

ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR PHARMACY EDUCATION

ASSURING
AND ADVANCING
QUALITY IN



PHARMACY
EDUCATION





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Continuing Pharmacy Education and Certificate Programs in Pharmacy: The US Experience

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ASSURING AND ADVANCING QUALITY IN PHARMACY EDUCATION

Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education

- ACPE is an autonomous, independent, not-for-profit accreditation agency
- ACPE accredits:
 - **Professional degree programs** (i.e., Doctor of Pharmacy degree, Pharm D) (113)
Recognized by U.S. Department of Education (USDE)
 - **Providers of continuing education** (\pm 400)
There is no government oversight of CE accreditation



ACPE

- **Founded in 1932 for accreditation of professional programs, by:**
 - **National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) (regulators)**
 - **American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACCP) (educators), and**
 - **American Pharmacists Association (APhA) (practitioners)**
- **Accreditation of CE Providers added in 1975; Certificate Programs added in 1999 (1999-2008)**



Oversight in the United States

Education	Entry to Practice	Practice
<p>Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) Degree (ACPE)</p>	<p>Licensure (R.Ph.) (State Boards of Pharmacy)</p>	<p>Licensure Renewal (State Boards of Pharmacy) State specific criteria include mandatory Continuing Education (ACPE)</p>
		<p>Postgraduate Education (optional) Advanced Degrees: M.S., Ph.D. (College/schools of pharmacy) Postgraduate Training (optional) Residency (ASHP) Traineeship (ASHP) Fellowship (ACCP, ASHP) Certificate Programs (ACPE)</p>
		<p>Certification (optional) Specialty (BPS) Non-specialty (CCGP) Disease management (NISPC) Multidisciplinary (various, e.g. CDE)</p>

One national degree standard

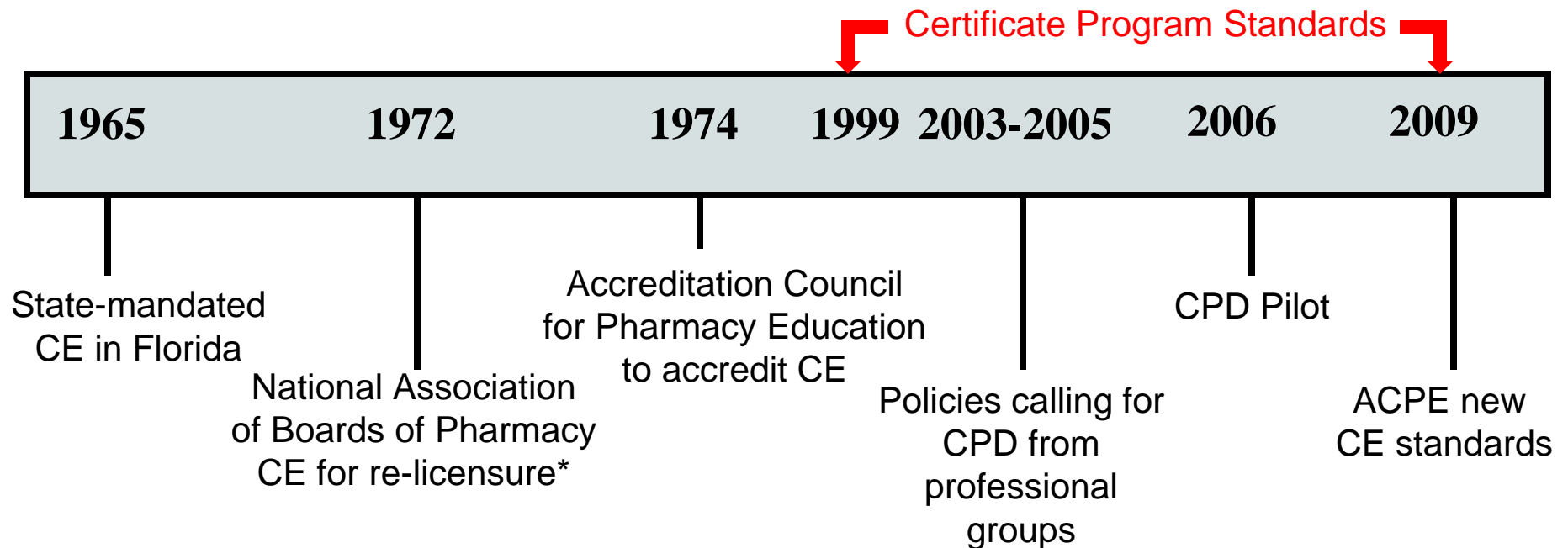
Graduation from ACPE-accredited program required to sit national licensure exam (NAPLEX);

Mandatory continuing education; ACPE-accredited or board approved

Council on Credentialing in Pharmacy
www.pharmacycredentialing.org



History of CE and CPD in the United States



*1972-74 American Pharmaceutical Association-American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy Task Force on Continuing Competence in Pharmacy: CE best mechanism for assuring pharmacist proficiency

Source: Anna Legreid Dopp 2009 (modified)



The Purpose of CE

“The purpose of continuing education for pharmacists and for other health professionals is the **improvement of patient care** and health maintenance, and the **enrichment of health careers**. Therefore, the focus should be on the patient as a problem of treatment and as an exercise in learning. The basic criterion for the **evaluation of the relevance and effectiveness** of continuing education for health professionals is the **improvement of patient care.**”

Knox A B, Continuing Education of Pharmacists, JAPhA 1975 Aug;15(8) 442-7, 457



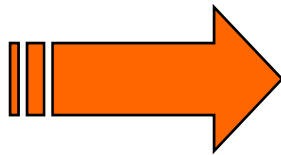
What's the Connection?



