

**Glossary of Continuing Medical Education (CME) Related  
Organizations, Committees, Terms and Credit Programs  
February 2009**

**Part I: Descriptions/Definitions**

- 1) **American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)** -- The AAFP is the national specialty society for family physicians. Until October 3, 1971, it was known as the American Academy of General Practice when the name was changed in order to reflect more accurately the changing nature of primary health care. The AAFP has its own system of CME credit, which is divided into two categories "Prescribed" and "Elective". The Academy reviews individual activities submitted by external CME providers and approves them on an activity by activity basis for Prescribed or Elective credit. CME providers designating AAFP credit need not be ACCME or SMS accredited. The AMA recognizes Prescribed credit as equivalent to *AMA PRA Category I™* credit for the purpose of the AMA-PRA award. ([www.aafp.org](http://www.aafp.org))
- 2) **Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)** -- The Association of American Medical Colleges is a nonprofit association of medical schools, teaching hospitals, and academic societies. The AAMC seeks to improve the nation's health by enhancing the effectiveness of academic medicine. The AAMC is a member organization of the ACCME and, as such, nominates individuals to serve on the ACCME ARC and Board of Directors. ([www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org))
- 3) **American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA)** -- AAPA is the national organization that represents physician assistants (PAs) in all specialties and all employment settings. Its membership also includes physician assistant students and supporters of the profession. ([www.aapa.org](http://www.aapa.org))
- 4) **American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)** -- The American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) is the umbrella organization for the 24 approved medical specialty boards in the United States. The ABMS serves to coordinate the activities of its Member Boards and to provide information to the public, the government, the profession and its Members concerning issues involving specialization and certification in medicine. The ABMS is a member organization of the ACCME and, as such nominates individuals to serve on the ACCME ARC and Board of Directors. ([www.abms.org](http://www.abms.org))
- 5) **Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)** -- The organization, established in 1981, which sets the standards for the accreditation of United States providers of CME. Major functions of the ACCME include *accreditation of national CME providers* (about 700) and *recognition of state or territorial medical societies* (currently 46) that accredit intrastate providers of CME (about 1700). The ACCME's seven member organizations are the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), the American Hospital Association (AHA), the American Medical Association (AMA), the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), the Association for Hospital Medical Education (AHME), the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS), and the Federation of State Medical Boards of the U.S., Inc. (FSMB). Each member organization nominates two individuals to serve on the ACCME Board of Directors. The Board also includes two representatives from the public, the government and the state medical society accreditors. (*See also Accreditation Review Committee and Committee for Review and Recognition*) ([www.accme.org](http://www.accme.org))
- 6) **Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)** -- The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) is responsible for the accreditation of post-MD medical training programs within the United States (about 8000). Accreditation is accomplished through a peer review process and is based upon established standards and guidelines. The ACGME's member

organizations are the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS), the American Hospital Association (AHA), the American Medical Association (AMA), the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), and the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS). ([www.acgme.org](http://www.acgme.org))

