

1  
2  
3  
4 **THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS**

5  
6 **Revised February 28, 2009**

7  
8 **CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION MISSION STATEMENT**

9  
10 The American College of Psychiatrists promotes the art and science and highest standards of  
11 professional practice in psychiatry through research, scholarly activities and professional  
12 leadership. The College was formed as a learned society to enhance the education of its  
13 members by providing a series of educational activities to improve psychiatrists' knowledge of  
14 advances in psychiatry.

15  
16 **Purpose**

17  
18 The purpose of The American College of Psychiatrists' Continuing Medical Education (CME)  
19 Program is to improve psychiatrists' knowledge; to introduce psychiatrists to new ideas and  
20 techniques, as they become available; to help psychiatrists maintain lifelong habits of study, self-  
21 education and learning, and receptivity to changing science and evidence-based practices in  
22 psychiatry; and to encourage understanding of the ethical and legal issues affecting the practice  
23 of psychiatry.

24  
25 **Goals**

26  
27 The goals of The College's CME program are to:

- 28
- 29 • Provide educational activities designed to increase psychiatrists' knowledge of scientific  
30 advances in psychiatry and to increase their ability to apply this information to their  
31 clinical practice.
  - 32
  - 33 • Create programs that integrate didactic and problem-based formats to improve practice  
34 patterns and clinical behavior.
  - 35
  - 36 • Evaluate The College's performance of its educational activities to assure their quality  
37 and effectiveness.
  - 38

39 **Content Areas**

40  
41 The College provides educational activities which reflect state-of-the-art thinking and practice in  
42 psychiatry, especially current and evolving concepts in the neurosciences and their applications  
43 to patient care. Educational activities promote an awareness of the importance of evidence-based  
44 diagnosis, prognosis and treatment of psychiatric conditions, including the value of cultural  
45 sensitivity in delivering care to populations of ethnic, gender and socioeconomic diversity.  
46  
47  
48  
49

1 **Target Audience**

2  
3 The College's target audience focuses primarily on College members, i.e., psychiatrists who have  
4 made significant contributions to American psychiatry, including administrators, clinicians,  
5 physicians in private practice and organized settings, educators and scientists through  
6 participation in its annual meeting. Additionally, The College provides a specific learning  
7 opportunity for psychiatrists in clinical practice.

8  
9 College policy requires that members demonstrate a commitment to education to maintain their  
10 College membership. Specifically, they must attend at least one scientific program every three  
11 years to maintain membership in The College.

12  
13 **Type of Activities Provided**

14  
15 The College presents an annual scholarly meeting which is designed to highlight new knowledge  
16 and understanding in psychiatry through plenary presentations and group discussions; and to  
17 allow participants an opportunity to address issues in more depth, through smaller group sessions,  
18 which focus on active interactions with experts in the field in a manner geared to promote  
19 utilization of this knowledge in clinical practice.

20  
21 As part of the annual meeting The College invites faculty presenters whom it has identified and  
22 recognized with awards for outstanding achievement, to present lectures on best practices in the  
23 specific areas in which they have been recognized. These include recipients of the Stanley Dean  
24 Award for Research in Schizophrenia, the Award for Creativity in Psychiatric Education, the  
25 Award for Research in Geriatric Psychiatry, the Award for Research in Mood Disorders, and the  
26 Honorary Fellowship.

27  
28 The College also periodically offers Pre-Meetings, focused on specific topics in psychiatry, and  
29 sometimes makes these meetings available to its Membership as enduring material Internet  
30 activities.

31  
32 The College offers an examination for practicing psychiatrists, "Psychiatrists In-Practice  
33 Examination, (PIPE)," the content of which is based on the ABPN core competencies. This  
34 program is designed to be part of a comprehensive lifelong learning opportunity mandated by the  
35 American Board of Medical Specialties as a component of maintenance of certification.

36  
37 Finally, The College offers test item writing credit to Members of its PIPE Editorial Board and to  
38 Members of the Editorial Board for the Psychiatry Resident-in-Training Exam (a test  
39 administered to most psychiatry residents in the United States and Canada).

40  
41 **Expected Results of the Program**

42  
43 The American College of Psychiatrists' CME Program is expected to increase psychiatrists'  
44 knowledge of advances in psychiatry and their ability to incorporate this information to their  
45 professional practice.

46  
47 **Assessment of the Expected Results**

48  
49 The College assesses the expected results of its CME Program through analyses of its annual  
50 meeting evaluations, which reflect participants' applications of advances in psychiatry and their  
51 intention to incorporate this information into their professional practice. The College surveys its

1 annual meeting small interest group participants several months post-meeting to measure the  
2 achievement of desired results, including the retention of new knowledge and its application to  
3 clinical practice. The College surveys its Psychiatrists in Practice Examination (PIPE)  
4 participants to measure the achievement of desired results, including the retention of information  
5 and its application to clinical practice.

6

7 Approved, Board of Regents 02-28-09