

## Continuing Medical Education Committee Report to the General Faculty

November 2018

The Continuing Medical Education Committee (CMEC) is one of the permanent committees of the University of Arizona, College of Medicine (COM). The CMEC approves continuing medical education (CME) policy, provides oversight of CME activities, and assures the approved policies and activities meet accreditation standards for continuing medical education. The College of Medicine Office of CME (OCME) is the operating arm for CME activities. The current CME Committee members and COM support staff are below.

### *Committee Members as of November 2018:*

1. Valerie Ebert, DO, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics (6/2016 – 6/2019) [vbert@email.arizona.edu](mailto:vbert@email.arizona.edu), CMEC Chair
2. Sarah Desoky, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Imaging (6/2016 – 6/2019) [sdesoky@radiology.arizona.edu](mailto:sdesoky@radiology.arizona.edu), CMEC Vice Chair
3. Sam Afshin, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine (6/2015 – 6/2018) [asam@email.arizona.edu](mailto:asam@email.arizona.edu)
4. Daniel Combs, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics (6/2016 – 6/2019) [dcombs@peds.arizona.edu](mailto:dcombs@peds.arizona.edu)
5. Brenda A. Gentz, MD, Associate Professor, Department of Anesthesiology (6/2017-6/2020) [bgentz@email.arizona.edu](mailto:bgentz@email.arizona.edu)
6. Ryan Matika, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology (6/2017 – 6/2020) [rmatika@email.arizona.edu](mailto:rmatika@email.arizona.edu)
7. Teri Gail Pritchard, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Director, Resident/Fellow Development (6/2017 – 6/2020) [tpritchard@email.arizona.edu](mailto:tpritchard@email.arizona.edu)
8. Bijin Thajudeen, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine (6/2017 – 6/2020) [bijint@email.arizona.edu](mailto:bijint@email.arizona.edu)
9. Ole Thienhaus, MD, MD, Department Head, Professor, Department of Psychiatry (6/2016 – 6/2019) [ojt@email.arizona.edu](mailto:ojt@email.arizona.edu)
10. Hina Arif Tiwari, MD, Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Imaging (6/2017-6/2020) [hinaarif@email.arizona.edu](mailto:hinaarif@email.arizona.edu)

*Support Staff:*

- Randa Kutob, MD, MPH, Director, Office of Continuing Medical Education  
[rkutob@medadmin.arizona.edu](mailto:rkutob@medadmin.arizona.edu)
- Robert Amend, MEd, Operations Manager, Office of Continuing Medical Education  
[amend@medadmin.arizona.edu](mailto:amend@medadmin.arizona.edu)
- Denise Garrett, Administrative Associate (Live and Enduring Material Activities), Office of Continuing Medical Education  
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- Cheryl Novalis-Marine, MBA, MIS, Senior Applications Architect, Office of Continuing Medical Education  
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*Educational Activities:*

The College of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through March 2019 to sponsor educational activities for *AMA PRA Category 1 CME Credit™*. Every CME activity has to comply with criteria for development, funding, presentation and evaluation. Since the OCME serves our academic community, activities originate from faculty members of the College of Medicine (direct activities) and from outside organizations (joint providers). Activities include enduring materials (e.g., online educational programs); live events (e.g., conferences); and regularly scheduled series (e.g., grand rounds). Table 1 below lists the CME activities by type over the last five calendar years.

In 2012, as part of its expansion into online CME, the College purchased The Virtual Lecture Hall® (VLH), an interactive, evidence-based, online medical education website that offers CME courses on a wide variety of topics, many of which are required for licensure or renewal of licensure in over 40 states. The VLH currently offers 29 courses with a total of 107.5 CME credit hours available. Examples of VLH offerings include courses on medical errors prevention, medical ethics, risk management, patient safety, professional responsibility, cultural competency, and pain management. The VLH does not accept advertisements and is supported by fees from individual users and organizations that purchase site memberships. The VLH does not offer CME courses supported by educational grants from pharmaceutical or device companies. Several of the courses offered by the VLH were developed with grant support from

the National Institute of Health (NIH), resulting in numerous research publications and several clinical/educational tools for physicians, such as “The Physicians' Competence in Substance Abuse Test” (P-CSAT) which is now in the public domain (Harris & Sun, 2012). Since 1998, physicians and other health professionals have earned over 187,000 hours of CME credit on the VLH website ([www.vlh.com](http://www.vlh.com)).

<b>Table 1. CME Activities by Calendar Year 2013-2017</b>					
<b>Activity Type</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
Enduring Direct	10	22	22	24	24
Enduring Joint	39	28	23	29	27
<b>Total Enduring</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>51</b>
Live Direct	21	14	13	11	21
Live Joint	23	23	29	30	20
<b>Total Live</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>41</b>
Regularly Scheduled Series (RSS) Direct	42	43	37	40	46
RSS Joint	13	11	11	11	13
<b>Total RSS</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Total Activities</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>151</b>

*Continuing Medical Education Committee Activities and Accomplishments Highlights, 2017-18*

1. Collaborated with the UA COM-T Office of Continuing Medical Education to accredit live conferences, grand rounds, and enduring materials. (See Table 1 above.)
2. Supported the development of two additional online courses, *Managing Opioid Misuse Disorder in Pregnancy and Neonatal Care* and *Opioid Issues in Youth Pain Management*. This work was funded through a \$25,000 subcontract with the College of Public Health (Dr. Dan Derksen, PI) as part of an Arizona Department of Health Services-sponsored initiative to disseminate new Arizona opioid prescribing guidelines. Overall, four courses have been developed for a total of six credit hours provided for free to Arizona prescribers.

3. Approved the provision of 10 units of CME credit (\$250 value) to COM Faculty and COM-T Community Preceptors.
4. Assisted with preparations for the annual alumni homecoming conference, “Innovative Medicine: New Approaches to Old Challenges – 2018” featuring Drs. Ghishan, Nfonsam and Herbst-Kralovetz as keynote speakers on the topic of the microbiome and its role in health and illness.
5. Reviewed and approved the Activities Directors Survey which captured key information on the impact of CME and quality improvement efforts as part of the COM-T re-accreditation by the ACCME.
6. Continued work on *Professionalism and Patient Care: Training the Health Care Team* which is funded through a BUMC-Tucson Medical Staff Grant. The CMEC is working in collaboration with Banner’s CIPE Committee to create a scenario-driven, online course addressing prevention and remediation of lapses in professionalism based on recurring, actual events at our local facilities. The program will consist of interactive scenarios, incorporating prevention strategies and recommendations for remediation when professionalism lapses occur.