



## PROGRAM POLICY

<b>NUMBER:</b>	EDU 120
<b>TITLE:</b>	Continuing Medical Education
<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Education
<b>APPROVED:</b>	October 2013
<b>VERSION:</b>	1.4
<b>AUTHORITY:</b>	Program Director
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**PURPOSE:** To communicate the Regional Paramedic Program for Eastern Ontario (RPPEO) philosophy and operational plans for continuing medical education.

**REFERENCE:** CERT 100 Certification  
ADM 130 Retention of Documents

**POLICY:** The RPPEO will provide continuing medical education (CME) for all paramedics in its jurisdiction according to the Ministry of Health's (MOH) requirements. This education will be linked to quality review findings whenever possible in a feedback cycle designed to monitor and maintain each paramedic's competency. Advanced Care Paramedics will receive 24 hours of CME: eight hours of classroom based education each in the spring and fall, and eight hours of an approved elective. Primary Care Paramedics will receive a minimum eight (8) hours.



The purpose of CME is to assess competency by:

- Reviewing and introducing new medical directives
- Providing new information
- Reviewing skills

The RPPEO Medical Director has determined that for ACPs 16 hours of the 24 must be core CME and the remaining 8 hours must be elective or self-directed CME. The RPPEO makes every attempt to provide elective events and opportunities for the paramedics to reach their targets, but ultimately completion of elective hours is the responsibility of the individual paramedic to obtain. Any program not offered by or already endorsed by the RPPEO must be applicable to the practice of paramedicine at the advance care level and must meet or exceed the National Occupation Competency Profiles (NOCPs). It must be clinically relevant, provide the paramedic with new knowledge, and ideally be focused on low frequency, high acuity medicine. As with all elective CME offerings, the learning must be measurable.

The RPPEO's educational activities will be reproducible by all coordinators, instructors and facilitators, and will be performance monitored. They will be chosen to address issues identified from the RPPEO's Quality and Patient Safety data or to impart new information as decided by the industry. The RPPEO will continue to search for innovative ways to provide these educational services while meeting the established standards. Its object assessment of paramedic competency will be through impartial measurement of performance using industry standard assessment tools.



**PROCEDURE:**

1. Continuing Medical Education (CME) will be provided to paramedics as per the MOH requirements.
2. The Education and Quality and Patient Safety teams will work together to identify trends in care, and provide education on them.
3. Education will be provided with a variety of classroom and web based activities. It will be based on adult learning theories.
4. Paramedics will be assessed using the Global Rating Scale (GRS) in each scenario. The score obtained using the GRS will be maintained in each paramedic's file
5. All documents pertaining the CME activities will be maintained in each paramedic's file as per ADM 130 Retention of Documents

**NOTE:**

For elective CME content not offered or previously endorsed by the RPPEO, CME credit approval must be obtained from the RPPEO **prior** to attending the desired program. CME credits may be accumulated at the discretion of the RPPEO by attending courses, conferences or doing other online courses provided by other agencies or services. Pre- approval Elective Continued Medical Education form completion required and available at [www.rppeo.ca](http://www.rppeo.ca).

**Revision Record**

Version number	Revision Date	Summary of Changes
1.4	July 2023	Minor corrections such as changing MOHLTC to MOH; addition of Revision Record