The Canadian Association of Gastroenterology ePortal – launched September 2009

Alaa Rostom, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta
Chair, CAG Education Committee

Canadian Association
of Gastroenterology

En français voir page 712

Welcome to the new education portal (ePortal) of the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology (CAG) – a Web space dedicated to helping the membership remain up to date and fulfill their education and maintenance of certification requirements.

The ePortal is accessible through the CAG Web site at www.cag-acg.org. The ePortal is a new tool for you in addition to the educational opportunities such as the annual Canadian Digestive Diseases Week (CDDW) meeting, already available to CAG members. The ePortal allows you to review specific topic areas, perform short self-assessments, discuss topics with colleagues across Canada, generate ideas for personal learning projects, keep up to date with CAG events and much more. As the ePortal matures, we will continue to add learning material on a regular basis based on your feedback.

Sign in and explore the ePortal. Have a look at some highly rated CDDW lectures from previous meetings. Test your knowledge before and after viewing educational material. Test yourself with the endoscopy quiz. Discuss some hot topics with experts and colleagues, such as colon cancer screening with Dr Des Leddin.

Perhaps most importantly, the ePortal will automatically track your personal educational activities and time spent on the Web site. You will be able to review and print your activity summary at anytime from anywhere. Ultimately, we hope to link this information directly to the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) and, thus, save your time and efforts in transcribing activities into your RCPSC account.

Have fun, learn much and send us your feedback so we can continue to improve.

WHAT IS THE ePORTAL?

The CAG ePortal is the gateway to CAG members' on-line continuing professional development learning opportunities. Members are able to access the ePortal at their leisure through

the Web site at www.cag-acg.org. A login and password is required to use the ePortal (it is the same as your login for the members page of the CAG Web site). If you cannot remember your login information, you can contact the CAG office or use the 'Forgot your password?' utility on the members page of the CAG Web site. The system will allow members to perform personal needs assessments and create a personal profile to target areas of interest.

What's on the ePortal?

The ePortal includes a variety of learning and educational programs such as:

- Video lectures with pre- and post-test questions;
- Video lectures;
- Discussion forums;
- Endoscopy quiz; and
- Resources (eg, clinical practice guidelines, position papers).

Why use the ePortal?

- Centralize your educational activities and records;
- Use a large variety of tools available on the CAG ePortal;
- Earn credits to meet your maintenance of certification learning needs while having these credits automatically logged to your personal ePortal profile;
- Review lectures from previous meetings that you have not been able to attend;
- Join interactive discussion forums to chat with the experts;
- Create and perform self-assessment programs easily;
- Access key resource materials such as clinical practice guidelines and position papers.

Visit www.cag-acg.org often for updates regarding this opportunity and to access the many other benefits available to members!

The CAG is proud to acknowledge its Benefactor Corporate Sponsors:

Abbott Canada

AstraZeneca Canada Inc

Axcan Pharma Inc

Olympus Canada Inc

Pentax Canada Inc

Schering-Plough Canada Inc

UCB Pharma Inc