

## **The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Maintenance of Certification Program Study Credits and the Nova Scotia Physician Achievement Review (NSPAR) Program**

Fellows who participate in the NSPAR program of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia can earn study credits towards Maintenance of Certification.

These can be claimed under section 5, Practice Review and Appraisal. You can claim 2 credits per hour for the time you spend reviewing your profile.

If the profile stimulates you to undertake other activities, these can be claimed as well. You may decide to:

- Undertake a structured learning project. This may be a personal learning project or a traineeship. Both are eligible for one credit per hour under section 4.
- Attend an accredited group learning activity. This might be a conference or a journal club that is accredited for one credit per hour under section 1.
- Do a MEDLINE search or participate in an on-line course. These activities would be accredited for one credit per hour under section 2.

The reverse side provides an example of the steps to demonstrate how Dr. Smith, a general surgeon, earned 50 credits towards Maintenance of Certification.

<b>Step</b>	<b>Activity Completed by Fellow</b>	<b>Hours of CPD</b>	<b>Section of Framework</b>	<b>Credits Earned</b>
1.	Dr. Smith reviews her NSPAR profile.	1 hour	Section 5 (2 credits per hour)	2
2.	Dr. Smith notes that both colleagues and co-workers have rated her communication skills slightly below average. She attends a physician communication course offered at Dalhousie University.	4	Section 2 (1 credit per hour)	4
3.	Dr. Smith decides to develop a personal learning project to look at the research related to communication skills in surgery, after attending the Dalhousie course.	4	Section 4 (1 credit per hour)	4
4.	Dr. Smith notes that patients have rated other physicians better on having printed material available. She undertakes a personal learning project in which she researches websites to find the ones she feels are most appropriate for her patients so that she can print lists of helpful websites for the surgical procedures she most often does.	10	Section 4 (1 credit per hour)	10
5.	Dr. Smith notes that one of the questions on the NSPAR forms relates to her contribution to quality improvement programs. She realizes that she has undertaken a number of audits within her division but not recorded this information.	15	Section 5 (2 credits per hour)	30
<b>Total Credits Earned by Participation in and/or Stimulated by NSPAR Program</b>				<b>50</b>