

**Frequently Asked Questions: Infectious Diseases
Review Committee for Internal Medicine
ACGME**

Question	Answer
Resources	
<p>Can a fellowship program use an off-site microbiology laboratory at a participating site?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: II.D.2.e)]</i></p>	<p>If a microbiology laboratory is not located at the primary clinical site, the fellowship may utilize the services of an off-site or remote microbiology laboratory. However, the Review Committee expects that the fellowship demonstrate that this remote lab fulfills the convenient access and direct and frequent interaction program requirements. In fellowships where a remote microbiology laboratory is utilized, the Review Committee expects, at a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a microbiology rotation that includes time spent in that laboratory; • opportunity to visit this laboratory at other times; and, • regular interactions with the microbiology lab personnel (phone, teleconference, in person, etc.).
<p>How is competence in microbiology determined?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: II.D.2.e)]</i></p>	<p>The Review Committee expects fellows to develop competency in microbiology to the degree expected of an infectious disease specialist. It invites and encourages programs to develop measures of this competency. Each fellowship must develop standards for competence in microbiology and the methods for assessing those standards.</p>
Educational Program	
<p>Would it be acceptable to the Review Committee if the demographics of a program's patient population are such that most of the fellows' continuity clinic HIV patients are male?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: IV.A.6.d).(2(IV.A.6.d).(4))]</i></p>	<p>The Review Committee recognized that in many geographic areas, the majority of patients with HIV are male, and that HIV patients are the mainstay of infectious disease continuity clinics. The Review Committee will not cite the program if this is the case for its patient population, <i>if</i> the fellowship supplements the education with gender-specific didactics (HIV in women, etc.).</p>
<p>How should a program document the number of required consultations completed by its fellows?</p> <p><i>[Program Requirement: IV.A.6.e(IV.A.6.f)]</i></p>	<p>The Review Committee does not require that fellows log specific experiences. It accepts averaging for the teaching/consultation service overall, <i>or</i> fellow case logs, if the fellowship uses these.</p>

Appendix I

Review Committee for Internal Medicine Calculation of Minimum Key Clinical Faculty (KCF) and KCF Scholarship Participation/Productivity				
Infectious Diseases				
Minimum 3 KCF or 1:1.5 faculty-fellow ratio for programs with 6 or more fellows				
Approved Fellow Complement	Minimum Certified KCF (incl PD)	Majority of Minimum KCF (50%)	PARTICIPATION KCF with at Least 1 SA in Past 3 Years [259]	PRODUCTIVITY Pubs for All KCF & non-KCF in Past 3 Years (1/yr x 3 yrs) [259]
6	4	2	2	6
7	5	3	3	9
8	6	3	3	9
9	6	3	3	9
10	7	4	4	12
11	8	4	4	12
12	8	4	4	12
13	9	5	5	15
14	10	5	5	15
15	10	5	5	15
16	11	6	6	18
17	12	6	6	18
18	12	6	6	18
19	13	7	7	21
20	14	7	7	21
21	14	7	7	21
22	15	8	8	24
23	16	8	8	24
24	16	8	8	24
25	17	9	9	27
26	18	9	9	27
27	18	9	9	27
28	19	10	10	30
29	20	10	10	30
30	20	10	10	30

The Review Committee requires that fellowship education occurs in an environment of inquiry, scholarship, and research productivity. The Review Committee requires that KCF demonstrate both *participation* and *productivity* in scholarship of discovery and dissemination as evidenced by:

- *Participation* Expectation: 50% of the certified, minimum-required-number of KCF must demonstrate at least one acceptable product of scholarship in the past three years. (See definition of acceptable products of scholarship below)
- *Productivity* Expectation: Total acceptable scholarly products for KCF and non-KCF (There must be at least one product per year x three years x the 50% of the minimum required KCF. The non-KCF are counted as long as they contribute to fellow education and devote at least 10 hours a week to the program.

Acceptable Products of Scholarship

The Review Committee defines acceptable products of scholarship as follows:

- Publication of original research manuscripts in a peer-review journal
- Publication of a review article in a peer-review journal
- Publication of an editorial in a peer-review journal
- Publication of a book chapter published in medical textbooks (full citation required including publisher and date)
 - This includes chapters published in specialty society review texts, such as MKSAP, NephSAP, ACCSAP, the Geriatrics Review Syllabus, etc.
- Publication of a case report indexed in PubMed
 - A copy of the case report must be included
 - Case reports published as an abstract, letter, correspondence, or illustration do not count
- Peer-review funding of research such as NIH, NCI, or other external funding organizations
- In press or accepted for publication in a peer-review journal

The following *will not* fulfill requirements for scholarship:

- Submitted or in preparation
- Abstracts, letters-to-editor, correspondence, or illustrations
- Case reports published as an abstract, letter, correspondence, or illustration
- Non-peer-review publications
- Non-peer review funding, such as industry funding, or internal institutional funding, or multicenter industry funding, or other non-peer-review grant
 - Exception: Pharmaceutical studies in which the KCF is the overall PI (lead investigator) for all sites will be accepted as counting as one product of scholarship

The Review Committee expanded its expectation for *participation* in scholarship to include the “Acceptable *Products* of Scholarship” as listed above as well as the following:

- Presentations at national, international or regional meetings
- Leadership roles in national medical organizations or serving as a reviewers or editorial board members for peer-reviewed journals

This broadened expectation does not extend to scholarly *productivity*. Scholarly *products* are limited to what appears above under the title “Acceptable *Products* of Scholarship.”

Summary/Example:

- For an application for a new six-fellow endocrinology program there must be four KCF (which includes the program director).
- In order to meet the *Participation* Expectation, two of the four KCF must have evidence of a scholarly project or activity from the last three calendar years.
- In order to meet the *Productivity* Expectation, there must be at least six scholarly products across the KCF and non-KCF.

Note:

- Publications with several KCF as authors can only be counted once
- “Last three calendar years” means that the Review Committee will count the scholarly products (as defined above) from 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 for an application that is submitted in 2014.

- See summary of KCF minimum numbers and research productivity in **Appendix I**

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