

for[CME]

An Innovation in Continuing Medical Education

by Greg Chang, CEO and Co-Founder, for[MD]

In the rapidly evolving field of orthopedic surgery, there is a constant need to stay up-to-date on best practices, new techniques, and educate oneself in order to provide the best patient care possible. For many orthopedists, this has meant subscribing to peer-reviewed medical journals and searching online literature at the point-of-care to refresh on certain clinical topics. Doing so has been a necessary task and until recently, orthopedic surgeons could only earn Category 2 CME for this activity.

With for[CME], all of this has changed. Through for[CME]'s accredited process, orthopedic surgeons, physicians in all specialties, and even physician assistants and nurse practitioners can now earn *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit* for searching for and reading peer-reviewed search.

“forCME is a great idea,” said Paul King, Director, Center for Joint Replacement at Anne Arundel Medical Center. “We do searches all the time and this seems like a great way to care for patients while having some recognition of the continuing education this requires. I think everyone should use the service.”

Accredited by Hospital for Special Surgery, for[CME]'s technology awards Category 1 credit in a three step process.

1. First, simply enter a search term to learn about a clinical topic.
2. Second, browse through relevant research to quickly identify an article that enhances your knowledge.
3. Finally, document what you learned by completing a simple questionnaire -- there are no post-tests and no wrong answers.



Michael Griesser, MD

“I can earn CME for doing what I do every day,” said Michael Griesser, MD, a sports medicine surgeon in Ohio. “This idea is long since overdue.”

Each successfully completed search is worth 0.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit regardless of how long the process took. It might sounds too good to be true, but this type of CME is simply another format of learning activity, called Internet Point-of-Care Learning, that is recognized by the American Medical Association and the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education.

The credits earned can apply not only toward state medical board licensure requirements, but also toward maintenance of certification requirements so long as the searches are orthopedic related.

“for[CME] provides some of the most dynamic CME,” said Richard Mather, MD, a hip preservation surgeon at Duke Orthopaedics. “The credits earned can also apply toward your state’s risk management, patient safety, or ethics requirements.” So long as searches conducted cover the related topics, states will typically accept for[CME] certificates for these requirements.



Richard Mather, MD

From the for[CME] website or app for iPhone and iPad, users access on-demand learning experiences tailored to their specific needs. In addition, they can earn continuing medical education credits on their own time and from anywhere that they can access the internet.

“for[CME] is at least as educational as most of the things I’m getting CME for,” said Barton Harris, MD, an orthopedic surgeon in Virginia. “I usually get CME from meetings and they aren’t always that educational. With for[CME], I can choose what I want to read and ensure that it’s pertinent to my practice. It’s sort of a no brainer.”

For practices, providing for[CME] to their physicians can be a way not only to increase physician satisfaction, but also reduce cost and productivity. Typically, live CME conferences require attendees to leave the patient care setting for up to a week at a time.

“In private practice, it’s hard to go away for even 2-3 days,” said John Solic, orthopedic surgeon in Durham, NC. With for[CME], physicians can reduce away time so that they can either increase revenue-generating activities to improve the bottom line or use that same time with their families and improve their work-life balance.

For an annual subscription of \$180 per month, users can earn unlimited CME. Enterprise licenses are also available for practices, hospitals, malpractice insurers, and other corporate entities.