitating the CPD Cycle closure appeal process for healthcare practitioners (who provide evidence of non-compliance attributed to the current crisis), and many other decisions aiming to avoid any unnecessary interruptions of clinical services during the Pandemic.

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