

Continuing Education Committee Report

AAIM Executive Council Meeting
Disney's Boardwalk Inn, Orlando, Florida
October 20, 2002

- 1) Membership survey. The AAIM CME survey was completed in March, 2002. Two hundred eighty nine responses were obtained. The survey focused on the amount of work-time our members spend on insurance medicine, the areas of insurance medicine they are involved in, the amount of CME they obtain through AAIM educational activities, and how well their educational and professional needs are met by AAIM. The survey looked at the primary reasons for and against attending the annual meeting, preferences for the format of course syllabi (hardcopy is preferred), and suggestions for future topics. This information will be analyzed further, and passed on as appropriate.
- 2) Review of AAIM CME Mission Statement. The CME Committee has reviewed the Mission Statement, and feels it accurately reflects the needs of our membership. The AAIM CME Mission Statement is:

To provide insurance medical directors with quality education that develops and increases knowledge and skills used in life, health, disability, and long term care insurance.

This will be accomplished by lectures, workshops, the Introductory Course, the Triennial course, the Annual Scientific Program and other appropriate programs approved by the American Academy of Insurance Medicine.

The Academy will also endeavor to assist other organizations with an interest in insurance medicine and who provide quality education to their membership by providing joint sponsorship for approved programs.
- 3) Deficiency in EKG skills noted by BIM. Several steps have been taken to address the deficiency in EKG interpretation skills noted by the BIM last year. BIM is now testing EKG skills on the written rather than the oral exam, to identify issues earlier in a medical director's training. On the website, BIM has posted a list of EKG findings with which exam candidates should be familiar. A breakout session on stress test interpretation is planned for this Annual meeting, and a workshop in basic EKG interpretation is planned for the Triennial course in 2003. We will continue to follow this issue with the BIM.
- 4) Need for more training in mortality methodology. Some individuals have identified a need for more training in mortality methodology. Two breakout sessions are planned on this subject at this Annual meeting. In addition, several questions have been added to the evaluation form for this Annual meeting to better define this need among a bigger sample of members. Several options are being discussed, including offering a refresher course for those who took the Basic Mortality course in the past and allowing the purchase of the workbook for the current Basic Mortality course. It is

the recommendation of the CME Committee that each Annual meeting devote some time to this general topic, either as a platform or a breakout session.

- 5) AAIM CME Policy on Disclosure and Commercial Support. ACCME requires a written policy on disclosure and commercial support. The CME Committee recommends the following:

AAIM CME Policy on Disclosure and Commercial Support

CME activities must be free of commercial bias. All content regarding commercial products must be based on objective scientific evidence. Any off-label or investigational use of a commercial product discussed in a CME activity must be so disclosed to the attendees.

Commercial supporters can not influence the planning, content or execution of any CME activity. No commercial promotional materials can be available in any manner in the room where a CME activity occurs. Representatives of commercial supporters attending CME activities must not engage in sales activity while in the room where the activity occurs. AAIM is responsible for deciding how funds provided by commercial supporters will be used. Funds from commercial sources can not be used for non-faculty attendees' expenses with the exception of providing modest meals or social events. A signed agreement is needed between AAIM and the commercial supporter. Commercial support will be acknowledged in a printed announcement.

Faculty must disclose any financial or other relationship they have with the manufacturer of a commercial product discussed in a CME activity as well as any relationship they have with a commercial supporter of the CME activity. Disclosure of such faculty relationships will be made in a printed announcement prior to the CME activity.

AAIM will abide by the ACCME's policy on commercial support and disclosure. As per the AAIM constitution the Chairperson of the CME Committee, along with the elected Vice-President of Education, will be responsible for "making certain that all educational activities AAIM sponsors or co-sponsors meet all ACCME essential requirements . . .".

- 6) ACCME Accreditation Review. Jacki Goldstein has our report to ACCME just about ready to be submitted. Statistics for this Annual Meeting will be included. It is important to recognize that ACCME accredits AAIM to provide continuing medical education for physicians, but AAIM must determine what type of credits are actually awarded. We have chosen to award credits toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award (PRA), as these credits are widely accepted by other entities. The AMA has its own set of rules regarding these credits which we must follow in addition to ACCME guidelines.
- 7) CME Planning Packet. The Planning Packet is in the process of being updated. The purpose of the packet is to assist course directors/program chair in meeting AAIM/ACCME/AMA guidelines and in collecting the necessary documentation. It is

essential that all course directors/program chairs/CME coordinators make contact with the CME Committee AT THE BEGINNING of the planning process to ensure full compliance with all applicable rules. Going forward, it is the recommendation of the CME Committee to deny CME credits for any activity that is deficient in any aspect of the planning or documentation process.

8) Outstanding Issues.

- A Vice Chairperson must be recruited for the CME Committee
- The BIM has noted a weakness in the area of claims adjudication. The CME Committee needs to address this concern.
- The general objectives for each type of educational activity should be reviewed in the next year.
- The Core Body of Knowledge should be reviewed in the next year, with particular attention to the EKG interpretation, mortality methodology and claims adjudication areas.

9) New Business from CME Committee meeting 10/19/02.