

## **Audit and Quality Improvement Project prize for the members of The Association for Palliative Medicine**

The Association for Palliative Medicine (APM) has established a clinical audit prize. Entrants are invited to submit a report of a completed clinical audit cycle leading to quality improvement to which they have made a significant contribution.

The purpose of the competition is to encourage all APM members to carry out audits within their services and to recognise the importance of clinical audit in improving patient care and outcomes.

Audit is also an important part for revalidation to demonstrate change and quality improvement. Hence such a prize will enhance the status of such endeavours and emphasise their importance.

Notice of the award and closing date will be sent out every two years and displayed on the APM website

**Frequency:** Every 2 years

**Eligible:**

The competition is open to all members of APM as of the closing date

**Regulations:**

I. Entrants may be any postgraduate member of the APM submitting on their own behalf or on behalf of a service. Entrants should have made a significant contribution to the audit at conception, implementation and/or analysis phases. The service lead will be asked to confirm this. The audit should have begun no more than two years before submitting for the Prize.

II. The description should comprise a 1500 – 2000 word summary, and include an abstract summarising the aim, objectives of work described, methods used, results and conclusions. (Enclosed submission form). Acknowledgement and references will be excluded from word summary.

III. A panel of judges appointed by the APM professional standards committee will be asked to assess the audits relevance and quality. To avoid any conflict of interest judges will not score projects submitted by themselves or by colleagues employed by the same organisation.

**Guidance for the Audit Project that you submit:-**

1. The audit project must be current – i.e. started no earlier than 2 years before submission

2. It may be a standards-based clinical audit or a quality improvement project with clear rationale for change and identification of outcomes to be measured.
3. The topic selected is appropriate and relevant to Palliative Medicine
4. The criteria and/or standards are clearly stated, with reference to evidence and literature where available
5. The method is appropriate eg sample size is sufficient, the project follows clinical audit methodology where appropriate, re-audit/re-measurement has been undertaken.
6. The analysis of audit or QI data is thorough and appropriate
7. There is evidence of dissemination of results
8. There is evidence of changes in practice/assessment of impact
9. All entries should include an abstract summarising the aim, objectives of work described, methods used, results and conclusions. (enclosed submission form)
10. The author is responsible for seeking necessary approval from local audit department.
11. All must follow ethics principles re data protection and confidentiality.

**Closing Date: 27<sup>th</sup> Oct 2017**

**Submissions To:** Entrants will be asked to submit their description to Becki Munro (becki@compleat-online.co.uk) at the APM secretariat