



Collaboration to Improve Health Care

Transcript of Video FAQ

June 4, 2009

<http://education.accme.org/video/accme-video-faq/collaboration-improve-healthcare>

Description: What are the ACCME's expectations for providers regarding collaboration and cooperation, as articulated in Criterion 20?

ACCME recognizes that all accredited providers work in a system. And in a system, when the interconnected pieces are operating together, there's an enhancement of the capability of the entire system. An accredited provider who collaborates, cooperates, creates synergies with those around them, enhances their capabilities. And it's the ACCME's perspective and feeling that the impact of the entire continuing medical education enterprise will be much enhanced by providers interacting with each other, interacting with non-accredited providers, and interacting with organizations and systems that are not primarily educational in nature—all focused and aligned on the same converging target of improvements to health care. So, ACCME has built into its criteria the idea of collaboration, of synergies, of cooperation with others, as a manifestation of your engagement with the system in which you operate.

When ACCME looks at your accreditation material and description of your program for Criterion 20 about collaboration and cooperation, we're not looking for a list of organizations that you say you talked to that year or that you phoned that year—again, like in some of the previous criteria that's the *process* through which you collaborate. What we want to do is to see the *content* of your collaboration. We want to see what you did. What it was you joined together to do. What did you accomplish together? Because those are the products of collaboration and cooperation. What was the outcome of you working together and your engagement? What was the outcome from an educational perspective, from a health care quality perspective, from your own organizational development, somebody else's organizational development, your own continuing professional development or the professional development of people outside your CME enterprise? So, the process and the outcome of your collaboration is important to the ACCME. So, don't give us a list of names of organizations that you phoned and you talked to, but give us the names of those people and what you did with those people.

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