



Dr Lorcan Martin,
PCS Director

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to let you know of some changes to our Professional Competence Scheme guidance - in particular the approval / logging of CPD credits. These updates are important as they will provide you with increased flexibility in how you plan and maintain your professional competence. All changes are being implemented for this PCS year, so can be backdated to 1st May 2017. We would encourage you to review the credits you have already logged in your CPD Diary this PCS year, and adjust if necessary to reflect these updates.

These amendments were discussed and agreed by the CPsychI Professional Competence Committee and ratified by CPsychI Council. It is hoped they offer more flexibility to psychiatrists engaged in maintaining professional competence, and also better reflect the modes and types of lifelong learning we engage in. Psychiatrists have many training, educational and professional competence commitments and we are keen to ensure their relevance to maintenance of professional competence is reflected in the CPD approved for them.

These changes will be clearly shown in our updated Professional Competence Handbook, which we will circulate to you shortly. In the meantime, here is a summary of changes you need to know, along with some dates of upcoming CPD meetings organised by our college.

With best wishes,  Lorcan Martin

- Changes apply from 1st May 2017 -

1. EXTERNAL CPD CREDITS – increased limit of 8 credits per day.

External CPD events can now be approved for up to **8 External credits** per day (increased from a limit of 6 per day). Please log external CPD credits to reflect the duration of your participation in an event, up to the number of approved credits. (1 credit per hour, increments of 0.5 credits after first hour/credit). Ensure you have a CPD certificate of attendance for all credits logged.

2. EXTERNAL CPD CREDITS – increased limit of 15 credits for longer/single topic meetings & courses.

External CPD credits for longer term e.g. **postgraduate courses** related to scope of practice (e.g. diploma, masters, PhD) have been increased to **15 External credits per year of the course**. (Increased from 10). Further time spent in research / study should be claimed as Research or Personal CPD as appropriate.

The maximum External CPD credits which can be claimed for **meetings / courses / events centred on a single topic running over a number of days** have also been increased to **15 External Credits**. (Increased from 10 credits).

3. COLLEGE FACULTY, COMMITTEE & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS – increased limit of 7 Internal or External credits per year. (1 per meeting attended).

You can now log up to **7 Internal or External CPD credits** per year for attendance at college faculty, committee, special interest group meetings, still subject to 1 credit per meeting. (Increased from a maximum of 5 Internal).

4. ONLINE CPD – increased limit of 10 External and 10 Internal CPD credits per year.

You can now claim up to **10 External and 10 Internal CPD** credits per year for online CPD carried out on CPsychI approved websites. (Increased from maximum 10 External and 5 Internal). This means up to 20 hours of approved online CPD can be logged each year.

Our suite of **Hot Topics CPD eModules** were launched in January 2017, with a wide range of topics available for you to watch, answer MCQs on, and log as CPD. New eModules will be regularly added - we will let you know as they become available.

Sources of approved online CPD:

- [CPsychI Hot Topics eModules](#) (1 CPD credit each)
- [CPsychI & RCPI: "Delirium: Recognition & Response" eModule](#)
- [CPsychI: OAP Interactive Case Based Tutorial eModule](#)
(CPsychI eModules require Moodle login)
- [British Association for Psychopharmacology \(BAP\) online CPD](#)
- [Medilearning – Schizophrenia Module](#)
- [Medilearning – Cognitive Dysfunction in Depression Module](#)
- [Medscape](#)
- [Mental Health Commission](#)
- [RCPsych CPD online](#)
- [RCPI - individual online courses](#) (courses relevant to your scope of practice and appropriate level for consultant CPD)

If you wish to claim online learning from one of the above websites for CPD, you should ensure you complete any evaluation at the end of a module and then print off your certificate for the module.

5. MANDATORY TRAINING COURSES— updated guidance on approval and logging credits.

Psychiatrists are required to maintain basic medical skills and also engage in the training required by employers and the Mental Health Commission. Some required training has little or no psychiatric content and can often be refresher training. Whilst recognising the importance of this training, it must be remembered that activities approved for CPD credits should be primarily focused on education relevant to the role of a consultant psychiatrist and consistent with standards expected thereof.

