

The Department of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) of BCPS - Ensuring the Proficiency & Competency of Health Professionals

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Continuing professional development (CPD) refers to continuing development of medical and nonmedical competencies including professionalism, and interpersonal, managerial and communication skills¹.

CPD essentially ensures doctors to continue to be proficient and competent in their profession while also furnishing them with essential skills that could help them progress with their career².

CPD helps to augment and enhance and update the abilities of professionals in their workplace. However, it encompasses much more than simply learning. Rather than being passive and reactive, CPD makes learning conscious and proactive, to enhance personal skills for application in the workplace³.

BCPS (Bangladesh College Of Physician & Surgeons), like all the renowned institutions of the world, realized that CPD needs to be undertaken formally in order to maintain, update, develop and enhance the knowledge, skill and attitude of the fellows in response to the needs of their patients.

With this view BCPS gave this responsibility to the CPD committee for the 1st time to take it forward in the year of 2005. Since then CPD committee keeps on organising different programs for fellows, and it becomes an on-going and planned learning and development process for the fellows.

Types of CPD includes-Formal Education and Training which includes formal face-to-face education, distance learning, short courses, conferences, meetings, and presentations of original articles, review and meta-analysis of recent update papers the. BCPS beliefs CPD involves not only educational activities to enhance medical competence in medical knowledge and skills, but also, it has role in management, team building, professionalism, interpersonal communication, technology, teaching, and accountability⁴.

Therefore BCPS keeps establishing all these components step by step over the years in its institute.

Most important aim of CPD is about, being up-to-date in career with maintaining knowledge and skills⁵. Also it is intended to support future professional development with enhancing and broadening capabilities. It develops personal qualities necessary to execute professional and technical duties in an ethical manner.

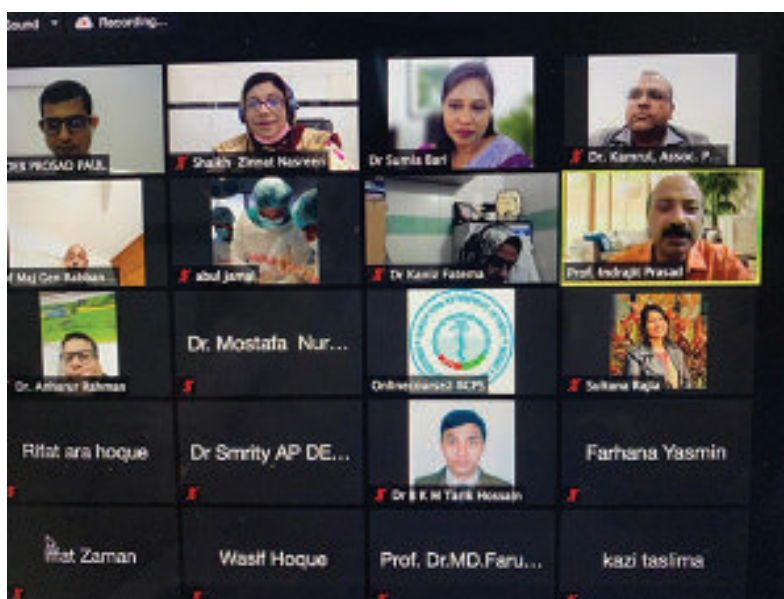
Therefore CPD committee of BCPS is organising CPD lecture every month, which covers the burning topics from different disciplinary, where fellows from all institutions both public and private, participate spontaneously. In the session, usually brainstorming interactive discussion and critical appraisal take place.

Fellows of BCPS consider that the discussion and the appraisal process through CPD enhance their learning,

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improves their practice and skill. This appraisal & discussion are recognised that ensuring the quality & consistency of the update knowledge which is essential to maintain the confidence of patients and doctors. BCPS encourages CPD program, which motivates the fellows in strengthening their professional capacity and preventing them from burnout. Also these programs benefit our fellows by following⁶.

1. Keeping knowledge and skills up-to-date
2. The professional standard of qualifications and registrations are maintained
3. Provides a professional sense of direction
4. Confidence and credibility are built and enhanced
5. The ability to showcase their achievements with a recognised qualification
6. Equips employees with the tools to cope positively with change
7. Promotes the advancement in career progression
8. Flexible training schedules for any form of learner

Every year CPD committee organises a daylong scientific program named as “CPD DAY”, where the program not only propagates the most recent knowledge but also facilitates the unique opportunity for networking among fellows across the nation.

The 1st chairperson and member secretary of CPD committee were Prof Mannan (VC of BSMMU) and Prof Saiful Islam (2005 to 2010), Prof Azizul Kahar and Prof Tahmina Begum (2011 to 2012), Prof Rafiq Uddin Ahmed & Prof Tahmina Begum (2013 to 2014) the Prof Nazrul

Islam & Prof SK Zinnat ara Nasreen (2015 to 2017) then Prof Nazrul Islam & Prof SK Zinnat ara Nasreen (2018 to 2020), current Chairperson & member secretary are Major General Md Golam Rabbani & Prof SK Zinnat ara Nasreen (2021 to 2023).

During Covid period, CPD committee took initiative to aware and impart knowledge regarding management of Covid patients to our fellows by performing series of virtual webinars. Fellows appreciated and benefitted from those webinars. CPD of BCPS is life long process and it will be an aspiring for the professional excellence. On the occasion of Golden Jubilee celebration of BCPS, CPD committee wishes a grand success and commit to work with much inspiration and motivation.

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