FERRAMENTAS SPA
BIBLIOTECA CLÍNICA

Conselhos da Sociedade Portuguesa de Anestesiologia

CONTINUOUS MEDICAL EDUCATION IN PORTUGAL
Courses in Anaesthesiology

1989-2009
2 courses per year

2010-2017
1 course per year

Complementary Courses (Timeline)

- 2004 Advanced Life Support course
- 2006-2012 Echocardiography theoretical-practical course
- 2009-2017 Difficult Airway courses and Fibroscopy courses
- 2010 Transport of The Critically Ill Patient course
- 2013-2015 Non-Invasive Ventilation courses
- 2014 Anaesthesia Crisis Resource Management (ACRM) course
- 2015 Obstetrics Emergencies course
- 2016-2017 Perioperative Ultrasound courses
- 2017 Regional Blocks course
- 2018 Perioperative Ultrasound course Difficult Airway courses and Fibroscopy course

History

1989
Foundation of CEEA Portuguese Regional centre directed by Professor Dr Anselmo Carvalhas

2002
Director Dr Maria do Rosário Órfão, Anaesthesiologist in Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra (CHUC)

2016
Current director Dr Marta Azenha, Anaesthesiologist in CHUC

Class Locations:
Hotel Termas da Curia - Anadia, Portugal (Previous)
Grande Hotel da Curia Golf & Spa - Anadia, Portugal (Previous)
Marialva Park Hotel - Cantanhede, Portugal (Currently)

For more informations: www.feeaportugal.org
CONTINUOUS MEDICAL EDUCATION IN PORTUGAL

CME/CPD PROGRAM
There is a structured and accredited CME/CPD program for residents in several specialties like Anesthesiology. It is elaborated by *Ordem dos Médicos* (national medical organization), approved by national authorities and published as law.

For specialists there is no structured and accredited CME/CPD direct program. Although, since 1970 we have the Law of Doctor Carrier, that defines three steps to progress according to the number of years, certain tasks, participation in department meetings, courses, teaching activities, and organizations.

*Ordem dos Médicos* also has, since 2016, one National and three Regional Committees for Continuous Education.

CME/CPD ANESTHESIOLOGY PROGRAM
There is a structured and accredited CME/CPD program dedicated to Anesthesiology residents elaborated by *Board of Anesthesiology of Portuguese Medical Organization - Colégio de Anestesiologia da Ordem dos Médicos*, since 1982, frequently updated. Last update was approved by National Authorities (Minister of Health) and published as law in 2016.

Portuguese Society of Anesthesiologists (SPA) has always had an important role at CME. Since March 2018, SPA has a project called *Academia* that aims to promote education, research and communication. Also has an exchange program for Anesthesiologists and residents in cooperation with ESA.

INCENTIVES/SANCTIONS
Biggest incentive to follow a CME/CPD program is progression in Doctors Carrier with more prestige and financial compensation. In order to progress in his carrier, every doctor has to be submitted to an exam and a curriculum evaluation where CME/CPD activities are considered.

Regarding CME support, doctors working in public institutions have a maximum of 15 days for education. Industry support it is also an incentive for CME, although it is becoming less frequent.

There is currently no sanction, but an anesthesiologist who does not present any information about CME in the curriculum probably won't progress in Doctors Carrier.

Private Hospitals are growing in Portugal and the important ones demand good Curriculum with CME/CPD activities.

ACCREDITATION
There is a program called SIADAP applied only in a few hospitals of the National Health Service made by agreement with the Syndicates in 2012. It should evaluate all doctors working in public health service every two years.

Accreditation of education events is usually awarded by the European Accreditation Council for CME (EACCME®) set by the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS). There is no minimum number of CME credits to be achieved per year.

In *Ordem dos Médicos* there is a committee with the purpose of evaluating educational activities based on the program, duration and curriculum of the speakers, or teachers. SPA also confers accreditation every year to several events.

CME/CPD LEVEL
The most frequent level of CME/CPD in anesthesiology in Portugal is level 6 – Patient Health (by JAMA. 2018;319(6):543–544.)

CME vs CPD
In Portugal, anesthesiologists, in the vast majority, are involved in a CME program.

LIMITATIONS
CPD, though recognized as important, is still not always clearly defined. This lack of definition is a barrier to its wider acceptance and implementation.

Unfortunately, there is no evidence that CME alone improves the physician’s performance. It only increases their knowledge. The gap between knowing and doing may exist.

Lack of time, insufficient compensation and poor system support may hinder professional engagement in CPD.

POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
A possible solution for the implementation of a CME/CPD goes through the recognition of relevance of CPD by medical educators and medical regulators, particularly those in leadership positions. These key opinion leaders can effectively lead the cultural change necessary for CPD to take its place in the medical education continuum rather than being an optional activity after graduation from medical training.

Having well organized national and institutional CME/CPD programs, with good access for all physicians, could help the program adoption.

INDICATORS
Assessing CPD systems and their impact on health professionals performance is essential to find guidance for investing in CPD.

EDUCATIONAL TOOLS
In order to improve CME/CPD programs in Portugal, ESA could provide E-learning modules promoting individual learning, knowledge and competence acquisition; CEEA lectures; webinars; and simulation courses.

SUGGESTIONS:
Enhancing the profession of CPD by developing CPD providers and educators skilled in needs assessment, instructional design and program evaluation.