



Coding CPD Activity Categories

CPD Activities include both organized learning events (Type A activities) and self-directed learning (Type B activities).

Organized learning events can include both *in-person* large-group learning such as at conferences, congresses, or seminars (A1). In-person small-group learning activities can include courses, wetlabs, or workshops (also A1). Organized learning events can also include synchronous or asynchronous *distance* learning such as webinars, teleconferences, and other e-learning modules (A3).

Courses, curriculum of study, and training for additional degrees or credentials are other forms of organized learning events (A2).

Presentations, courses taught, and posters or articles prepared and presented which are peer reviewed are also considered Type A organized learning activities (A4).

Self-directed learning includes consulting with peers and colleagues about specific learning objectives, and mentoring (B1).

Veterinarians also pursue extensive self-directed learning by reading journals, texts, college publications, or by reviewing videos, DVDs, or CDs (B2). Reviewing past issues of peer-reviewed veterinary journals to assess relevance of innovations and new treatments, services, or procedures is called *environmental scanning*. Environmental scanning also includes surveying online resources and alerts.

Self-directed learning is also increasingly accomplished on websites and via the internet – including VIN (B3).

Some professional contributions including regulatory or association committee work and peer review activities (which create opportunities for reflection and professional development) may also be considered self-directed learning (B4).

The real time spent pursuing each learning activity is recorded. If a veterinarian spends 2 hours reading veterinary journal articles about new treatment options for the patients, 2 hours are recorded. If a veterinarian spends 2 hours at an evening seminar, 2 hours are recorded.

After coding the type of CPD activity as one that is organized (A1-A5) or self-directed (B1-B5) learning, veterinarians are asked to connect that CPD activity to a learning objective— *or* to identify the activity as a New Learning Opportunity. Veterinarians often identify new learning opportunities throughout the year which had not been pre-identified on their CPD Plan, but are relevant to practice. New learning opportunities may include an invitation to a lunch-and-learn program or a resource that was discovered on the internet.