ACGME Program Requirements for
Graduate Medical Education
in Interventional Radiology

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Common Program Requirements are in BOLD

Where applicable, text in italics describes the underlying philosophy of the requirements in that section. These philosophic statements are not program requirements and are therefore not citable.

Introduction

Int.A. Residency is an essential dimension of the transformation of the medical student to the independent practitioner along the continuum of medical education. It is physically, emotionally, and intellectually demanding, and requires longitudinally-concentrated effort on the part of the resident.

The specialty education of physicians to practice independently is experiential, and necessarily occurs within the context of the health care delivery system. Developing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes leading to proficiency in all the domains of clinical competency requires the resident physician to assume personal responsibility for the care of individual patients. For the resident, the essential learning activity is interaction with patients under the guidance and supervision of faculty members who give value, context, and meaning to those interactions. As residents gain experience and demonstrate growth in their ability to care for patients, they assume roles that permit them to exercise those skills with greater independence. This concept—graded and progressive responsibility—is one of the core tenets of American graduate medical education. Supervision in the setting of graduate medical education has the goals of assuring the provision of safe and effective care to the individual patient; assuring each resident’s development of the skills, knowledge, and attitudes required to enter the unsupervised practice of medicine; and establishing a foundation for continued professional growth.

Int.B. Interventional radiology focuses on diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of patient care through expertise in diagnostic imaging, image-guided, minimally-invasive procedures, and the evaluation and clinical management of patients with conditions amenable to these methods. The residency program in interventional radiology offers quality medical educational experience in image-based diagnosis, as well as image-guided procedural education, and the peri- and post-procedural care of patients. Education in both the integrated and independent program formats includes resident development of mature technical skills and clinical judgment. On completion of the interventional radiology program, residents should be able to demonstrate competence in the specialty with sufficient expertise to act as independent providers of interventional procedures and care as consultants.

Int.D. Education in interventional radiology must be provided in one of the following formats, and all residents must be notified in writing of the required program length; (Core)*
Interventional Radiology

I. Institutions

I.A. Sponsoring Institution

One sponsoring institution must assume ultimate responsibility for the program, as described in the Institutional Requirements, and this responsibility extends to resident assignments at all participating sites. (Core)

The sponsoring institution and the program must ensure that the program director has sufficient protected time and financial support for his or her educational and administrative responsibilities to the program. (Core)

I.A.1. For integrated programs, the program director of the integrated program must be provided the equivalent of at least 20 percent protected time in order to fulfill the responsibilities inherent to essential to meeting the educational goals of the program. (Core)

I.A.2. For independent programs, the program director of the independent program must be provided sufficient protected time in order to fulfill the responsibilities inherent to essential to meeting the educational goals of the program. (Core)

I.A.3. The program must have a dedicated residency program coordinator who must be provided sufficient time and support to fulfill the responsibilities essential to meeting the educational goals and administrative duties requirements of the program. (Core)

For integrated programs, there must be support for a program coordinator as follows: (Core)

I.A.3.a) Programs approved for 1-5 up to five residents must have at least 0.2 0.5 FTE program coordinator support. (Core)

I.A.3.b) Programs approved for 6-10 six to 10 residents must have at least 0.4 1.0 FTE program coordinator support. (Core)

I.A.3.c) Programs approved for 11-15 or more residents must have at least 0.6 1.5 FTE program coordinator support. (Core)

I.A.3.d) Programs approved for 16-20 residents must have at least 0.8 FTE program coordinator support. (Core)
I.A.3.e) Programs approved for more than 20 residents must have at least 1.0 FTE program coordinator support. (Core)

I.B. Participating Sites

I.B.1. There must be a program letter of agreement (PLA) between the program and each participating site providing a required assignment. The PLA must be renewed at least every five years. (Core)

The PLA should:

I.B.1.a) identify the faculty who will assume both educational and supervisory responsibilities for residents; (Detail)

I.B.1.b) specify their responsibilities for teaching, supervision, and formal evaluation of residents, as specified later in this document; (Detail)

I.B.1.c) specify the duration and content of the educational experience; and, (Detail)

I.B.1.d) state the policies and procedures that will govern resident education during the assignment. (Detail)

I.B.2. The program director must submit any additions or deletions of participating sites routinely providing an educational experience, required for all residents, of one month full time equivalent (FTE) or more through the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Accreditation Data System (ADS). (Core)

I.B.3. The educational program in interventional radiology education should occur in environments with other residents and/or fellows from other specialties at the Sponsoring Institution and/or participating sites to facilitate interdisciplinary care, with the interchange of knowledge and experience among the residents in the program and residents in other major clinical specialty programs located in those sites participating in the program. (Detail)

I.B.4. Programs with using multiple participating sites must ensure the provision of a cohesive unified educational experience for all residents. (Core)

I.B.5. Each participating site must offer significant meaningful educational opportunities to that enrich the overall program. (Core)

II. Program Personnel and Resources

II.A. Program Director

II.A.1. There must be a single program director with authority and
accountability for the operation of the program. The sponsoring institution’s GMEC must approve a change in program director. (Core)

