



CPD IN THE MEDICAL SECTOR

The CPD Standards Office is a unique organisation and was founded with the vision of understanding and enabling positive and successful CPD and learning experiences. As a highly specialised expert team, our university led research has equipped us with extensive expertise on all things CPD.

Between the work of the Professional Development Consortium and the CPD Standards Office dual CPD research and accreditation activities sharpen our knowledge and expertise. This enables us to work with individual coaches, training providers, employers, and 'membership organisation's as a collaborative CPD network & community.

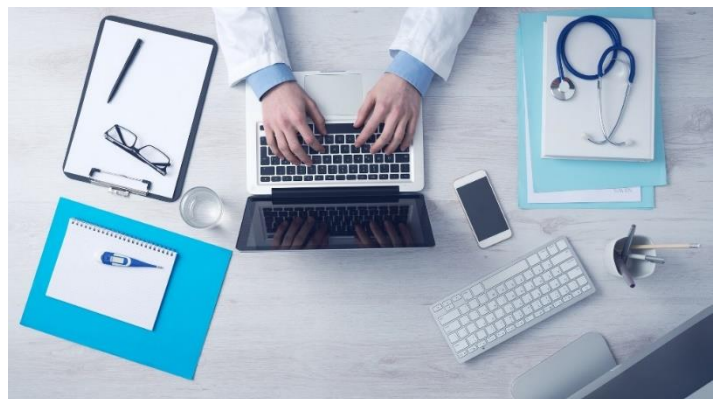
This factsheet provides some detail on the CPD requirements for medical professionals in the UK.

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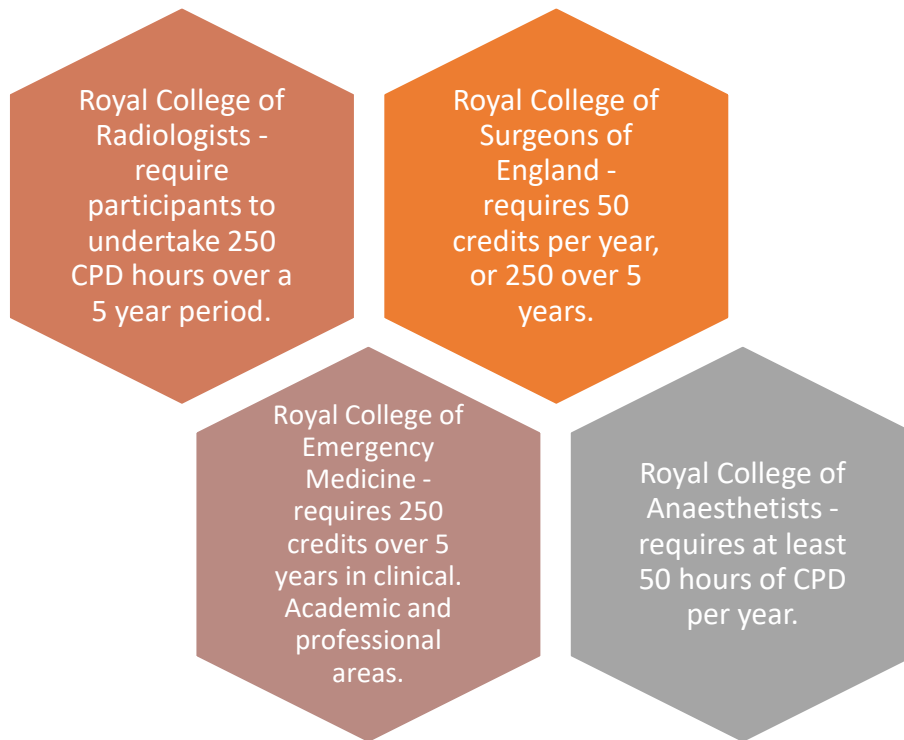
Doctors are required to maintain a standard of medical practice by undertaking annual CPD activities - the General Medical Council (GMC) defines this as 'education outside of undergraduate or postgraduate training'.

The GMC stipulates that doctors must identify their own CPD needs and plan training accordingly. Each doctor is responsible for their own learning and the CPD they undertake must span across clinical and non-clinical aspects of practise.

Doctors can also be members of medical colleges where they must adhere to a CPD scheme that requires a certain number of CPD points/credits to be accumulated over a 5-year period. The GMC doesn't require medical professionals to be aligned to a college, as they stipulate that each person should do as much CPD as is necessary to remain competent, however many choose to do so anyway to help them keep their CPD in order.



Some examples of these colleges and their schemes are:



The GMC requires medical professionals to record and reflect on their learning after undertaking CPD, they recommend using patient and colleague feedback and audits as evidence of their learning.

Medical practitioners are required to document all CPD undertaken - formal and informal - so they are able to produce their CPD record when they are meeting the required professional standards and are fit to practise.

Medical CPD outside of the UK

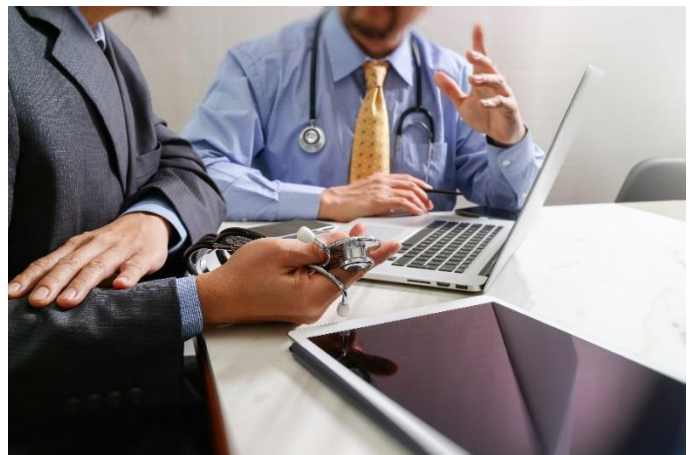
Medical Professionals are expected to maintain their education all over the world. However, CPD schemes do vary across countries, states and provinces.

Italy

In Italy, for example, CPD is referred to as Continuing Medical Education (CME) and the requirements are set by the Government and vary across provinces. If an Italian medical professional takes CPD training or attends an event internationally, they can only count 50% worth of CPD points in their record.

USA

In the USA CPD is referred to as (CE) Continuing Education, and the regulating body - the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education - defines the standards for CE in America. The ACCME oversees the institutions providing CME and is made up of 7 founding organisations which are other medical associations. The CE requirements, in terms of how much CE is necessary and how long the cycle is, for medical practitioners in the USA varies from state to state.



Canada

In Canada the College of Family Physicians certifies CE training activities and stipulates that medical professionals must complete 50 hours of CE each year and the cycle lasts for 5 years.

Australia

The Australian Medical Association (AMA) oversees CPD in Australia for medical professionals and they reviewed their CPD policy at the end of 2016. Here a minimum of 50 hours of CPD a year is required.

As you can see, even across countries, the general rule of thumb for medical practitioners is to complete at least 250 hours of CE/CPD over a 5 year period, when they go through revalidation.