- 7) **Alliance for Continuing Medical Education (ACME or Alliance)** -- An association of CME professionals with members from hospitals, medical schools, medical associations, medical education communication companies, pharmaceutical and device companies that are interested in the enhancement of continuing health education. The Alliance is one of the members of the Tri-Group. (*See also, Medical Education Communication Company Alliance and Pharmaceutical Alliance for Continuing Medical Education*) ([www.acme-assn.org](http://www.acme-assn.org))
- 8) **Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE)** -- ACPE is the national agency for the accreditation of professional degree programs in pharmacy and providers of continuing pharmacy education. The Council is an autonomous and independent agency whose Board of Directors is derived through the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP), the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) and the American Council on Education (ACE). ([www.acpe-accredit.org](http://www.acpe-accredit.org))
- 9) **American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG)** -- ACOG is a private, voluntary, nonprofit membership organization of obstetricians and gynecologists. It is the nation's leading group of professionals providing health care for women. ACOG sponsors a program to allow accredited CME providers to award Cognates for certain activities that are designated for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*<sup>™</sup>. These Cognates are accepted as equivalent to *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*<sup>™</sup> by the AMA for the purpose of the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. (*See also Cognates*) ([www.acog.org](http://www.acog.org))
- 10) **AdvaMed** -- AdvaMed is the world's largest medical technology association representing manufacturers of medical devices, diagnostic products and medical information systems. To assure a high standard of ethical conduct by the medical technology industry, AdvaMed adopted "The Code of Ethics for Interactions with Health Care Professionals." This voluntary guideline describes how medical technology companies relate to both training and continuing medical education. ([www.advamed.org](http://www.advamed.org))
- 11) **American Hospital Association (AHA)** -- The AHA is the national organization that represents and serves all types of hospitals, health care networks, and their patients and communities. Members include hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and individuals. The AHA is a member organization of the ACCME and, as such nominates individuals to serve on the ACCME ARC and Board of Directors. ([www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org))
- 12) **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)** -- AHRQ is a Public Health Service agency in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) reporting to the HHS Secretary. AHRQ sponsors and conducts research that provides evidence-based information on health care outcomes; quality; and cost, use, and access. ([www.ahrq.gov](http://www.ahrq.gov))
- 13) **Administrators in Medicine (AIM)** -- AIM is a non-profit organization that exists solely to assist and support administrators for medical licensing and regulatory authorities to achieve administrative excellence and, ultimately, advance public safety. Members are State Medical and Osteopathic Board Executives. ([www.docboard.org](http://www.docboard.org))
- 14) **Association for Hospital Medical Education (AHME)** -- The Association for Hospital Medical Education, founded in 1956, is a national, non-profit professional organization involved in the

continuum of hospital-based medical education: undergraduate, graduate, and continuing medical education. AHME's members represent hundreds of teaching hospitals, academic medical centers, and consortia nationwide. The AHME is a member organization of the ACCME and, as such nominates individuals to serve on the ACCME ARC and Board of Directors. The AHME is one of the members of the Tri-Group. ([www.ahme.org](http://www.ahme.org))

- 15) American Medical Association (AMA)** – The AMA is the largest, non-profit, professional advocacy and membership organization for physicians in the United States. The AMA is committed to improving health care in America by pushing forward its comprehensive advocacy agenda and helping physicians help their patients. In 1968, the AMA established the **AMA Physician’s Recognition Award (PRA)** and the related AMA PRA credit system to recognize physicians who participate in CME activities to demonstrate their commitment to staying current with advances in medicine. Since that time, AMA PRA credit has been accepted as an education metric for the purposes of state licensure, professional credentialing, hospital privileging and maintenance of certification of physicians. The AMA was instrumental in the formation of the ACCME and continues to serve as one of the seven members of that organization. The AMA nominates individuals to serve on the ACCME ARC and Board of Directors. ([www.ama-assn.org](http://www.ama-assn.org))
  
- 16) American Osteopathic Association (AOA)** -- The AOA is a member association representing osteopathic physicians (D.O.s). The AOA serves as the primary certifying body for D.O.s, and is the accrediting agency for all osteopathic medical colleges and health care facilities and continuing education providers. The AOA has established its own certification program for awarding CME credits. ([www.osteopathic.org](http://www.osteopathic.org))
  
- 17) Accreditation Review Committee (ARC)** -- The ARC is an operating committee of the ACCME that reports to the Board of Directors. The ARC synthesizes data to formulate recommendations to the Board of Directors on the accreditation status of providers applying for ACCME accreditation. The ARC also makes recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding accreditation policy development. ARC members are experienced CME professionals that are nominated by one of ACCME's member organizations and elected by the ACCME. The AMA nominates three individuals to serve on the ARC.
  
- 18) Canadian Association of Continuing Health Education (CACHE)** -- CACHE is a Canadian forum for continuing health education (CHE) providers and customers to: share CHE knowledge and resources in order to continually improve the quality of CHE; contribute to the existing body of CHE research by promoting and supporting original CHE research; encourage and support CHE initiatives which foster collaboration and integration between CHE providers and sponsors; and endorse ethical CHE which seeks to improve overall health care outcomes. ([www.cachecanada.org](http://www.cachecanada.org))
  
- 19) Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs (CEJA)** – CEJA is the elected body responsible for developing ethics policy for the AMA. Composed of seven practicing physicians, a resident or fellow, and a medical student, the Council prepares reports that analyze and address timely ethical issues that confront physicians and the medical profession. CEJA maintains and updates the AMA Code of Medical Ethics, widely recognized as the most comprehensive ethics guide for physicians. In addition, the Council has judicial responsibilities, which includes appellate jurisdiction over physician members' appeals of ethics-related decisions made by state and specialty medical societies. To protect the integrity and quality of the CME enterprise and to support the autonomy of physicians as voluntary participants in CME activities, CEJA has rendered Opinion 8.061 related to Gifts to Physicians from Industry and Opinion 9.011 related to Ethical Issues in CME. These opinions may be found on the AMA website at: <http://www.ama-assn.org/go/ceja>.