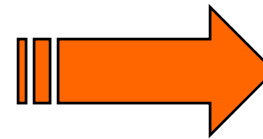
CE



Licensure Renewal



Learning



Practice

What's the Connection?



HOURS-BASED LEARNING

CE



Licensure Renewal



NEEDS-BASED LEARNING



Learning



Practice

Certificate Programs

A structured, systematic, postgraduate education and continuing education experience for pharmacists that is generally smaller in magnitude and shorter in duration than a degree program or residency training program. Certificate programs are designed to instill, expand, or enhance practice competencies through the systematic acquisition of specific knowledge, skills, attitudes, and performance behaviors.



Certificate Programs

- **Introduced as optional “supplemental” Standards in 1999**
- **To address confusion, lack of standardized application of terminology, and variable quality**
- **To enhance application of knowledge, skills, attitudes and values in practice/patient care**
- **Minimum 15 hours in duration**



Certificate Programs

- **Evaluation included demonstration of application of knowledge and skills in practice**
- **Some excellent programs, but overall limited uptake by providers and learners (no strong incentives)**
- **Discontinued with implementation of ACPE's revised CE Standards in 2009**
- **Term can still be used for ongoing marketing of successful programs and where CPs are required**



Certification

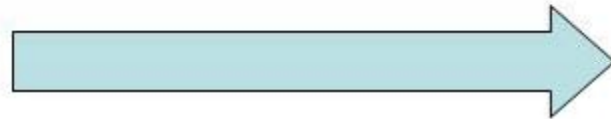
The voluntary process by which a nongovernmental agency or an association grants recognition to an individual who has met certain predetermined qualifications specified by that organization. This formal recognition is granted to designate to the public that this individual has attained the requisite level of knowledge, skill, and/or experience in a well-defined, often specialized, area of the total discipline. Certification usually requires initial assessment and periodic reassessments of the individual's knowledge, skills, and/or experience.



