

Area L AHEC Office of Continuing Medical Education



Policy on Content Validity and Value

1.0 PURPOSE

To establish criteria, policy, and process of implementation for the validation of the clinical content of CME activities in accordance with ACCME Content Validity Value Statement:

All the recommendations involving clinical medicine in a CME activity must be based on evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine as adequate justification for their indications and contraindications in the care of patients.

1.2 Definition of CME

The Area L AHEC Office of Continuing Medical Education (OCME) adopts the following ACCME Definition of CME:

“Continuing Medical Education (CME) is a process of learning that serves to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, professional performance, and relationships that physicians use in the care of patients. Learning activities that respond to a physician’s nonprofessional educational need or interest, such as personal financial planning or appreciation of literature or music for example, are not CME.”

2.0 POLICY

- These “values”, taken from the ACCME Value Statements should be used in planning CME activities.
 - Data must be based on “evidence that is accepted within the profession of medicine”
 - Materials used in CME must “conform to the generally accepted standards of experimental design, data collection, and analysis.”
 - Activities are *not* eligible for certification if they:
 - promote “recommendations, treatment, or manners of practicing medicine that are not within the definition of CME” or are
 - “known to have risks or dangers that outweigh the benefits or are known to be ineffective in the treatment of patients.”

3.0 IMPLEMENTATION

- Faculty will be advised of content requirements via the speaker information letter.
- The Area L AHEC Conflict of Interest/Content Validity/Copyright Compliance Form will be completed and signed.
 - This will assure the OCME that the activity materials are fair, balanced, and free of bias toward the commercial supporter(s) of the activity or manufacturers of products discussed in the activity.
- Evidence of valid content will be placed in the activity files.