

MEMO B-July/94-44

ACTION: ADOPTED

SUBJECT: EXEMPTION FROM THE 50 PERCENT OSTEOPATHIC SPEAKERS
REQUIREMENT FOR AN AOA CATEGORY 1-A CME PROGRAM

SUBMITTED BY: Bureau of Professional Education
Council on Continuing Medical Education (Res. No. 43)

In July, 1994, the Board of Trustees adopted the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the present requirement of 50 percent of the speakers
at an AOA Category 1 CME program be D.O.s or staff members of osteopathic
institutions be reaffirmed, and be it further

RESOLVED, that it be the policy of the AOA and its Council on
Continuing Medical Education that any CME program sponsored by a specialty
college or society, or any program for which the audience will consist largely of non-
family practice physicians, be eligible for consideration, on a program by program
basis, by the CCME for possible exemption from the 50 percent provision, and be it
further

RESOLVED, that an administration fee of \$25.00 shall be paid by the
Sponsor for each request for exemption, be APPROVED.

Explanatory Statement: Implementation of this system would allow programs of CME
Sponsors which are having difficulty obtaining sufficient osteopathic speakers in specific
medical specialty areas to qualify for AOA Category 1-A CME credit. This would have
additional benefit for osteopathic physicians who are licensed in states which require AOA
Category 1-A credit for relicensure.

The \$25.00 administrative fee will cover costs incurred in contacting members of the CME
subcommittee and responding to the applicant.

This policy shall be reviewed after one year of implementation to determine whether or not
it has sufficiently addressed the concerns of the specialty colleges and maintained the
integrity of the osteopathic component of AOA Category 1-A Continuing Medical

Education.

The administrative procedures for processing and review of requests for exemption are attached.

The adopted administrative procedures related to processing and review of a request for exemption of a CME program of the 50% DO or staff members of osteopathic institutions are as follows:

American Osteopathic Association
Division of Continuing Medical Education

Request for Exemption from the 50 Percent Osteopathic Speakers Requirement
for an AOA Category 1-A CME Program

Criteria and Administrative Procedures

1. Requests for an exemption shall be accompanied by a payment of a \$25.00 administration fee to cover costs incurred in contacting members of the CME subcommittee and responding to the applicant.
2. To be considered the program shall have no less than 25 percent D.O.s or staff members of osteopathic institutions as presenters.
3. Each application for exemption shall be submitted to the CME staff of the AOA with a written explanation of why the exemption is requested along with a preliminary program listing topics, timeframes and presenters.
4. The request for exemption will be submitted, alone with a staff recommendation, to a CCME subcommittee for consideration and action. Each request for exemption will be responded to within seven (7) working days.
5. The CME staff and CCME subcommittee shall consider:
 - a. the explanation of why the exemption is requested.
 - b. the number and frequency of such requests for exemption as a measure of a Sponsor's effort to develop and utilize osteopathic presenter expertise in their meetings.
 - c. the number of osteopathic presenters (or staff members or staff of

osteopathic institutions) of the requesting Sponsor over a selected period of time using totals for all meetings presented by the Sponsor within that time period, i.e., all program within a one or two year period.

- d. The total mix of hours over a recording period shall conform to the basic guidelines of 50 percent of speakers being D.O.s or staff members of osteopathic institutions.
6. When an exemption is granted to a CME program, all program advertisements, and agenda materials shall indicate that, "This program qualifies for AOA Category 1-A credit under an exemption approved by the Council on CME of the American Osteopathic Association."