I.

It is the aim of continuing medical education/ continuing professional development (CME/CPD) to maintain and update medical competence in cardiovascular medicine. This includes

- interdisciplinary and interprofessional CME
- training in social and communication skills
- methodological tools like evidence based medicine, quality assurance, total quality management etc.

The individual physician is free to choose the type and content of CME/CPD which he/she considers as appropriate to meet his/her needs.

EBAC will stimulate, coordinate and facilitate high quality CME/CPD in cardiovascular medicine, both for individuals and institutions, in order to provide the highest possible standard of care for patients and populations. EBAC awards CME points as a sign of quality and independence for participation in CME/CPD activities. Definitions of learning objectives, targeting the audience, and assuring objectively presented scientific content are among the key features that will be considered by EBAC when accrediting a programme.

II.

In order to be awarded with CME points CME/CPD activities must

- comply with the principles and rules of procedure as outlined in this document
- be open to all medical community
- be free of commercial interests regarding the presentation of content
- present a declaration of conflict of interest for each speaker/author to the participants
- be evaluated, either by the EBAC evaluation form or by a monitor, whom the organiser(s) have to guarantee free access, or both.

III.

EBAC accredits

a. oral presentations with simultaneous presence of the audience, this includes webinars, visitation programmes etc.
   - verification of attendance is mandatory
   - 1 CME credit point will be awarded for 1 hour of education, which should contain 45 minutes of presentation and 15 minutes for discussion
   - per hour of education one CME point will be awarded up to a maximum of 6 points for one day of education.
b. all other presentations of CME/CPD, including print media, CD-ROM, internet, e-books etc.
   • verification of attendance is mandatory
   • If there is no verification of attendance or attendance cannot be monitored
     the provider has to define the amount of CME/CPD material which should
     yield one credit point. This should have a high enough a priori likelihood
     that at least 45 minutes will be needed for study. This will usually be the
     case if the material equals 6-10 pages printed in a journal format. 1 CME
     credit point will be awarded for each unit of education which goes along
     with 6 multiple choice questions (MCQs), out of which 4 have to be
     answered correctly. The provider has to take care that there will be no
     multiple acquisition of points by multiple use of the same material.
   • Accreditation is valid for 2 years. The provider may apply for prolongation,
     which will initiate a new accreditation procedure.

In general, there will be no half points being awarded.

IV. EBAC will accredit

   a. international CME/CPD activities in cardiovascular medicine
   b. national CME/CPD activities in cardiovascular medicine, for which international
      participation can be expected. In this case EBAC accreditation is not competitive
      but rather subsidiary to national accreditation systems, targeting the participants
      from foreign countries,
   c. national CME/CPD activities in case that a national accreditation authority does
      not exist or does not provide accreditation services.

The official working language of accredited CME/CPD activities as well as for EBAC
documents and administrative matters is English. The only exception may be activities as
mentioned under c).

V. Applications for accreditation may be submitted by

   • international or national medical/cardiac/cardiovascular societies, universities,
     professional unions and the associated working groups or affiliated societies of the
     institutions mentioned above,
   • other providers (individual cardiologists, groups of cardiologists or others), who
     will need a Letter of Endorsement from a university, teaching hospital or
     medical scientific society, by which these institutions take responsibility for the
     quality and independence of content and presentation.

Furthermore, for each CME/CPD activity a scientific course director has to be appointed,
who has to be a physician actively involved in patient care.

EBAC does not offer provider accreditation.

VI. Sponsoring may be provided by an unrestricted educational grant. Influence of
sponsor(s) on the selection of speakers/authors and/or content must be excluded. This is
under the responsibility of the scientific course director. Furthermore, the sponsor(s) may
be mentioned at the end of the programme/presentation, but there must be no
EBAC POLICY STATEMENT AND ACCREDITATION RULES

- logo of the sponsor(s) on pages/charts of the CME-material
- promotional material included into the CME-material
- mentioning of product names whenever a generic name is available.

EBAC takes no responsibility that national and/or EU legal requirements regarding sponsoring have been fulfilled by the applicants.

VII.

EBAC does not accredit satellite symposia. EBAC may accredit so called "Accredited Educational Programmes (AEP)" in the context of the congress of a scientific society or professional union. An AEP has to be organized by a scientific or academic organization/institution, which appoints the course director and takes responsibility for the quality and independence of content and presentation. AEP’s cannot be part of the corporate communication of the sponsor(s), i.e. no advertisement/announcement of the event or display of webcasts at the congress booth etc.

Paris, August 26th, 2011