Examples of Educational Planning for a CME Activity: Linking Problems and Results

The ACCME is requiring clearer statements documenting educational planning linking the identification of problems to the CME activity's expected results. Planning includes linked consideration of:

- Target audience
- Problems ("performance gaps") these physicians face
- Educational needs of the target audience relevant to addressing those problems
- Program content and format to meet educational needs
- Expected results (e.g., knowledge, ability to implement, performance, patient outcomes)

The updated UMMS application for CME credit asks for information on each of these topics. The following examples provide an overview of how this information may be linked across topics. (A more detailed statement of the purpose and expected results of the activity will typically be included in materials advertising the activity to the target audience.)

Robert B. Sweet, MD, Memorial Conference (Anesthesiology)

- **Audience.** UM anesthesiology faculty, fellows, residents, alumni, and CRNA's
- **Problem.** Providing anesthesia for children can be complex, involving complications and unusual circumstances that increase the likelihood of poor outcomes.
- **Educational needs.** Individuals providing anesthesia need to learn about problems in care, identify how care they provide can be enhanced, and consider how to incorporate enhancements into their practice.
- **Content & format.** This half-day conference will provide an update on pediatric anesthesia for patients with childhood obesity, with Down Syndrome, and with adolescents and consent issues. Presentations, Q&A periods, and a panel discussion will help participants understand and apply new management approaches on these topics to their practices.
- **Expected results.** The conference will result in UM-related personnel who provide anesthesia having a better understanding of how to provide care in unusual pediatric cases and initiating changes that will enhance their performance and the outcomes of their pediatric patients.

Tri-City Regional Update Conference (Ophthalmology)

- **Audience.** Ophthalmologists practicing in the area of Saginaw, Bay City, and Midland.
- **Problem.** Many advances are occurring in the diagnosis and treatment of eye diseases, but the advances are not always translated into the care provided to patients.
- **Educational needs.** Ophthalmologists must understand and incorporate recent advances into their practices.
- **Content and format.** This Saturday morning conference will provide an overview of the latest diagnostic and therapeutic knowledge in the subspecialty areas of glaucoma, cornea, retina, and pediatrics. The presentations will address how to implement this knowledge into practice. The Q&A periods will provide the opportunity for participants to consider application to their specific practice settings.
- **Expected results.** Participants will understand state-of-the-art care for common ophthalmologic conditions and how to apply that knowledge in the routine delivery of care in community practice in order to enhance clinical performance and improve outcomes for patients.

James W. Rae, MD, Scientific Day and Lecture (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)

- **Audience.** PM&R faculty and residents at UMHS and other PM&R physicians in Michigan
- **Problem.** New approaches to rehabilitation are often not implemented because they are not widely known. New evidence indicates how to improve rehabilitation, particularly from traumatic brain injury.
- **Educational needs.** PM&R physicians need to learn about new approaches to rehabilitation and the practical aspects of implementing these approaches in typical practice settings.
- **Content & format.** The morning will have several presentations of new research findings concerning rehabilitation for several medical conditions. The annual lecture will address the most current evidence for treating traumatic brain injury and its application in practice. Residents will present cases to the guest lecturer for guidance. Q&A periods will allow participants to address applying recommendations to their clinical settings.
- **Expected results.** The conference will result in participating PM&R physicians better understanding a variety of new aspects of rehabilitation and how to implement that knowledge in ways to improve their clinical performance and the outcomes of their patients.