## THE ROLE OF THE CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IN KOSOVO

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## ABSTRACT

Given the current situation in Kosovo, health remains a key point that requires intervention. Hence the Continuous Professional Education is a process which involves defining the criteria, evaluation and implementation of changes. The purpose of the research was to assess the opinions of the specialists related to Continuous Professional Education in strengthening the healthcare in Kosovo, through introducing and analyzing the need for CPE as a factor in strengthening the cooperation between the three levels of health care in Kosovo. The research was carried out during the period June-December 2014, in Prishtina, Gjakova and Gjilan. A number of 138 healthcare professionals were interviewed (109 females and 29 males), from three levels of the healthcare. The outcome of the research shows that in our healthcare institutions the first ranked on the list is the use of personal authority (power) with 989 points, second ranked in the list we have the professional expertise with 898 points, while as third factor is listed the professional reward with 856 points. The findings in the research show a sensitive aspect to be connections, obligations and the role-position of the professional. The application of CPE and strengthening of the collegial cooperation are steps that help identify problems in the healthcare system. In order to achieve this there is a need to continuously follow, to study and apply modern approaches in the field of education. Thus, a proposal for the leaders at central and local level of the healthcare system is: To strengthen the cooperation and implementation of CPE; Implement the standards and Law on health; Set up special mechanisms to minimize the risks and professional errors; Respect the professional status and salary increase; Management the Human resources and working environment.

Keywords: CPE, healthcare professionals, healthcare institutions, health care, managers.