- 20) Continuing Education Unit (CEU) --** CEU's are a universal method of measuring and granting credit for participation in continuing education programs for professionals both within and outside of healthcare. One CEU is equivalent to ten (10) contact hours of participation in an organized continuing education experience under responsible sponsorship, capable direction and qualified instruction. This definition was codified by the National Task Force on the Continuing Education Unit.
- 21) Continuing Medical Education (CME) –** CME consists of educational activities that serve to maintain, develop, or increase the knowledge, skills, and professional performance and relationships a physician uses to provide services for patients, the public, or the profession. CME represents that body of knowledge and skills generally recognized and accepted by the profession as within the basic medical sciences, the discipline of clinical medicine, and the provision of health care to the public. CME providers (i.e., organizations that produce CME programs for physicians) that are accredited by the ACCME, or state medical societies recognized by the ACCME, are authorized to certify CME activities for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* in accordance with PRA guidelines.
- 22) Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) --** The CMS, formerly known as the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), is the federal agency responsible for administering the Medicare, Medicaid, SCHIP (State Children's Health Insurance Program), HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), CLIA (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Act), and several other health-related programs. CMS's interest in CME relates to how CME is funded by industry and the impact that commercial entities may have on physician referrals and prescribing. ([www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov))
- 23) Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) --** CMSS is a non-profit association whose members are 23 national medical specialty organizations representing physicians nationwide. The CMSS is a member organization of the ACCME and, as such nominates individuals to serve on the ACCME ARC and Board of Directors. The CMSS is the convener of the Conjoint Committee on CME. ([www.cmss.org](http://www.cmss.org))
- 24) Cognates --** Cognates are the credits designated by the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) for CME activities that are directed toward OB/GYN physicians. These activities, which are also designated for *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* by accredited CME providers, are approved individually by ACOG. Cognates are accepted as equivalent to *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™* for the AMA Physician's Recognition Award.
- 25) Conjoint Committee on CME (Conjoint Committee) --** The Conjoint Committee on CME is a collaborative group of organizations convened by the Council of Medical Specialty Societies in 2000 for the purpose of galvanizing action toward the reform and reinvention of CME. Participating organizations include:
- Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)
  - Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)
  - Alliance for Continuing Medical Education (ACME)
  - American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
  - American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)
  - American Hospital Association (AHA)
  - American Medical Association (AMA)
  - American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
  - Association for Hospital Medical Education (AHME)
  - Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
  - Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS)
  - Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)

The Joint Commission  
Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)  
National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME)

