

Continuing Medical Education and Continuing Professional Development in North Africa

Thank you for taking a moment to share your opinion regarding Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Continuing Professional Development (CPD) in your country. This survey will take about 15 minutes. Your responses will help us develop a better understanding of CME and CPD programs in your country. Please read each statement carefully and answer based on your own personal experience. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

DEMOGRAPHICS

1. In which country do you practice?

- ☐ Algeria
- ☐ Libya
- ☐ Morocco
- ☐ Tunisia
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

2. What is your specialty?

- ☐ General practice
- ☐ Internal medicine
- ☐ Internal medicine subspecialty (please specify) e.g cardiology _____
- ☐ Pediatrics
- ☐ Surgery
- ☐ Surgical specialty (please specify) e.g. orthopaedics _____
- ☐ Obstetrics/Gynecology
- ☐ Psychiatry
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

3. Where do you work?

- ☐ University hospital
- ☐ Affiliated Hospital
- ☐ Community hospital
- ☐ Government hospital
- ☐ Medical School as a teacher
- ☐ Other (please describe) _____
- ☐ I do not do clinical work

4. Where is your practice located?

- ☐ Large city (e.g. population > 500,000)
- ☐ Small city (e.g. population 50,000 - 499,000)
- ☐ Rural (e.g. population <50,000)
- ☐ Other (please describe) _____

5. How many years has it been since you graduated as a health professional?

- ☐ < 6
- ☐ 6 to 10
- ☐ 11 to 15
- ☐ 16 to 20
- ☐ 21 to 25
- ☐ > 25
- ☐ I do not treat patients

6. How many patients do you see per day?

- ☐ Please specify a number _____
- ☐ I do not directly provide patient care

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

7. Are you responsible for educating:

- ☐ Medical Students
- ☐ Postgraduate Residents
- ☐ Clinical Specialists (consultants)
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

8. Do you have formal training/coursework in medical education?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ If Yes, can you please briefly explain

CURRENT CME/CPD* SYSTEM

**Continuing Medical Education (CME) educational activities which serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships that a physician uses to provide services for patients, the public, or the profession*

**Continuing Professional Development (CPD) involves not only educational activities to enhance medical competence in medical knowledge and skills, but also in management, team building, professionalism, interpersonal communication, technology, teaching, and accountability*

9. I am aware of the CME/CPD system in my country:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ There is no formal CME/CPD system in my country

10. In the last 12 months, how many hours of CME/CPD have you participated in?

- ☐ 0
- ☐ 11-20
- ☐ 21-30

- ☐ 31-40
- ☐ 41-50
- ☐ 50+ (please specify) _____

- ☐ **The CME/CPD currently available to me meets my educational needs:**
- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

11. Participating in CME/CPD that is available to me ensures that I have current knowledge to provide the best care for my patients:

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

12. Participating in CME/CPD that is available to me increases my competence and skills:

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

13. Participation in CME/CPD should be compulsory:

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

INTERPROFESSIONAL CONTINUING EDUCATION*

* Interprofessional Continuing Education (IPCE) *when members from two or more professions learn with, from, and about each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes. IPCE relates to practicing health care professional team-based education. In comparison, interprofessional education (IPE) relates to health care students (undergraduate).*

Please respond to these questions as they relate to IPCE.

14. There is a need for interprofessional continuing education (IPCE) in my country:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

- ☐ Not sure

15. I have participated in interprofessional continuing education (IPCE):

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

INDUSTRY SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT CME/CPD*

**CME/CPD for which financial, or in-kind, contributions given by a commercial interest, which is used to pay all or part of the costs of an activity. The definition of roles and requirements when commercial support is received are outlined in the ACCME Standards for Commercial Support and although this is a US-based organization, it is accepted as the standard for defining roles and responsibilities. The commercial supporter cannot be involved in the planning, delivery, or evaluation of the educational activities and all decisions are made by the educational provider.*

16. In my experience, CME/CPD in my country is free from any control by pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organizations:

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

17. I am aware in many countries, CME/CPD is commonly developed by independent CME/CPD providers with financial support from pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organizations:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

18. I have participated in CME/CPD that has been developed by independent CME/CPD providers with financial support from pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organizations:

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

19. In your opinion, CME/CPD that is developed by an independent CME provider with financial support from pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organizations means (select all that apply):

- ☐ The pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organization must review and approve all content
- ☐ The pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organization can suggest speakers
- ☐ The pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organization works with the educational provider to develop content

- ☐ The pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organization has no influence on the content and speaker selection
- ☐ The content is developed independently by the education company to address the needs of the learners
- ☐ I don't know

20. In my opinion, CME/CPD funded from pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organizations and developed by independent CME/CPD providers could be used towards my CME/CPD requirements:

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

21. If CME/CPD funded by pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organizations and developed by independent CME/CPD providers was available to you, how would you choose to participate? (select all that apply):

- ☐ Based on my clinical specialty
- ☐ Based on the presenting faculty
- ☐ Only when at least one presenting faculty member is from my country
- ☐ The relevance of the education to my practice
- ☐ Curiosity for the topic (but not necessarily related to my practice)
- ☐ The city where the meeting is located
- ☐ I would not participate in independent CME/CPD funded by a pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organization
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

22. CME/CPD developed by independent CME/CPD providers and supported by pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organizations would be beneficial to provide current and clinically important information:

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

23. CME/CPD funded by pharmaceutical or other commercial interest organizations can be free from bias:

- ☐ Strongly agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree

CURRENT CME/CPD SYSTEM OPPORTUNITIES AND BARRIERS

24. What is missing from the CME/CPD currently available to you? (select all that apply):

- ☐ Ability to choose education that suits my specific needs
- ☐ Ability to keep up to date with the most current research
- ☐ Ability to network with colleagues
- ☐ Content that is current /up-to-date
- ☐ Variety of educational formats (ie, live, online/web-based, experiential program, preceptorships)
- ☐ Innovative learning environments and new creative formats
- ☐ More frequent and more diverse programs
- ☐ Patient-focused programs
- ☐ Not applicable enough
- ☐ Nothing is missing
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

25. What are your barriers to participating in CME/CPD (if any)?

- ☐ Not covered in my budget
- ☐ Topics are not relevant/clinically important to me
- ☐ Quality is not high
- ☐ Learning objectives are not clear
- ☐ Not offered at convenient times
- ☐ Formats are not flexible enough
- ☐ Not enough skill building exercise
- ☐ I do not have any barriers
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

26. Please rank each educational format from 1 (low) to 5 (high) based on your preference:

- ☐ Online video lectures
- ☐ Online patient case-based learning programs
- ☐ Attending national and international conferences/symposia
- ☐ Live regional educational activities, including lectures, seminars, workshops, and conferences
- ☐ Hands-on learning
- ☐ Answering questions at the end of e-learning activities
- ☐ Listening to podcasts
- ☐ Reading journal-based or other printed materials
- ☐ Serving as a supervisory physician in undergraduate and postgraduate clinical training programs
- ☐ Authoring medical papers and books

27. During your undergraduate training, do you feel that you were appropriately prepared to be a lifelong learner, including participating in CME/CPD that meets your learning needs?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

28. During your postgraduate training, do you feel that you were appropriately prepared for entry into practice as a consultant?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

29. Please enter additional thoughts regarding CME/CPD in your country.

Thank you for your participation in this survey. Your feedback is greatly appreciated and will assist in our efforts to improve Continuing Medical Education and Continuing Professional Development around the world.