

AACC's Continuing Medical Education Mission Statement

The mission of AACC's program for Continuing Medical Education (CME) is to provide CME which advances the profession and practice of clinical laboratory science and its application to healthcare. The development and promotion of AACC as a provider of CME enables this mission.

Purpose

The overall purpose is to enable AACC to be a premier provider of CME in clinical laboratory medicine, including the utilization, performance and interpretation of clinical laboratory tests, resulting in improved patient health care and outcomes.

Content Areas

AACC will implement educational activities in clinical effectiveness, scientific and technical knowledge and competence (in both diagnostic and therapeutic medicine), and management of the laboratory. The scope of topics includes test logic and appropriateness, clinical consultation, laboratory automation, informatics and robotics, leadership, and multi-disciplinary team building. Improved competence in these areas is aimed at improving physician performance and patient outcomes.

Target Audience

1. AACC's intended CME audience consists primarily of laboratory medicine physicians. Selected programs are also appropriate for other medical specialists, particularly pediatricians, internists and their subspecialties, and other primary care providers.

Types of Activities

Types of activities will include live plenary sessions, symposia, short courses, forums on selected topics, roundtable sessions, "Meet the Experts" sessions, "Chair's Invited" sessions, live lectures, webinars, Internet enduring materials, journal-based reading, and self-assessment module activities.

Expected Results

1. conducting ongoing needs assessment of targeted physician audiences to identify professional practice gaps.
2. designing and implementing educational activities (responsive to the identified professional practice gaps) which will develop or improve the competence and professional performance required by physicians.
3. evaluating completed activities and modifying educational approaches as needed to ensure the professional practice gaps of target audiences are met.
4. enabling physicians to improve their competence and have a positive impact on patient outcomes.

Quality Improvement

The CME program operates within AACC's strategic framework and is an integral component of the organization's continuous system-wide quality improvement program that supports AACC's overarching mission *to improve health through laboratory medicine*.