It is in this context that we have restricted the number of credits to be logged for some mandatory courses psychiatrists undertake on a yearly or two-yearly basis. The aim is to encourage a wide range of educational CPD activities appropriate to the scope of practice for psychiatrists at consultant level.

- **BLS** (Basic Life Support): maximum **2 Internal CPD** credits to be logged per course.
- **ACLS** (Advanced Cardiac Life Support): maximum **2 Internal CPD** credits to be logged per course.
- **MAPA** (Management of Actual or Potential Aggression) – or equivalent training: maximum **2 Internal CPD** credits to be logged per course.
- **Fire Training** – max. **1 Internal CPD** credit per course
- **Children First** – max. **1 Internal CPD** credit per course

6. NCHDs undergoing supervision – Claim 1 Internal CPD credit per hour of being supervised.

NCHDs enrolled in the PCS who receive protected teaching time (usually weekly) from a consultant, should log that time as **Internal CPD**. A log of hours, countersigned by the Consultant, should be kept as evidence.

Consultants supervising a Trainee/NCHD should claim that time as **Supervision CPD** in the Research / Examining / Supervision / Teaching CPD category. A log of hours, countersigned by the doctor being supervised, should be maintained as evidence.

The Professional Competence Handbook is being updated and will be re-issued soon.

Ensure you have good evidence (CPD certificates, signed logs, signed summaries etc.) for all CPD credits & Clinical Audit you log in your CPD Diary.

CPSYCHI WINTER CONFERENCE
Thursday 16th & Friday 17th November 2017
Dunboyne Castle, Co. Meath
[Registration now open](#)

UPCOMING CPD EVENTS

7. [HOT TOPICS IN PSYCHIATRY meetings 2017/18.](#)

Monthly evening CPD meetings – 2 External CPD credits

The Hot Topics series is back!

Note the first meeting is a [Tuesday!](#)

On **TUESDAY 12th September**, Dr Fintan Harte (Melbourne) will present on **Gender Dysphoria – the shifting diagnostic and treatment paradigms.**

Thursday 26th October sees Dr Mary Cosgrave discussing **Long Term Mental Illness and Developing Dementia**, with Dr John O'Donovan speaking on **Neuropsychiatry of Parkinsons.**

On **Thursday 7th December** we welcome Dr Alys Cole-King from the UK to present on **Managing Suicidality – Approaching Consistency.**

The full list of [dates and topics](#) are available in the Upcoming Events & Meetings list on www.irishpsychiatry.ie. Booking will open shortly.

8. [CPD Educational Weekend Meeting organised by PIPSIG](#) (Private & Independent Practice Special Interest Group) **29th & 30th September 2017**

FRIDAY 29th Sept: 2 External or Internal CPD Credits
18:00 – 20:00 hrs

Psychological consequences of Residential Institution Abuse - Dr Frank O'Donoghue, Consultant Psychiatrist

Elaborating additional possibilities with regard to Supportive Psychotherapy - Dr David Magee, Psychiatrist & Psychotherapist

20:15 hrs – Dinner, Sandymount Hotel (optional)

SATURDAY 30th Sept: 3 External or Internal CPD Credits
09:30 – 13:00 hrs

Beyond Mindfulness: The Transforming Power of Awareness - Dr Francis Valloor, Clinical Psychologist, Author & International Speaker

Coffee break & PIPSIG Business Meeting

[Second speaker to be confirmed]

Sexual Repercussions of Sexual Abuse – A Clinician Reflects - Mr Fergal Rooney, Principal Psychologist, Saint John of God Hospital

[Online booking now open](#)

9. **AUTISM SEMINAR** **Pathway of Care / Service for Adults with ASD** **Friday 20th October 2017 (tbc) - Dublin**

The date and programme for a one day seminar on the psychiatric support needs of people with Autism is being finalised, with a superb panel of expert speakers. Current research suggests that over 1 in 100 people may be on the autistic spectrum, with around 50% not having intellectual disability. People with autistic spectrum disorder have an increased risk of psychiatric illness.

Organised by **Dr John Hillery, Prof Louise Gallagher** and **Dr Linda O'Rourke**, this is an important meeting for all psychiatrists with an interest in the development of psychiatric services for adults with ASD.

Full details will be circulated very soon.