

## **Commission for Certification in Geriatric Pharmacy Policy on Spacing of Professional Development Credits**

### *Policy*

For Certified Geriatric Pharmacists who become certified or recertify on or after January 1, 2016, the following provision applies to those who recertify through the Professional Development Program:

At least 30 hours of Professional Development credits must be completed within the first three years of initial certification or recertification; AND

At least 75 hours of Professional Development credits must be completed during the five-year certification cycle.

### *Rationale for change*

This change will strengthen credibility of the recertification option through the Professional Development Pathway. It will help reassure stakeholders that Certified Geriatric Pharmacists who recertify in this way are maintaining ongoing competence.

Maintenance of competence should be an ongoing activity. It is not desirable that a Certified Geriatric Pharmacist should go for a period of four years or longer without completing any appropriate continuing education for maintenance of competence. When the Professional Development Program is to be used for recertification, the designated CE and self-assessment components included in the learning programs should be periodically completed as part of an ongoing process for maintenance of competence.

By requiring completion of some of the continuing education midway through the cycle, the Certified Geriatric Pharmacist is required to begin focusing on learning and self-assessment well before the expiration of the credential. Although the explicit requirement is not overly rigorous, the CGP will be encouraged to complete some of the CE requirements each year in order to stay on track with the Professional Development Pathway.

*Revised by the Board of Commissioners  
January 27, 2015*

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