- 26) Council on Medical Education** -- The Council on Medical Education is the elected body that formulates policy on medical education (including undergraduate, graduate and CPPD/CME) by recommending educational policies to the AMA House of Delegates, through the AMA Board of Trustees. The Council is also responsible for recommending nominees to the boards of ACCME and other accrediting bodies, as well as, to other national organizations (HOD Policy H-300.000).
- 27) Coalition for Physician Enhancement (CPE)** -- The CPE is a consortium of professionals experienced in medical education, quality assurance, assessment of health care professionals, and licensing and accreditation who meet to explore the roles of individual assessment and education for referred physicians seeking higher levels of performance in patient care. The CPE is staffed by the AMA CPPD Division. ([www.physicianenhancement.org](http://www.physicianenhancement.org))
- 28) Continuing Physician Professional Development (CPPD), also known as, Continuing Professional Development (CPD)** – CPPD or CPD is the term that describes the wider arena of skills and specialized education, including but not limited to cognitive knowledge that physicians employ in the delivery of patient care. Leadership, team management, communication skills and systems based competency all provide examples of professional skills that improve the quality of care. CPPD asserts not just that physicians will continue learning new medical knowledge but also that they will learn how to keep learning (i.e., use of new electronic clinical resources to assist with patient care, continuous assessment of practice through performance improvement interventions, etc.). CPPD also refers to the division within the Medical Education Group at the AMA, which deals with CME/CPD related issues. ([www.ama-assn.org/go/cppd](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/cppd))
- 29) Committee for Review and Recognition (CRR)** -- The CRR is one of the operating committees of the ACCME which reports to the Board of Directors. The CRR synthesizes data to formulate recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding the recognition status of state medical societies that wish to accredit intrastate providers of CME. The CRR also makes recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding recognition policy development. The CRR is comprised of seven members, two of which are ACCME Directors, and five of which are nominated by the intrastate accreditation system and elected by the ACCME's Executive Committee.
- 30) US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** -- The FDA is the federal agency responsible for protecting the public health by assuring the safety, efficacy, and security of human and veterinary drugs, biological products, medical devices, our nation's food supply, cosmetics, and products that emit radiation. The FDA is also responsible for advancing the public health by helping to speed innovations that make medicines and foods more effective, safer, and more affordable; and helping the public get the accurate, science-based information they need to use medicines and foods to improve their health. The FDA has established guidelines related to industry support of CME. Its interest in this area relates to the separation of continuing medical education from promotion of commercial products. ([www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov))
- 31) Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)** -- The Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, Inc. is a national organization comprised of the 70 medical boards of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The FSMB's mission is to improve the quality, safety and integrity of health care through the development and promotion of high standards for physician licensure and practice. The FSMB is a member organization of the

ACCME and, as such nominates individuals to serve on the ACCME ARC and Board of Directors. ([www.fsmb.org](http://www.fsmb.org))

- 32) Global Alliance for Medical Education (GAME)** -- The Global Alliance for Medical Education (GAME) is a not for profit organization of CME professionals dedicated to the advancement of innovation in medical education throughout the world. Present members are from the US, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil, Argentina, Spain, Italy, Germany, UK, Japan, Australia and Pakistan. ([www.game-cme.org](http://www.game-cme.org))
- 33) Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)** -- IHI is a not-for-profit organization, founded in 1991, to drive the improvement of health by advancing the quality and value of health care. The Institute helps accelerate change in health care by cultivating promising concepts for improving patient care and turning those ideas into action. ([www.ihl.org](http://www.ihl.org))
- 34) Institute of Medicine (IOM)** -- The IOM was chartered in 1970 as a component of the National Academy of Sciences. The Institute is a not-for-profit organization that provides a vital service by working outside the framework of government to ensure scientifically informed analysis and independent guidance. The IOM's mission is to serve as adviser to the nation to improve health. The Institute provides unbiased, evidence-based, and authoritative information and advice concerning health and science policy to policy-makers, professionals, leaders in every sector of society, and the public at large. ([www.iom.edu](http://www.iom.edu))
- 35) Joint Commission** -- The Joint Commission is an independent, not-for-profit organization that is the nation's oldest and largest standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 15,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States, including more than 7,800 hospitals and home care organizations, and more than 7,300 other health care organizations. The Joint Commission requires that, at hospitals and health care organizations it accredits, physicians with clinical privileges document their CME. The Joint Commission will accept, subject to their review, correctly completed AMA PRA applications stamped "approved" by the AMA as documentation of physician compliance with The Joint Commission CME requirements. ([www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org))
- 36) Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions (JCEHP)** -- JCEHP is the journal of the Tri-Group (i.e., the Alliance for Continuing Medical Education, The Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education and The Council on CME Association for Hospital Medical Education). JCEHP publishes articles relevant to the theory and practice of continuing education in the health sciences. The journal's primary purpose is to provide thoughtful and practical advice to develop, conduct and evaluate continuing education programs. ([www.jcehp.com](http://www.jcehp.com))
- 37) Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME)** -- The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) is the nationally recognized accrediting authority for medical education programs leading to the M.D. degree in U.S. and Canadian medical schools. The LCME is sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges and the American Medical Association. ([www.lcme.org](http://www.lcme.org))
- 38) Medical Education Communication Company (MECC)** -- An entity (either for-profit or not-for-profit) whose primary business is the dissemination of the most current information on disease states, therapies, medical products and devices, and other pertinent medical practice topics to physicians and other health care professionals. The information is primarily delivered through continuing professional education activities, such as symposia or enduring materials.
- 39) MedBiquitous Consortium** -- Founded by Johns Hopkins Medicine and leading professional medical societies, the MedBiquitous Consortium is the American National Standards Institute

