

# Credit Systems for Continuing Medical Education in Canada

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# Credit Systems

- There are two credit systems in Canada
  - Maintenance of Proficiency Program:
    - College of Family Physicians of Canada
  - Maintenance of Certification Program
    - Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

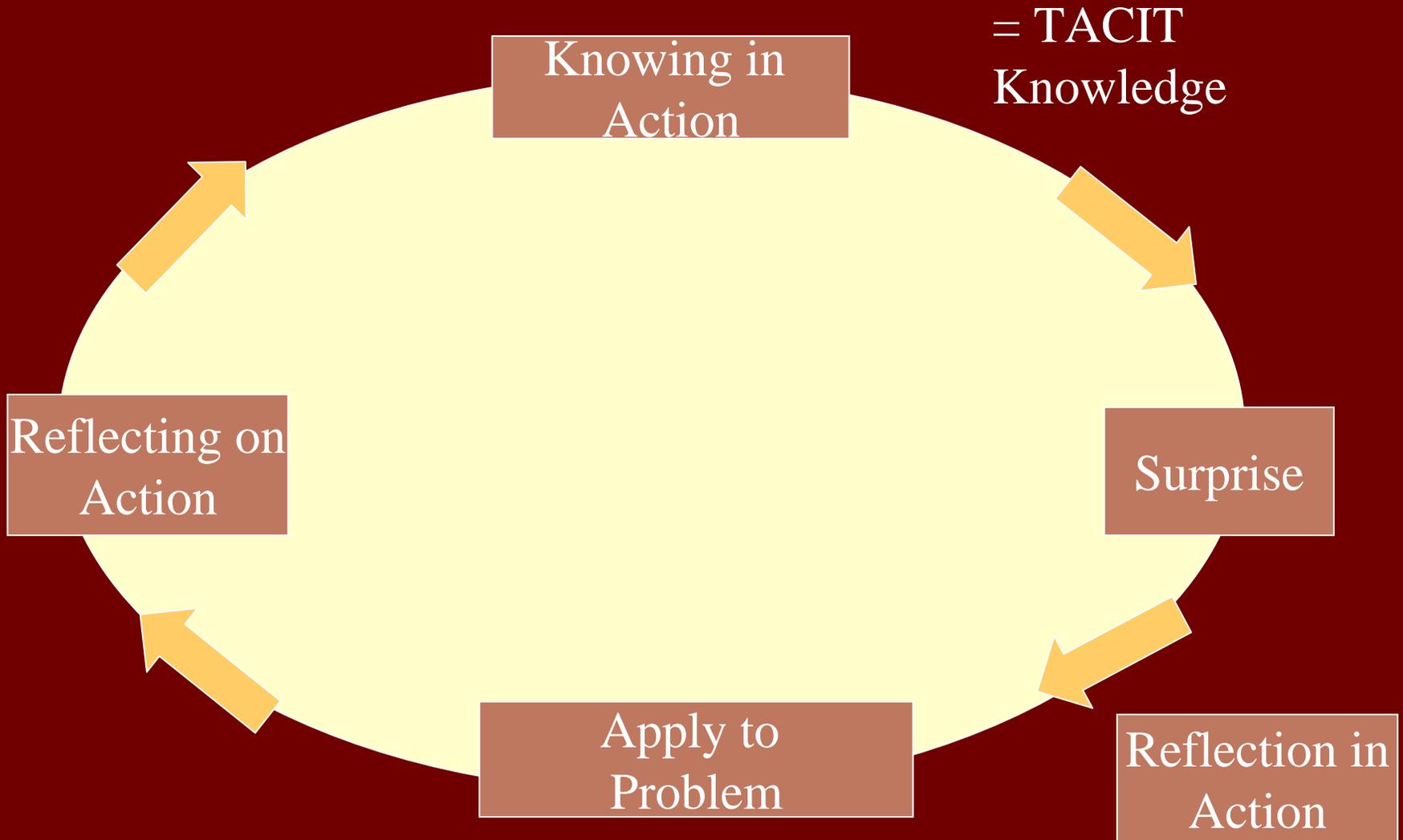
# Commonalities

- Both programs based on principle that
  - Responsibility for own education
  - Learning should be practice based
  - Individuals of the appropriate college must be on planning committees
  - Each college responsible for their own credits
  - Based on sound educational principles

# Commonalities 2

- Both programs require.
  - Accumulation of CME credits over a 5 year cycle.
  - Credits are required for designation.
  - Both are based on the principle of reflection on practice.

