

1 21 NCAC 32S .0216 is amended as published in 34:09 NCR 765-766 as follows:

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3 **21 NCAC 32S .0216 CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION**

4 (a) A physician assistant shall complete at least 50 hours of ~~continuing medical education~~ Continuing Medical
5 Education (CME) every two years. The CME shall be recognized by the National Commission on Certification of
6 Physician Assistants (NCCPA) as Category I CME. A ~~The~~ physician assistant shall provide CME documentation for
7 inspection by the ~~board~~ Board or its agent upon request. The ~~two-year~~ two-year period shall begin on the physician
8 assistant's ~~first~~ birthday following ~~initial licensure~~. the issuance of his or her license.

9 (b) ~~Beginning on July 1, 2017,~~ a A physician assistant who prescribes controlled substances shall complete at least
10 two hours of CME, from the required 50 hours, designed specifically to address controlled substance prescribing
11 practices. The controlled substance prescribing CME shall include instruction on controlled substance prescribing
12 ~~practices, recognizing signs of the abuse or misuse of controlled substances,~~ practices and controlled substance
13 prescribing for chronic pain management. CME that includes recognizing signs of the abuse or misuse of controlled
14 substances, or non-opioid treatment options shall qualify for purposes of this Rule.

15 (c) A physician assistant who possesses a current certification with the NCCPA shall be deemed in compliance with
16 the requirement of Paragraph (a) of this Rule. The physician assistant shall attest on his or her annual renewal ~~that he~~
17 ~~or she is~~ they are currently certified by the NCCPA. Physician assistants who attest ~~that~~ they possess a current
18 certificate with the NCCPA shall not be exempt from the controlled substance prescribing CME requirement of
19 Paragraph (b) of this Rule. ~~A Physician Assistants~~ physician assistant shall complete the required two hours of
20 controlled substance CME unless ~~such~~ the CME is a component part of their certification activity.

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22 *History Note: Authority G.S. 90-5.1(a)(3); 90-5.1(a)(10); 90-18.1; S.L. 2015-241, 12F.16(b) a 12F.16(c);*
23 *Eff. September 1, 2009;*
24 *Amended Eff. May 1, 2015; November 1, 2010;*
25 *Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. March 1,*
26 *2016;*
27 *Amended Eff. April 1, 2020; September 1, 2016.*
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