Continuing Development Points

Continuing Development Points endeavor to keep health professionals current and involved in evidence-based practice. To this end it is worth viewing the collection of CPD points as part of your professional development as oppose to a bureaucratic process. Your points are not reviewed annually and one does not have to submit your certificates unless you are audited. I have recently been audited and have been updated as compliant after submitting my portfolio. Here is the summary of the process and what is needed.

* Physiotherapist and Occupational Therapists need to have a total of 60 points, of which 10 must be ethical/ human rights/ medical law

points, over a two year cycle.

* If one is audited you will receive a letter to state the period for which you are being audited, for example January 2010- January 2012. One then has three weeks in which to send certificates for CPD points showing that you have 60 points including 10 ethical points that fall within that period. CPD points are valid for 24 months from the time of the activity.
* If you do not have enough points you will then be given 6 months to rectify this situation, however this means that the period then shifts to 6 months later which can mean that older points now fall outside the audited period, ie July 2010- July 2012.
* It is worth contacting SASP or OTASA to find out about courses that are being run. Points are also awarded for accredited presentations, published journal articles, post-graduate supervision and post-graduate studies.
* For additional reading and information please see:
  + <http://www.hpcsa.co.za/cpd_overview.php>
  + <http://www.hpcsa.co.za/downloads/cpd/activities_2011/guidelines_2011.pdf>
  + <http://www.hpcsa.co.za/downloads/newsletters/cpd.pdf>
* There also online courses available (of course these all cost money and one should check that you will receive accredited CPD points):
  + <http://www.hpcsa.co.za/online_ethics.php>
  + <http://www.healthcare.ecpd.co.za/>
  + <http://www.clinicalsolutions.co.za/>
  + <http://www.physio-pedia.com/Main_Page>