Practice/Competency Area 1: Patient Care

Provision of patient-centered and population-based care

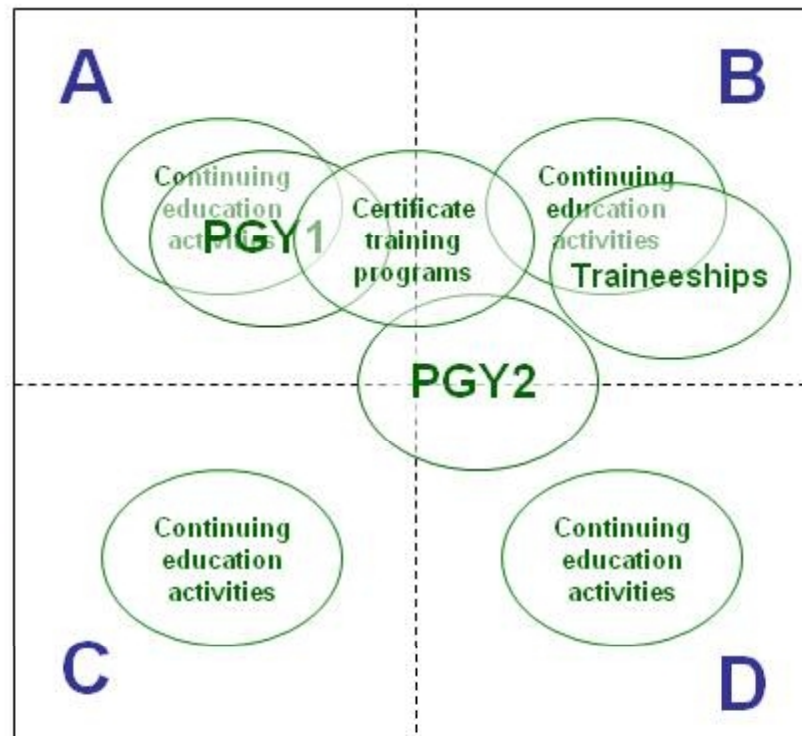
BREADTH OF PATIENT/PRACTICE FOCUS



Broad

Narrow

Post-licensure
continuing
education and
training offered
to pharmacists



Entry-Level



Advanced

LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, &
EXPERIENCE

Practice/Competency Area 1: Patient Care

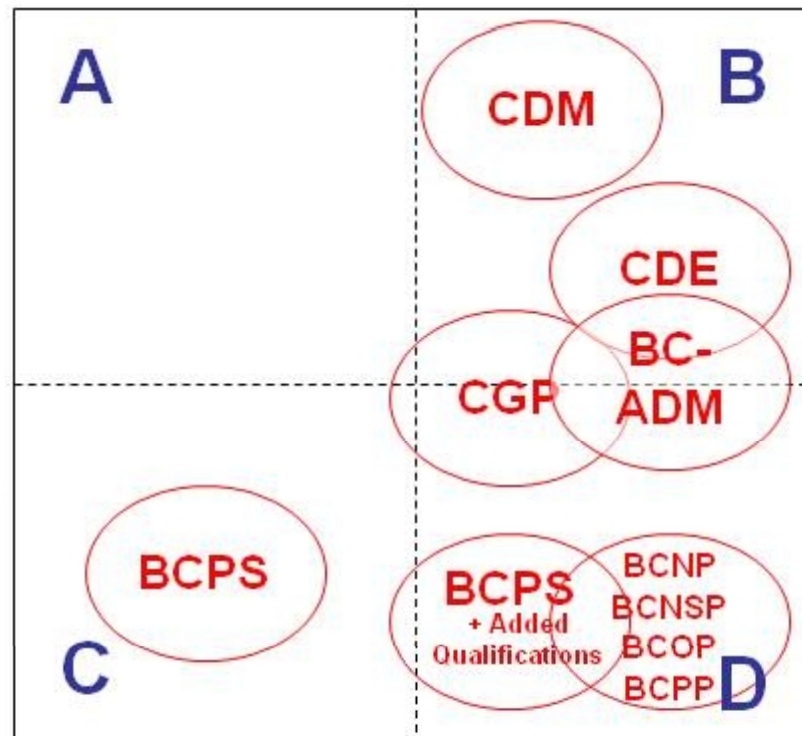
“Provision of patient-centered and population-based care”

BREADTH OF PATIENT/PRACTICE FOCUS



Broad

Narrow



Entry-Level



Advanced

LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, &
EXPERIENCE

Post-licensure certifications offered to pharmacists

Practice-based CPE activity

These CPE activities should be designed primarily for pharmacists and technicians to systematically acquire specific knowledge, skills, attitudes, and performance behaviors that expand or enhance practice competencies.



Practice-based CPE activity

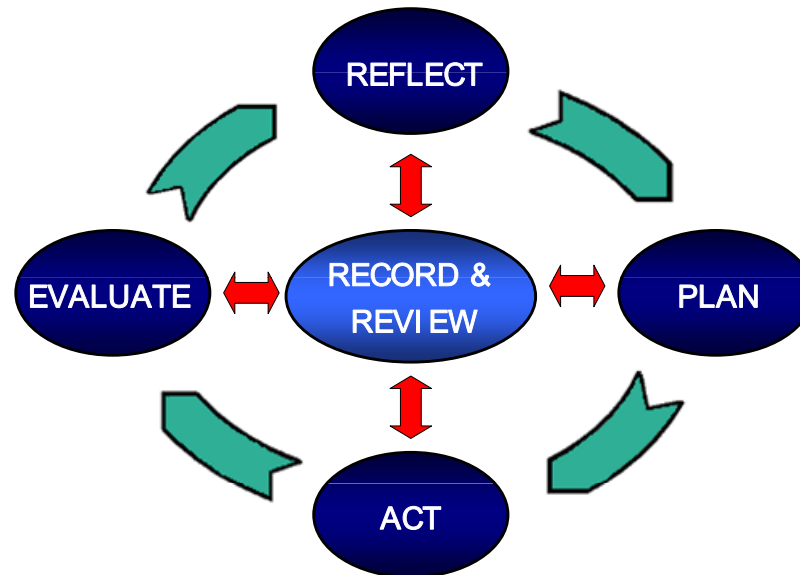
The information within the practice-based CPE activity must be based on evidence as accepted in the literature by the health care professions. The formats of these CPE activities should include a didactic component and a practice component. The minimum credit for these activities is 15 contact hours.



2009 Standards for Continuing Pharmacy Education: CPE Activities

Activity	Activity Purpose	Learning Assessment	Assessment Feedback
Knowledge	Transmit knowledge	Questions/recall of facts	Must be provided to all participants
Application	Apply information	Case studies/application of principles	
Practice	Instill knowledge, skills, attitudes	Hands-on, workplace	

Continuing Professional Development



...a self-directed, ongoing, systematic and outcomes-focused approach to learning and professional development

CPD aims to shift from a teacher/provider-driven model to a learner-driven model



Conclusions from the Literature

- CE can be effective in both **learning** and **practice change**, but ...
- **More successful (learning, practice change) if:**
 - Area of interest or preference
 - Related to daily practice
 - Programs selected in response to identified need
 - Interactive, hands-on
 - Use more than one intervention; continuing not opportunistic
 - Use reflection
 - Self-directed (content and context)
 - Focus on specific outcomes/objectives
 - Commitment to change

C

P

D





**Thank You
for Your
Attention!**

