Policy on Internet CPD or Online Education

Live or enduring material activities that are provided via the Internet are considered to be "Internet CPD". Internet CPD must comply with all College of Family Physicians of Canada and Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Policy (including the Standards for Commercial Support) Accreditation Policies, and CPD Policies. However, there are special requirements for Internet CPD because of the nature of the activities:

Activity Location: Accredited providers may not place their CPD activities on a pharmaceutical or device manufacturer's product website.

Links to Product Websites: With clear notification that the learner is leaving the educational website, links from the website of an accredited provider to the homepage of pharmaceutical and device manufacturers' product websites are permitted before or after the educational content of a CPD activity, but shall not be embedded in the educational content of a CPD activity.

Advertising: Product advertising of any type is prohibited within the educational content of CPD activities on the Internet including, but not limited to, banner ads, subliminal ads, and pop-up window ads. For computer-based CPD activities, advertisements and promotional materials may not be visible on the screen at the same time as the CPD content and may not be interleafed between computer 'windows' or screens of the CPD content.

Provider Contact Information: The accredited provider must have a mechanism in place for the learner to be able to contact the provider if there are questions about the Internet CPD activity.

Policy on Privacy and Confidentiality: The accredited provider must have, adhere to, and inform the learner about its policy on privacy and confidentiality that relates to the CPD activities it provides on the Internet. (See Privacy Policy http://healthsci.queensu.ca/education/cpd/policies/privacy)

Copyright: The accredited provider must be able to document that it owns the copyright for, or has received permissions for use of, or is otherwise permitted to use copyrighted materials within a CPD activity on the Internet. (See our Copyright Policy)

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