(ANSI)-accredited developer of information technology standards for healthcare education and competence assessment. MedBiquitous provides a neutral forum for educators and industry alike to exchange ideas about innovative uses of Web technologies for healthcare education and communities of practice. The MedBiquitous Laboratory is the research and development arm of the MedBiquitous Consortium. As part of Johns Hopkins Medicine, the Laboratory joins faculty research efforts with the Consortium's work in healthcare education technologies. The AMA is an organizational member of the MedBiquitous Consortium. ([www.medbiq.org](http://www.medbiq.org))

**40) North American Association of Medical Education Communications Companies (NAAMECC)**

The North American Association of Medical Education and Communication Companies, Inc. is a professional association dedicated to providing representation, advocacy, and education for its medical education and communication company members. ([www.naamecc.org](http://www.naamecc.org))

**41) National Task Force on CME Provider/Industry Collaboration (Collaboration Task Force) --**

The Collaboration Task Force is a workgroup whose members represent CME providers, industry, accreditors, government and umbrella organizations. The goal of the task is to safeguard continuing provider/industry collaboration and support for CME. It was established in the early 1990's to respond to growing concerns about governmental regulation of CME and initially drafted the guidelines that were adopted by the ACCME, AOA and ACPE as the original Standards for Commercial Support of CME. The Collaboration Task Force presents an annual conference specifically focused on the provider/industry collaboration. The task force is staffed by the AMA CPPD Division. ([www.ama-assn.org/go/cmetaskforce](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/cmetaskforce))

**42) National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME) --** The NBME is an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides high-quality examinations for the health professions. The NBME co-sponsors and co-owns the United States Medical Licensure Examination (USMLE) with the FSMB. Results of the USMLE are reported to medical licensing authorities in the United States for their use in granting the initial license to practice medicine. ([www.nbme.org](http://www.nbme.org))

**43) Office of Inspector General- HHS (OIG) --** The mission of the HHS Office of Inspector General is to protect the integrity of Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) programs, as well as the health and welfare of the beneficiaries of those programs. The OIG has a responsibility to report both to the Secretary and to the Congress program and management problems and recommendations to correct them. The OIG has developed compliance program guidance for both pharmaceutical manufacturers and hospitals to help insure against violation of federal anti-kickback laws, which impacts industry support of continuing medical education. ([www.oig.hhs.gov](http://www.oig.hhs.gov))

**44) The Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) --** PhRMA represents the leading research-based pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies in the United States. PhRMA's mission is to conduct effective advocacy for public policies that encourage discovery of important new medicines for patients by pharmaceutical/biotechnology research companies. PhRMA has adopted a "Code on Interactions with Health Care Professionals." This voluntary guideline addresses ethical principles related to how pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies relate to continuing medical education. ([www.phrma.org](http://www.phrma.org))

**45) Physician's Recognition Award (PRA) –** The AMA PRA has recognized physician participation in continuing medical education (CME) for over 40 years. Organizations based in the United States, whose educational activities meet AMA PRA standards, and who are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) or by a state medical society recognized by the ACCME Committee for Review and Recognition (CRR), may award *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit*<sup>™</sup> toward the PRA. In 1968, the AMA established the PRA certificate and the related the AMA PRA

credit system to recognize physicians who, by participating in CME activities, demonstrate their commitment to staying current with advances in medicine. Since that time, AMA PRA credit has been accepted as an educational metric for the purposes of state licensure, professional credentialing, hospital privileging and maintenance of certification of physicians. Information related to the PRA can be found on AMA's website at: <http://www.ama-assn.org/go/pr>