II.A.1.a) The program director must submit this change to the ACGME via the ADS. (Core)

II.A.2. The program director should continue in his or her position for a length of time adequate to maintain continuity of leadership and program stability. (Detail)

II.A.3. Qualifications of the program director must include:

II.A.3.a) requisite specialty expertise and documented educational and administrative experience acceptable to the Review Committee; (Core)

II.A.3.b) current certification in the specialty by the American Board of Radiology (ABR), or specialty qualifications that are acceptable to the Review Committee; (Core)

II.A.3.b).(1) The program director must have certification by either the American Board of Radiology (ABR) or the American Osteopathic Board of Radiology (AOBR) in interventional radiology/diagnostic radiology, or in diagnostic radiology with subspecialty certification in vascular and interventional radiology. (Core)

II.A.3.c) current medical licensure and appropriate medical staff appointment; (Core)

II.A.3.d) commitment of at least 80 percent of his or her clinical time in the specialty and to the administrative and educational activities of the interventional radiology program; (Core)

II.A.3.e) at least three years of participation as an active faculty member in an ACGME-accredited diagnostic radiology residency, interventional radiology residency, or vascular and interventional radiology fellowship program; and, (Core)

II.A.3.f) current appointment as a full-time faculty member. (Detail)

II.A.4. The program director must administer and maintain an educational environment conducive to educating the residents in each of the ACGME competency areas. (Core)

The program director must:

II.A.4.a) oversee and ensure the quality of didactic and clinical education in all sites that participate in the program; (Core)

II.A.4.b) approve a local director at each participating site who is
accountable for resident education; (Core)

II.A.4.c) approve the selection of program faculty as appropriate; (Core)

II.A.4.d) evaluate program faculty; (Core)

II.A.4.e) approve the continued participation of program faculty based on evaluation; (Core)

II.A.4.f) monitor resident supervision at all participating sites; (Core)

II.A.4.g) prepare and submit all information required and requested by the ACGME. (Core)

II.A.4.g).(1) This includes but is not limited to the program application forms and annual program updates to the ADS, and ensure that the information submitted is accurate and complete. (Core)

II.A.4.h) ensure compliance with grievance and due process procedures as set forth in the Institutional Requirements and implemented by the sponsoring institution; (Detail)

II.A.4.i) provide verification of residency education for all residents, including those who leave the program prior to completion; (Detail)

II.A.4.j) implement policies and procedures consistent with the institutional and program requirements for resident duty hours and the working environment, including moonlighting, (Core)

and, to that end, must:

II.A.4.j).(1) distribute these policies and procedures to the residents and faculty; (Detail)

II.A.4.j).(2) monitor resident duty hours, according to sponsoring institutional policies, with a frequency sufficient to ensure compliance with ACGME requirements; (Core)

II.A.4.j).(3) adjust schedules as necessary to mitigate excessive service demands and/or fatigue; and, (Detail)

II.A.4.j).(4) if applicable, monitor the demands of at-home call and adjust schedules as necessary to mitigate excessive service demands and/or fatigue. (Detail)

II.A.4.k) monitor the need for and ensure the provision of back up support systems when patient care responsibilities are unusually difficult or prolonged; (Detail)
II.A.4.l) comply with the sponsoring institution’s written policies and procedures, including those specified in the Institutional Requirements, for selection, evaluation and promotion of residents, disciplinary action, and supervision of residents; (Detail)

II.A.4.m) be familiar with and comply with ACGME and Review Committee policies and procedures as outlined in the ACGME Manual of Policies and Procedures; (Detail)

II.A.4.n) obtain review and approval of the sponsoring institution’s GMEC/DIO before submitting information or requests to the ACGME, including: (Core)

II.A.4.n).(1) all applications for ACGME accreditation of new programs; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(2) changes in resident complement; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(3) major changes in program structure or length of training; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(4) progress reports requested by the Review Committee; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(5) requests for increases or any change to resident duty hours; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(6) voluntary withdrawals of ACGME-accredited programs; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(7) requests for appeal of an adverse action; and, (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(8) appeal presentations to a Board of Appeal or the ACGME. (Detail)

II.A.4.o) obtain DIO review and co-signature on all program application forms, as well as any correspondence or document submitted to the ACGME that addresses: (Detail)

II.A.4.o).(1) program citations, and/or, (Detail)

II.A.4.o).(2) request for changes in the program that would have significant impact, including financial, on the program or institution. (Detail)

II.A.4.p) ensure that records of the number and types of procedure(s) performed by each resident are entered into the ACGME Case Log System; (Core)
II.A.4.q) ensure that resident Case Logs are submitted annually in accordance with the format and due date specified by the Review Committee; and, (Core)

II.A.4.r) review resident procedural experiences at least annually to ensure complete and accurate tracking in the ACGME Case Log System throughout the duration of resident training data semiannually for accuracy; (Core)

II.A.4.s) participate in faculty development activities facilitated by GME organizations and/or meetings; and, (Detail)

