

NEEDS ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION SOURCES

As the goal of continuing medical education is to improve physician performance and patient care, identifying participants' education needs – discrepancies between existing levels of knowledge, skills, attitudes, competency, or performance and more desirable ones – is a requirement for certification.

Please provide documentation as to the methods or sources used to determine the specific educational needs to be addressed by your proposed activity; documentation must go beyond faculty perception.

PHYSICIANS INTERESTS

- Motivation for change
- Desire for enhanced competence
- Self-identified needs
- Formal tests to determine physician competence
- Current clinical problems self-assessment tools
- Housestaff rounds
- Request from physicians' staff consultations
- Advice from authorities in the field
- Library requests for patient care information
- Participant evaluations, formal or informal requests
- Literature review
- Peer review: comparison of actual vs. standards in quality of care

ORGANIZATIONAL NEEDS

- Top 10-15 admitted DRG's
- Legislative regulatory changes
- Patient satisfaction reports
- Medical, legal, ethical issues
- New technology
- Interview with non-physician staff
- Preventive aspects of care
- Interview with administrators and department managers
- Need presented by specialty, research or collaborative group/industry

HOSPITAL INFORMATION SOURCES/QUALITY DATA

- Audits: charts, medical records (continuing changes in quality of care as revealed by audit)
- Reports: quality assurance; utilization review; pharmacy and therapeutics; morbidity and mortality, etc.
- Risk management data
- Ongoing census of diagnosis made by physicians on staff
- Quality council request
- Credentialing, appointment criteria
- Medical Record review
- Drug usage evaluations
- Surgical case review
- Finding in department committee minutes and/or information from committee discussions
- New medical developments
- Data from outside sources (e.g., public health statistics)
- Planned periodic survey of the field
- Review of board exam requirements
- Identified gaps between board exam requirements and patient care problems