



GUEST

Private Practice, Implantology, and Continuing Professional Development

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Strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle.

—Napoleon Hill

American self-help author

Continuing professional development (CPD) (synonym: *continuing education* [CE])¹ in Ukrainian stomatology reached a new level in 2019 by the Order (# 446, dated February 22) entitled “Some issues of CPD of doctors” was officially published.² According to new Order of Ministry of Healthcare of Ukraine,³ every physician-stomatologist must score:

1. 50 CPD points obtained in 2020 or 2021 for certification in 2021.
2. 100 CPD points obtained in 2020 and 2021 for certification in 2022.
3. 150 CPD points obtained in 2020, 2021, and 2022 for certification in 2023.

The CPD points can be scored for a wide variety of activities, like: 1) participation in scientific and practical conference, congress or symposium, 2) distance (digital) learning using electronic learning resources, 3) thematic training (professional schools,

seminars, workshops, etc.), 4) study or internship at a university or health care institution – in Ukraine or abroad, 5) publication of an article in a peer-review journal, etc.³

Attestation is needed 1) to continue (or to obtain a right) practicing in a certain specialty, 2) to confirm the assigned qualification category or a new higher one assignment.⁴

The Procedure for attestation of doctors notes that it is aimed to improve the activities of health care institutions of all forms of ownership.⁴ Physician-stomatologist-surgeon (ie, oral surgeon) who moves own private surgical practice forward is more than interested in obtaining the *Second, First and Highest qualification category*. Special motivation of the surgeon to obtain the categories is usually driven by the wish to perform dental implantation (Fig 1) and bone grafting procedures. For example, according to the instructions (approved by the order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine) the *physician-stomatologist-surgeon of the Second qualification category* among other surgical procedures must be able to perform dental implantation and related manipulations within the alveolar process without additional bone grafting.⁵ Also, the instructions

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Please cite this article as: Nagorniak IV. Private practice, implantology, and continuing professional development. *J Diagn Treat Oral Maxillofac Pathol* 2021;5(1):10–2.

The abbreviation 'Intra-Op' at the upper right icon means that article contains intraoperative photographs.

Paper received 21 January 2021
Accepted 23 January 2021
Available online 29 January 2021

<https://dx.doi.org/10.23999/j.dtmp.2021.1.3>

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for the *physician-stomatologist-surgeon of the First qualification category* note that among other surgical procedures the surgeon must be able to perform dental implantation and related manipulations using bone grafting materials and intraoral blocks.⁶ *physician-*

stomatologist-surgeon of the Higher qualification category must be able to perform all types of dental implantation and related manipulations within and outside the alveolar process using extraoral blocks and fixation of exoprostheses.⁷

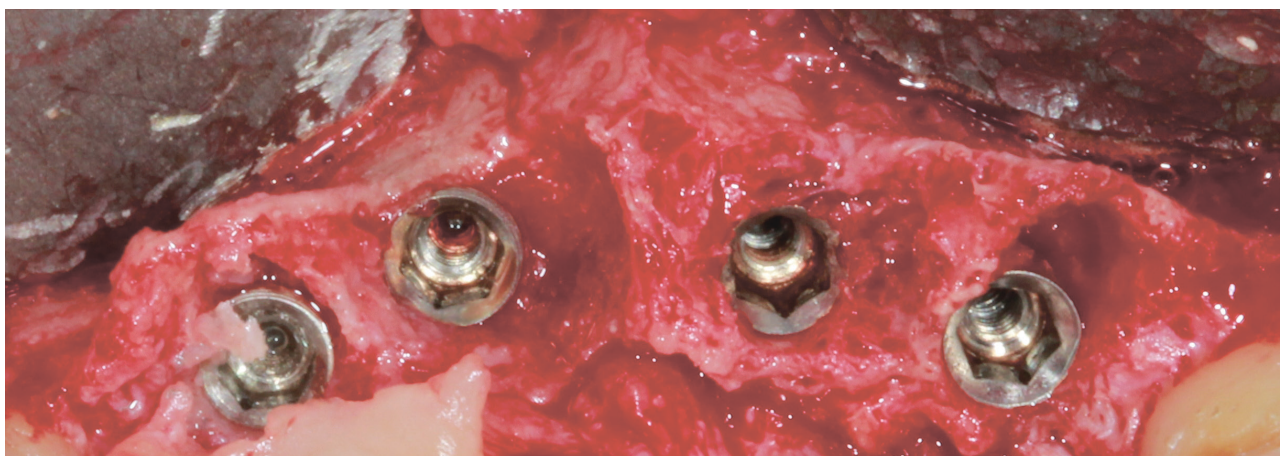


FIGURE 1. Dental implantation at the anterior maxilla.

Publication of the scientific paper (case report,⁸ case series, images' article,⁹ viewpoint,¹⁰ etc.) is a great option for every stomatologist in Ukraine as it will bring 20 or 30 CPD points depending it's a publication in Ukrainian or English language peer-reviewed journal (Table 1).³

TABLE 1. Number of Scored CPD Points for the Published Article.

Ukrainian Language Peer-reviewed Journal	English Language Peer-reviewed Journal
20 CPD points	30 CPD points

Analyzing CPD in other countries and CPD's relation with journals it's worth to notice that, for example, *Australian Dental Journal* (Impact Factor: 1.401; 2019 Journal Citation Reports (Clarivate Analytics): 66/91 (Dentistry, Oral Surgery & Medicine)¹¹ which has an oral and maxillofacial surgery section, also publishes CPD Quiz with scoring the points for the readers.¹²

Moreover, some journals, like *Oral Diseases* journal (Impact Factor: 2.613; 2019 Journal Citation Reports (Clarivate Analytics): 19/91 (Dentistry, Oral Surgery & Medicine),¹³ even score points for the review of the articles.

In summary, it's become more and more popular worldwide to score CPD points for the physicians who read, review the articles or who publish the peer-reviewed papers, like in Ukraine from 2019. In my opinion, this way of rewarding readers, reviewers and authors has an extremely positive effect on the growth of doctors as professionals, their domestic/international cooperation and the development of specialties and journals.

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