



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY  
7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD  
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042

IN REPLY REFER TO  
BUMEDINST 1520.34B  
BUMED-M7  
26 May 2015

BUMED INSTRUCTION 1520.34B

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

Subj: CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR MEDICAL CORPS, NURSE CORPS,  
AND MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS OFFICERS

Ref: (a) American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP)  
(b) Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) Accreditation Criteria and Standards for Commercial Support  
(c) American Medical Association (AMA) Physician's Recognition Award (PRA) and Credit System (current edition)  
(d) American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) Primary Accreditation Application Manual for Providers and Approvers (current edition)  
(e) American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE)  
(f) BUMEDINST 5050.6

1. Purpose. To implement and maintain Navy Medicine's nationally accredited continuing education (CE) programs for medical department personnel that meet CE requirements for relicensure as established by State Boards of Medicine, Nursing, and Healthcare Administrators. The CE programs also facilitate self-development and maintain professional development requirements established by a variety of medical and nursing specialty boards including requirements for initial certification, maintenance of certification, and recertification. This instruction is a complete revision and must be read in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. BUMEDINST 1520.34A.

3. Scope. This instruction applies to all Navy Medical Corps, Nurse Corps, and Medical Service Corps officers. It does not apply to Navy Dental Corps officers as their continuing dental education is governed by the American Dental Association Continuing Education Recognition Program (ADA CERP) managed by the Naval Postgraduate Dental School with oversight from the Dental Officer Professional Education Council and the Dental Corps Chief. Reference (a) describes the ADA CERP and is available at: <http://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/ada-cerp-continuing-education-recognition-program>.

4. Background

a. The quality of medical care provided to the Navy and Marine Corps communities depends largely on the proficiency of medical department personnel. The Navy Medicine Professional Development Center (NMPDC) Medical Corps Continuing Medical Education

(CME), Navy Nurse Corps Continuing Nursing Education (CNE), and CE for Healthcare Administrators programs are established within the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Education and Training (BUMED-M7) organizational structure under the auspices of Navy Medicine Education and Training Command.

b. The NMPDC CME program is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) as a provider of CME. As such, the NMPDC CME program acts as a strategic partner in quality and safety initiatives throughout Navy Medicine. Per reference (b), the CME program's mission is to facilitate planning and implementing CME educational activities intended to develop, improve, and maintain the proficiency of Navy Medicine personnel resulting in positive changes in patient outcomes. Reference (b) is available at: <http://www.accme.org/about-us>. The NMPDC CME program awards American Medical Association (AMA) Physician's Recognition Award (PRA) Category 1 Credits per reference (c). Reference (c) is available at: <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/education-careers/continuing-medical-education/physicians-recognition-award-credit-system.page>.

c. The NMPDC CNE program is nationally accredited by the American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) as an approver of CNE. As such, the NMPDC CNE program acts as a strategic partner in quality and safety initiatives throughout Navy Medicine. Per reference (d), the CNE program's mission is to facilitate planning and implementing CNE educational activities intended to develop, improve, and maintain the competence and performance of Navy Medicine personnel. Reference (d) is available at: <http://author.nursebooks.org/Main-Menu/Specialties/ANCC-CEAccreditation/Accreditation-Manual.aspx>. Expected outcomes of nursing professional development educational activities include: professional practice behaviors, leadership skills, critical thinking skills, nurse competency, high-quality care, based on best-available evidence, improvement in nursing practice, improvement in nursing care delivery, and improvement in patient outcomes.

d. The NMPDC CE program has a programmatic relationship with the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) as a provider of CE. As such, the NMPDC CE program acts as a strategic partner in quality and safety initiatives throughout Navy Medicine. Per reference (e), the CE program's mission is to facilitate planning and implementing CE educational activities to develop, improve, and maintain competence and performance of administrative personnel in Navy Medicine. Reference (e) is available at: <http://www.ache.org/SEMINARS/accreditation.cfm>.

e. Given the rapid growth of medical knowledge, advances in technology, emphasis on accountability, and continuing social change, the NMPDC CME, CNE and CE programs provide opportunities for Navy Medicine personnel to participate in quality continuing educational activities which are recognized and accepted by the credentialing agencies, medical board specialty programs, professional societies/associations, and the state licensing authorities. Reference (f) and Navy Medicine conference information and guidance provide further information regarding CE conference travel and can be found on the Navy Medicine Web site at: <http://www.med.navy.mil/Pages/default.aspx>

5. Action

a. Commanding Officer, NMPDC, shall:

(1) Establish and maintain procedures and standards for submission, review, and approval of CME, CNE, and CE programs per references (b) through (e).

(2) Publish the most current guidelines that are required for approval of CME, CNE, and CE programs and recognition for participation in these programs per references (b) through (e).

(3) Maintain unrestricted national accreditation as direct sponsors of CME, CNE, and CE programs to ensure credit recognition by State regulating boards and other professional medical, nursing, and administrative organizations.

(4) Assist Navy Medicine commands with establishing ongoing CME, CNE, and CE programs including planning and implementing quality educational activities designed to increase competence, performance, and patient outcomes among their intended audience.

b. Commanding officers and officers in charge shall:

(1) Ensure appropriate personnel are assigned the responsibility of assessing learning needs among their medical department personnel.

(2) Establish a CME, CNE, and CE educational plan to address the learning needs.

(3) Implement the professional development educational plan. Consultation and training may be obtained by contacting the NMPDC CME, CNE, and/or CE program managers.


(4) Implement effective CME, CNE, and CE programs within their commands.

(5) Maintain quality assurance mechanisms to meet requirements established in references (b) through (e).

6. The points of contact (POCs) for this instruction are the Navy CME, CNE, and CE Program Offices at Navy Medicine Professional Development Center, Continuing Medical/Nursing Education Offices (Code 1WMC21), 8955 Wood Road, Bethesda, MD 20889-5628. Electronic and telephonic POCs include [usn.bethesda.navmedprodevctrmd.list.nmpdc-cme@mail.mil](mailto:usn.bethesda.navmedprodevctrmd.list.nmpdc-cme@mail.mil), and [usn.bethesda.navmedprodevctrmd.list.nmpdc-cne@mail.mil](mailto:usn.bethesda.navmedprodevctrmd.list.nmpdc-cne@mail.mil); (301) 295-0649, (301) 319-4742. The Navy CME online application portal is located at: <https://education.mods.army.mil/NavyCME/Default.aspx>. The Navy CNE program is located online in milsuite at: <https://www.milsuite.mil/book/groups/nmpdc-cne-nursing-professional-development>.

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7. Records. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, shall be managed per SECNAV M-5210.1 of January 2012.



M. L. NATHAN

Distribution is electronic only via the Navy Medicine Web site at:  
<http://www.med.navy.mil/directives/Pages/default.aspx>