

AN EDUCATED SOLUTION FOR HEALTHCARE

The CPE module of AMS LEADER makes administering medical and other professional education easier, cost-effective and more staff friendly;

- CPE specific solution built into the AMS LEADER Employee Management Solution
- Empowers clinicians with easily accessible information
- Effectively manages the time and cost liabilities of CPE
- Delivers reduced administration effort, greater transparency of information and improved staff satisfaction

Finding efficiencies in managing CPE

Staff costs are such a significant element of any large healthcare organisation's budget, they are continually looking at ways of managing this expenditure more effectively. Improving the management of continuing professional education (CPE), combining the requirements of continuing medical education (CME) and continuing medical and nursing education (CMNE), is one area of focus.

CPE is important for healthcare organisations so that they can maintain the skills and knowledge of clinical professionals. Some of it is compulsory in terms of industry certification, but a lot of it is simply keeping up with modern trends and knowledge.

Time and money spent on training therefore needs to be carefully tracked, both against an individual and overall throughout the organisation. This is made complex by the fact healthcare providers have to manage two balances – a training entitlement that is granted upfront, and a financial one that is calculated in arrears.

Managing CPE across a large workplace spread over multiple sites is a challenge, particularly when this has traditionally been done with spreadsheets and other departmental-type databases. Typically the result is multiple systems and a considerable amount of administration time to access and update them.

The data isn't always accurate or complete enough, resulting in slippage with both costs and the ability of staff to use their training entitlements, because they can't easily monitor their CPE time and budget balances.

An educated solution

AMS, a specialist provider of payroll and employee management systems to the health sector, has developed a module of its AMS LEADER product to manage CPE. It enables healthcare providers to centralise CPE data, rather than holding it at a service level in spreadsheets and other disparate databases.





AMS worked with its customers to develop requirements for the new system. The CPE module is integrated with AMS LEADER, the core payroll and HR system used by eight New Zealand district health board and a number of other healthcare organisations.

Based on the existing employee payroll record, the system is available to staff over an intranet through the AMS LEADER Kiosk.

Top marks for reducing cost, streamlining administration

The CPE module is delivering good outcomes for New Zealand health providers. Ultimately that means better quality and regularity of training which improves patient care, but the benefits are broader.

Integrating the CPE module into AMS' existing payroll and HR system is powerful for any organisation using AMS LEADER, as they can link training information directly back to an individual's payroll record.

The CPE module brings a lot more clarity for both management and clinical staff. With multiple, unconnected, departmental databases there is a lot of administration effort and it is hard to get good information. Integrating this module into AMS LEADER enables healthcare providers to be very transparent about training expenses and related costs – they understand the value of training but also the need to ensure value for money.

AMS' CPE module makes it easy for everyone in the organisation to access training information, whereas before employees would have to ask a finance person in their area to compile the data for them. Through the AMS LEADER Kiosk they can see it 24/7, and managers can more easily review and approve requests.

The transparency the CPE module brings also impacts on costs. For example, in a DHB situation typical clinical employment agreements have a three year cycle of training entitlements. If by year-four all of the year-one entitlements haven't been used by an individual, that money is returned to the DHB's budget. This can deliver significant savings across thousands of DHB staff.

Talk to an AMS account manager to discuss whether the CPE module is right for your organisation.

ABOUT AMS



Noel Reid
CEO

AMS systems are used to pay around 50% of New Zealand's public health workforce, including four of the largest district health boards, a number of smaller DHBs, and private health providers.

A privately owned New Zealand company, AMS has been supplying enterprise computer systems to New Zealand organisations for 30 years. We have deep experience in building and running large and complex systems.

Since the early 1990's AMS have been supplying large New Zealand organisations with employee management solutions. The focus of this part of our business has been the healthcare sector, with major parts of our software having been specifically developed for health in New Zealand.

Over 35,000 New Zealand healthcare workers throughout eight DHBs and other healthcare providers are paid using the AMS LEADER product, making us the country's largest provider.