- 46) Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education (SACME)** -- SACME is an organization of individuals in medical schools accredited by the LCME or AOA, academic medical centers, medical specialty societies or government agencies whose goals and activities promote research, evaluation and the development of continuing medical education. SACME is one of the members of the Tri-Group. ([www.sacme.org](http://www.sacme.org))
- 47) State Medical Society Accreditor** - State Medical Societies may choose to become "recognized" by the ACCME. Recognition refers to a designation awarded to state and territorial medical societies (SMS's) that allows them to accredit providers of continuing medical education in their state.
- 48) Tri Group** -- Tri Group is term used to describe the organizations that share collaborative ventures such as ownership of JCEHP. The three organizations are the Alliance for Continuing Medical Education, The Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education and The Council on CME of the Association for Hospital Medical Education

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**Part II: Acronyms/Abbreviations**

- 1) **AAFP: American Academy of Family Physicians** ([www.aafp.org](http://www.aafp.org))
- 2) **AAMC: Association of American Medical Colleges** ([www.aamc.org](http://www.aamc.org))
- 3) **AAPA: American Academy of Physician Assistants** ([www.aapa.org](http://www.aapa.org))
- 4) **ABMS : American Board of Medical Specialties** ([www.abms.org](http://www.abms.org))
- 5) **ACCME: Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education** ([www.accme.org](http://www.accme.org))
- 6) **ACGME: Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education** ([www.acgme.org](http://www.acgme.org))
- 7) **ACME: Alliance for Continuing Medical Education** ([www.acme-assn.org](http://www.acme-assn.org))
- 8) **ACPE: Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education** ([www.acpe-accredit.org](http://www.acpe-accredit.org))
- 9) **ACOG: American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology** ([www.acog.org](http://www.acog.org))
- 10) **AdvaMed: Advanced Medical Technology Association** ([www.advamed.org](http://www.advamed.org))
- 11) **AHA: American Hospital Association** ([www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org))

- 12) **AHRQ: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality** ([www.ahrq.gov](http://www.ahrq.gov))
- 13) **AIM: Administrators in Medicine** ([www.docboard.org](http://www.docboard.org))
- 14) **AHME: Association for Hospital Medical Education** ([www.ahme.org](http://www.ahme.org))
- 15) **AMA: American Medical Association** ([www.ama-assn.org](http://www.ama-assn.org))
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- 19) **CEJA: Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs of the AMA** ([www.ama-assn.org/go/ceja](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/ceja))
- 20) **CEU: Continuing Education Unit**
- 21) **CME: Continuing Medical Education**
- 22) **CMS: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services** ([www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov))
- 23) **CMSS: Council of Medical Specialty Societies** ([www.cmss.org](http://www.cmss.org))
- 24) **CPE: Coalition for Physician Enhancement** ([www.physicianenhancement.org](http://www.physicianenhancement.org))
- 25) **CPPD or CPD: Continuing Physician Professional Development/ Continuing Professional Development** ([www.ama-assn.org/go/cppd](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/cppd))
- 26) **CRR: Committee for Review and Recognition of the ACCME**
- 27) **FDA: Food and Drug Administration** ([www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov))
- 28) **FSMB: Federation of State Medical Boards of the US, Inc.** ([www.fsmb.org](http://www.fsmb.org))
- 29) **GAME: Global Alliance for Medical Education** ([www.game-cme.org](http://www.game-cme.org))
- 30) **IHI: Institute for Healthcare Improvement** ([www.ihl.org](http://www.ihl.org))
- 31) **IOM: Institute of Medicine** ([www.iom.edu](http://www.iom.edu))
- 32) **JCEHP: Journal of Continuing Education in the Health Professions** ([www.jcehp.com](http://www.jcehp.com))
- 33) **LCME: Liaison Committee on Medical Education** ([www.lcme.org](http://www.lcme.org))
- 34) **MECC: Medical Education Communication Company**
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- 36) **NBME: National Board of Medical Examiners** ([www.nbme.org](http://www.nbme.org))

**37) OIG: Office of Inspector General ([www.oig.hhs.gov](http://www.oig.hhs.gov))**

**38) PhRMA: Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America ([www.phrma.org](http://www.phrma.org))**

**39) PRA: Physician's Recognition Award ([www.ama-assn.org/go/pr](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/pr))**

**40) SACME: Society for Academic Continuing Medical Education ([www.sacme.org](http://www.sacme.org))**

**41) SMS: State Medical Society**