

Dear CPD client,

We wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support through the completion of our online CPD questionnaires as well as to share some exciting news with you. HMPG's journal CPD questionnaires will be moving to the Medical Practice Consulting (MPC) CPD platform (www.mpconsulting.co.za) as part of a strategy to consolidate all South African Medical Association (SAMA) members' CPD certificates and history.

All SAMA CPD certificates (whether for annual conferences, branch meetings or workshops) are already available online on the MPC CPD platform and moving all active HMPG online CPD questionnaires to the same platform will mean that all SAMA member CPD certificates will be issued in one central, convenient location – resulting in less admin for our CPD clients.

An additional benefit is that the MPC CPD manager can complete your IAR form on your behalf (no more countless hours of reconciling CPD records before a compliance audit) and submit your CPD history to the HPCSA once you have approved it and are happy with the results. All that is required of you, when you are ready, is to click a single button to submit your CPD Activity Record to the HPCSA. Nothing will, of course, ever be submitted without your prior approval and consent.

The MPC system also adds additional functionality to the CPD questionnaires and the system has been set up to make the process as easy to follow as possible.

The South African Medical Association (SAMA) board has concluded that the CPD services associated with the *South African Medical Journal* (incorporating Continuing Medical Education) and the *South African Journal of Bioethics and Law* will only be offered to registered and fully paid-up SAMA members, as per the SAMA member benefit schedule; therefore, you will be required to register a profile on the MPC CPD system (if you do not already have one – if you already have one, login as usual) and to supply your SAMA membership number. You will be required to do this only once. Your membership will be validated in real-time and you will be able to access the journal CPD questionnaires. This once-off registration should not take more than 2 minutes and you will be on your way to completing the CPD questionnaires.

Below are some questions and answers that will assist you in getting started.

When will the CPD questionnaires move to MPC?

All HMPG-issued journal CPD questionnaires will move to the MPC CPD platform from February 2014 onwards. This will include all prior CPD questionnaires that are still active.

What website do I access to complete the HMPG questionnaires?

www.mpconsulting.co.za

Who is MPC?

Medical Practice Consulting (MPC) is a group company of SAMA. MPC has historically hosted CPD at SAMA's annual conferences, issued all SAMA member CPD certificates and has hosted SAMA's online branch elections. By moving active HMPG journal CPD questionnaires to the MPC system, SAMA members will have all their CPD certificates in one central, convenient location. MPC has also been supplying the Foundation for Professional Development distance learning courses online for the last 2 years and has hosted some of the largest online training initiatives in the South African healthcare industry.

What do I need to register a profile on the MPC CPD system?

MPC does not retain any confidential information on their database, so you will not be requested to share your telephone number, practice or home address. All that is required for registration is your name, surname, specialty, SAMA membership number and HPCSA number (which is included on your CPD certificate to comply with HPCSA CPD requirements).

How long will registration take?

Completing registration should take no longer than 2 minutes – please remember to have your HPCSA (MP Number) and SAMA membership number at hand.

What about my historic CPD certificates on the www.cpdjournals.co.za website?

If you register on the MPC CPD platform with the same email address as you were using on the www.cpdjournals.co.za website, MPC will import all your CPD certificates for the last 36 months into your MPC CPD manager for you. Alternatively you can still login to www.cpdjournals.co.za and save any CPD certificates that are still valid (remember that CEUs have a 24-month shelf life and expire after 24 months).

What happens if I run into technical difficulties?

Simply complete an online contact form and MPC will assist you with your technical problem. If your SAMA number for some reason does not match that in the SAMA membership database, MPC will assist with rectifying the problem. MPC's contact details are available online: www.mpconsulting.co.za/contact-us

Sincerely,
Gert Steyn
CEO, Health and Medical Publishing Group (HMPG)

May 2014

True (A) or false (B):

Regarding the Global Forum for Bioethics in Research:

1. Placebo-controlled trials conducted in the developing world in the 1990s were criticised as unethical for providing participants with less than the global best standard of care.
2. Ethics are rules or standards governing the conduct of a person or members of a profession.

Regarding students' disclosure of their academic status to patients:

3. The Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) does not have a codified set of ethical rules of conduct for students who interact with patients for educational purposes.
4. In terms of the prudent doctor standard, material risk is what a reasonable person in the patient's position will consider significant.
5. Information to be given to the patient during the informed consent process includes the costs associated with management.
6. The right to inherent dignity does not pertain to autonomy and self-determination in the healthcare context.

Regarding language barriers to informed consent in telemedicine:

7. The Constitution of South Africa grants official but unequal status to 11 different languages, and not many South African citizens speak an indigenous language.
8. Telemedicine enhances the level of care to economically and geographically compromised patients, and does not pose a challenge in safeguarding patients' rights.
9. The World Health Assembly Resolution of 2005 does not address specific ethical issues related to telemedicine.

Regarding the role of research ethics committees in health research:

10. In the past decade, the number of clinical trials being conducted in developing countries has increased tremendously.

11. Populations in which literacy is low can be exploited into allowing themselves to participate in clinical trials without fully understanding the risks involved.

Regarding the reporting of sexual offences involving child patients:

12. In South Africa, a child is able to legally engage in sexual activity from the age of 10.
13. The Sexual Offences Act makes it an offence for anyone to engage in sexual conduct with adolescents (children aged 12 - 15).
14. The Sexual Offences Act obligates everyone, including health providers, to report incidents of sexual behaviour involving adolescents to the police.
15. It is not an offence for a 16- or 17-year-old to engage in sexual activity (including sexual intercourse) with a child between the ages of 12 and 15.

Regarding ethical issues in public health promotion:

16. Health promotion moves beyond a focus on individual behaviour towards a wide range of social and environmental interventions.
17. Direct instrumental power is not a strategy used in health promotion to try to influence individuals to change their behaviour.

Regarding surrogacy in South Africa:

18. South African law allows those seeking to arrange a surrogate motherhood agreement to create a child that will not be genetically related to at least one of them.
19. A consequentialist argument for a certain law is a moral rationale according to which the long-term outcomes for society with the law would be better than without it.
20. The word '*ubuntu*' means humanness or human excellence, i.e. attitudes and behaviour that are morally upright and to be pursued in life.

A maximum of 3 CEUs will be awarded per correctly completed test.

Effective in 2014, the CPD programme for SAJBL will be administered by
 Medical Practice Consulting:
 CPD questionnaires must be completed online at www.mpconsulting.co.za
 After submission you can check the answers and print your certificate.
 Questions may be answered up to 6 months after publication of each issue.
 Accreditation number: MDB001/019/01/2014 (Ethics)

