FAQ ON CAPM CREDENTIALING WHAT IS CREDENTIALING BY CAPM, AND WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

A person who is a member of a professional association may receive credentialing for special qualifications, achievement, or skills. Credentialing is usually a formal application and not a grandfathering process and often gives a diploma so that the member becomes a "diplomate" in the professional association. To apply for credentialing, the member must be a member in the CAPM Credentialing Stream, have practiced for two years or more, and be licensed in good standing by her/his regulatory college.

WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS ON WHICH CREDENTIALING IS BASED?

CAPM bases credentialing on the following qualifiers;

- Professional training and graduating in a regulated health care profession.
- Licensure by the regulatory college for your profession.
- Being a member of the CAPM Credentialing Stream.
- Two years or more experience working with at least part time, helping pain sufferers in clinical work.
- A positive evaluation by three peers who provide letters of reference on your pain management work.
- Achievement: this includes attending a pain management course and passing an examination.

At present there is:

1. A small group format course conducted every few months at McMaster followed by examination,
2. Or alternatively postgraduate credit course offered online by University of Alberta, requiring at least first 2 of 3 units to be completed successfully, or a postgraduate credit course offered online by McGill University requiring at least the first 3 units to be completed successfully, and then application to CAPM for membership and credentialing documentation.

WHAT ADVANTAGES ARE THERE IN BEING CREDENTIALED?

As long as you are a credentialed member, you can have your name and credentialing posted on the CAPM website which is searchable by the public. You also may list the credential on your own advertising material and business cards (but must not list it as if it were a degree, pain specialist designation, board certification as pain specialist, or license to practice).

WHAT HAPPENS IF I STOP BEING A MEMBER – CAN I REMAIN CREDENTIALED?

Credentialing is conferred by an Academy or professional association on its members, but is not a degree, so if the member ceases being a member, the credentialing is no longer valid. If you previously were credentialed by AAPM, when the AAPM closes its activity in 2021, you can credential with CAPM through the normal mechanism of being a member in the Credentialing Stream, taking the course and passing the examination, and providing the documentation as described above.
WHAT IS RECREDENTIALING?

Credentialing is valid for four years after being credentialed and every four years a member needs the following:

- Paid up CAPM membership in Credentialing Stream,
- Ongoing licensure by your regulatory college,
- And documentation of at least 100 hours of pain-related continuing education activity (this may be from a transcript from your College, e.g. MOCOMP or MainPro).

IF I AM CREDENTIALED, DOES THIS MEAN THAT I AM "BOARD CERTIFIED, A PAIN SPECIALIST"? CAN I LIST THE CAPM CREDENTIALING AS A DEGREE?

Most or all regulatory Colleges for any of the professions make it clear that it is “professional misconduct” to appear to claim a degree or qualification you don’t have. Since CAPM Diplomate is not a degree, but a credential provided to certain qualified members, it is permissible to put this on your business card or advertising material or letterhead only if it is in a separate line below the line that shows your name, your academic degree, your license, and your designation (e.g. Physician, Surgeon, Physiotherapist, Nurse etc.), and if you are Change of Scope physician, this also goes on a separate line: see illustration.

Example:

Eldon Tunks MD CM FRCP(c), Psychiatrist Practicing in Pain Management
Member of CAPM; DCAPM

CAPM has a Board of Directors, but this is not a regulatory or licensing body or university/college, and is not equivalent to the American Board of Medical Specialties, Royal College of Physicians, etc. You must not claim to be a medical specialist, or certified specialist based on a credentialing diploma.

WHAT IS ADVANCED CREDENTIALING?

While Credentialing is a general category that is applicable to all members who satisfy the above-mentioned qualifications, there is another type of credentialing having to do with advanced skills and competencies relevant to pain management. So far, this category is used in two situations. One is to identify physicians (usually Change of Scope Physicians) who have advanced training in interventional procedures for pain, and the other is Fellowship specialty training level chiropractors who are also teaching faculty, who have developed skills and competencies equipping them to teach junior learners in pain management (and this category is still under review and will not yet be available to chiropractic specialist members until final approval). These are restricted categories and are not the same as Diplomate status with CAPM that any regulated professional member of CAPM can apply for. Because advanced credentialing in interventional pain management was developed in consultation with CAPM and interventional pain opinion leaders, the CPSO policies are also consistent with CAPM recommendations for interventional pain management competency. The CAPM requirements are

- Membership in the credentialing stream of CAPM,
- Two years or more of clinical practice,
- Passing the peer review and the clinic site review by the CPSO peer reviewers,
- And licensure with CPSO (regulatory body) is up-to-date.

Consistent with CPSO and CAPM guideline the applicant will be asked for account or description of six months or more of training, supervision, or mentorship in the interventional skills being used, and list of the intervention procedures and skills used in actual practice. (At this point many are already long-time practitioners in interventional skills, so the
requirement is not a prospective account of trainee but rather a retrospective account of how the interventional skills were acquired.)