# Schön's Cycle



# MAINPRO

- Started maintenance of certification in 1977
- MAINPRO started in 1995
- Four principles of family medicine
  - Patient doctor relationship is central to family medicine
  - Family physician is a skilled clinician
  - Family medicine is community based
  - Family physicians a resource to a defined population

# MAINPRO

- Must submit 250 credits every five years
  - >125 need to be accredited CME M1 and M-C
  - Proof of credits can be requested at any time
  - Members responsible to send in credits.
  - Local credits valid if practicing outside North America

# Credits

- M 1 credits: Any accredited CME
- M 2 credits: Non accredited CME
- M-C credits: Special credits of enriched educational content.
  - Used to be compulsory, now voluntary

# Accreditors

- CME Offices in Canada
- Provincial Chapters of the College of Family Physicians
- For MAINPRO C the College of Family Physicians of Canada

# M 1 Credit Activities

- CME meetings
- Rounds
- Journal clubs
- Faculty development  
(75 credits/5 years)
- Academic papers  
(75 credits /5years)
- Research in family medicine
- E-learning
- Self test modules
- Practice audit
- Clinical traineeships

# MAINPRO C Activities

- Approved courses
- Practice based small group learning
- Clinical traineeships  
    <5days, reflection 2 months later. Max 24 credits.
- Advanced life support
- Pearls (3 credits)
- Practice audits
- Emergency Medicine examinations

# Pearls™

- Formulate a reflection question
- Seek appropriate information
- Evaluate the information
- Make a practice decision
- Evaluate the effect of the decision

# Practice Audit

- Define the problem
- Literature review
- Develop a guideline standard
- Review charts
- Change practice
- Reflect

# Accreditation Application M1 & C

- CCFP member input
- Content relevant to family medicine
- Individualized needs assessments \*
- Specific instructions to speakers
- Format conducive to learning
- Participants evaluate program

# Accreditation Application

## M1 & C

- 70 % small group \*
- Ethical standards
- Post program reflection \*

# Maintenance of Certification

- Modeled after MOPs program in Australia
- Need 400 credits within 5 years
- Credits for fulfilling activities related to specialist physician roles.

# Can Meds 2000

- Medical expert
- Health Advocate
- Communicator
- Scholar
- Collaborator
- Professional
- Manager

# Framework of CPD Options

1 Accredited group learning activities	Rounds, Journal clubs, CME courses, meetings	1 credit per hour No maximum
2 Other learning activities	Reading, non accredited meetings	1 credit per hour Maximum 100 credits/5 years
3 Accredited self assessment pr.	Self assessment Programs, simulators	2 credits/hr. No maximum

# Framework of CPD Options (Cont)

4 Structured learning projects	PLP's Traineeships	1 credit per hour No maximum
5 Practice review and appraisal	Audits based on own practice	2 credits per hour
6 Ed devt, teaching, research	Publication, teaching, research	1 credit per hour Now no maximum

# MAINPORT

- MAINPORT is the electronic portal through which one accesses the personal learning portfolio.
- Following slides describe the components of MAINPORT.

# Credit Summary

- An automated summary of all points earned and entered in the personal learning portfolio.
- Participants enter their own credits electronically.

# Personal Learning Diary

- Enter the Personal Learning Projects
  - Arise from practice
    - Date
    - Time
    - Stimulus to learning
    - Learning topic (ZOE)
    - Learning Question
    - Summary
    - Result

# Zones of Expertise

- All questions can be categorized into zones of expertise (ZOE).
- ZOE will allow the learner to note the changing emphasis on practice.
- A ZOE could be considered a learning map.

# Question Library

- All Personal Learning Projects are entered into a Question Library.
- The library is available to know what peers are learning.
- Hot links to the person who entered the PLP
- Good for needs assessment
- Can review own record over time.

# Approving Credits

- Meetings and courses have preapproved credits.
- Credits can be given by RCPSC National Specialty Societies and CME Offices.
- There is an accreditation process for credit approvers.

# Credit Validation Program

- Since credit recording is on an honor system an audit of documentation is done on an annual basis on 3% of the returns.
- Documentation must be kept by the physician in case of audit.

# Participation

- Roughly 90% of all active members of RCPS participated in 2006
  - Psychiatry 93 %
  - Internal medicine 85 %

\*Alberta – similar for Canada

# What if someone does not enter credits?

- There is an annual minimum number of credits.
- If you fall behind you are contacted by the RCPSC to see what they can do to help you get the credits needed

# List of Fellows

- Fellowship in the RCPSC is dependant upon successful participation in the Maintenance of Certification program.
- This is a public record of those who keep up.
- After first year 85% filed.

# Recertification and Relicensure

- Recertification at the College Level
  - Participation in CPD credit system
- Relicensure at the licensing body level
  - Agreement that CPD Credit systems **plus** questions about health status and legal issues **plus** additional requirements e.g PAR or office visit results.