November 1, 2018

TO:    OFFICERS, COUNCILORS, AND TRUSTEES
FR:    MARK J. ADAMS, MD, MBA, FACR, MSSNY COMMISSIONER ON MEDICAL EDUCATION
       MIRIAM HARDIN, PHD, MANAGER, CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION
Re:    REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION

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Report of the MSSNY Committee on Continuing Medical Education
E. Kenneth Freiberg, MD

The Committee on Continuing Medical Education oversees the Subcommittee on Educational Programs (which fulfills MSSNY’s role as Accredited Provider) and the Subcommittee on Surveys (which fulfills MSSNY’s role as Recognized Accreditor). Each Subcommittee makes a report of their activities and decisions and the full Committee ratifies those decisions.

The Subcommittee on Surveys reports are provided by the Chair, Pauline Hecht, MD, FACS. The Subcommittee on Educational Programs reports have been provided by the Chair, Sheldon Puttermann, MD, CCME, CMEP. All subcommittee members must be members of the full CME Committee.

Since the September 13, 2018 Council meeting, the Subcommittee on Surveys and the full CME Committee have met once, on Thursday, September 20, 2018. Their next meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2018.

As reported in September Council Report, in May, MSSNY Council referred to the CME Committee the House of Delegates Resolution 169, “Partnership on Continuing Medical Education,” which had been introduced by the Seventh and Eighth District Branches. At the September 20, 2018 meeting of the CME Committee, the matter was tabled and will be taken up again at the December 21, 2018 meeting.

Report of the Subcommittee on Educational Programs
Sheldon Puttermann, MD, Chair/Charles Gonzalez, MD Chair

Since the September Council Meeting, the Subcommittee on Educational Programs met on September 28, 2018 and on October 17, 2018. At its September meeting, the subcommittee approved three jointly provided CME activities, as well as an initial inquiry from a new joint provider. At the October meeting, the subcommittee approved five jointly provided CME activities.
Following the September 28, 2018, Subcommittee Chair Sheldon Putterman, MD contacted the MSSNY Office of CME to resign as chair and to remove himself from all MSSNY Committees to which he belonged. Vice-Chair Charles Gonzalez, MD is the new chair of the Subcommittee on Educational Programs. MSSNY staff will determine an appropriate method to thank and honor Dr. Putterman for his many years of service to MSSNY. The subcommittee is scheduled to meet again on November 21, 2018.

Report of the Subcommittee on Surveys
Pauline Hecht, MD, Chair

This Subcommittee on Surveys met on September 20, 2018. The following CME Providers have been reaccredited: Rochester Academy of Medicine, St. Francis Hospital, and Westmed Medical Group, P.C. These decisions were the result of a year-long process for reaccreditation which included submission of a written self-study, documentation review of performance-in-practice (activity files) and an interview between the survey team (members of the Subcommittee) and the representatives of each organization.

The subcommittee is scheduled to meet again on December 21, 2018.

Miscellaneous

As the ACCME Recognized Accrider in New York State, MSSNY has awarded accreditation status to 30+ organizations across New York State. The MSSNY Office of Continuing Medical Education manages the accreditation of these organizations and holds a monthly web-conference with all MSSNY-accredited providers to discuss CME requirements and issues.

In addition, MSSNY hosted its CME Provider Conference on Friday, September 21, 2018, at the Courtyard by Marriott in Westbury, NY. Graham McMahon, MD, President and CEO of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACOME), delivered the keynote speech, as well as leading one of the educational sessions. MSSNY President Thomas J. Madejski, MD delivered the opening remarks. Dr. McMahon also attended a special dinner the night before, September 20, with Dr. Madejski, members of the CME Committee, and MSSNY CME staff. Participants of the CME Provider Conference reported extremely positive feedback.
CME Activities that Count For Maintenance of Certification/Continuing Certification

The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) currently is collaborating with the following American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) member boards to simplify and align the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process to better meet the needs of physicians and educators:

- American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA) MOCA
- American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) MOC
- American Board of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery (ABOHNS) MOC
- American Board of Pathology (ABPath) Continuing Certification
- American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) MOC

This collaboration enables CME providers that are accredited by ACCME or State Medical Society Accreditors (such as MSSNY) to provide to their learners CME activities that count for MOC(A)/Continuing Certification points without a separate process of having CME activity content approved by the individual boards. When CME providers report attendance data to the ACCME via ACCME’s Program and Activity Reporting System (PARS), the system uses learner names, diplomate ID numbers, and month/day of birth to report participation to the applicable board. Eligible learners quickly receive email confirmation from their board(s) regarding points earned.

In its capacity as an ACCME-accredited CME provider, MSSNY is in the planning stages of offering CME activities that count for MOC points. MSSNY members can expect more information as the activities become available in 2019.

In its capacity as an ACCME-recognized intrastate accreditor of CME providers, MSSNY has been providing ongoing education and support to enable MSSNY-accredited providers to plan and implement CME activities with MOC points.

To assist learners in finding CME activities that offer MOC points, ACCME maintains the CME Finder website. CME providers that enter their CME MOC activities into PARS in advance of the activity date automatically have the activity added to the CME Finder site.
ACCME anticipates more ABMS-member boards will be entering into collaboration agreements as described above, and when they do, MSSNY members will be informed via eNews, News of New York, or other communication methods.

More information is available at ACCME’s "CME in Support of MOC" page.
Questions on this topic may be addressed to Miriam Hardin at mhardin@mssny.org.