II.A.4.t) if applicable, meet at least semi-annually with the program director of the ACGME-accredited diagnostic radiology program to ensure a cohesive educational experience for all diagnostic and interventional radiology residents. (Core)

II.B. Faculty

II.B.1. At each participating site, there must be a sufficient number of faculty with documented qualifications to instruct and supervise all residents at that location. (Core)

The faculty must:

II.B.1.a) devote sufficient time to the educational program to fulfill their supervisory and teaching responsibilities; and to demonstrate a strong interest in the education of residents, and (Core)

II.B.1.b) administer and maintain an educational environment conducive to educating residents in each of the ACGME competency areas. (Core)

II.B.2. The physician faculty must have current certification in the specialty by the American Board of Radiology, or possess qualifications judged acceptable to the Review Committee. (Core)

II.B.2.a) Other faculty qualifications acceptable to the Review Committee include certification by the AOBP or other American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) member boards, the AOBP, or other American Osteopathic Association (AOA) certifying member boards. (Core)

II.B.2.b) At least two FTE interventional radiology physician faculty members, including the program director, must have certification by the ABR in interventional radiology/diagnostic radiology, or in diagnostic radiology with subspecialty certification in vascular and interventional radiology. (Core)
II.B.3. The physician faculty must possess current medical licensure and appropriate medical staff appointment. (Core)

II.B.4. The nonphysician faculty must have appropriate qualifications in their field and hold appropriate institutional appointments. (Core)

II.B.5. The faculty must establish and maintain an environment of inquiry and scholarship with an active research component. (Core)

II.B.5.a) The faculty must regularly participate in organized clinical discussions, rounds, journal clubs, and conferences. (Detail)

II.B.5.b) Some members of the faculty should also demonstrate scholarship by one or more of the following:

II.B.5.b).(1) peer-reviewed funding; (Detail)

II.B.5.b).(2) publication of original research or review articles in peer reviewed journals, or chapters in textbooks; (Detail)

II.B.5.b).(3) publication or presentation of case reports or clinical series at local, regional, or national professional and scientific society meetings; or, (Detail)

II.B.5.b).(4) participation in national committees or educational organizations. (Detail)

II.B.5.c) Faculty should encourage and support residents in scholarly activities. (Core)

II.B.6. The faculty must should include, in aggregate, at least two FTE interventional radiologists, including the program director. (Core)

II.B.6.a) While the expertise of any one interventional radiology faculty member may be limited to a particular aspect of interventional radiology, the program must ensure that appropriately qualified faculty members are available to provide an experience that includes all aspects of interventional radiology. (Core)

II.B.6.b) Integrated programs with greater than four residents must maintain a ratio of no less than one interventional radiologist for every two residents in the final 24 months of residency. (Core)

II.B.6.c) Independent programs with greater than four residents must maintain a ratio of no less than one interventional radiologist for every two residents. (Core)

II.B.7. At least one interventional radiology faculty member must have hospital admitting privileges. (Core)

II.B.8. For programs not affiliated with a medical school, all physician faculty
II.B.9. Faculty members must always be available for back-up when residents are on night call after hours, on weekends, or on holidays call. (Core)

II.B.10. Faculty members must review all resident interpreted studies radiologic images and sign. (Core)

II.B.10.a) Faculty members should sign and verify these all resident reports within 24 hours. (Detail)

II.B.11. Faculty members must provide didactic teaching and direct supervision of resident performance in peri-procedural patient management, and of the procedural, interpretative, and consultative aspects of interventional radiology. (Core)

II.B.12. Faculty members must supervise all percutaneous image-guided invasive procedures. (Core)

II.B.12.a) Faculty members should determine the appropriate level of direct or indirect supervision for all the following procedures based on demonstrated resident competence: intravenous injection of contrast, diagnostic lumbar puncture, thoracentesis, paracentesis, PICC lines, port, and tunneled line removals. (Detail)

II.B.12.b) All other percutaneous image-guided invasive procedures must be directly supervised by faculty members. (Core)

II.B.13. The interventional radiology division must participate in dedicated interventional radiology outpatient clinics. (Core)

II.B.14. Integrated Programs

II.B.14.a) There must be at least eight core one FTE physician faculty members in each of the non-interventional subspecialty areas of. (Core)

II.B.14.a).(1) There must be a core physician faculty member in each of the following practice domains:

II.B.14.a).(1).a) abdominal (gastrointestinal and genitourinary) radiology; (Core)

II.B.14.a).(1).b) breast radiology; (Core)

II.B.14.a).(1).c) cardiothoracic (cardiac and thoracic) radiology; (Core)

II.B.14.a).(1).d) interventional radiology; (Core)

II.B.14.a).(1).e) musculoskeletal radiology; (Core)
II.B.14.a).(1).(f) neuroradiology; (Core)

II.B.14.a).(1).(g) nuclear radiology and molecular imaging; and, (Core)

II.B.14.a).(1).(h) pediatric radiology. (Core)

II.B.14.a).(1).(i) ultrasonography, and

II.B.14.a).(2) Each core faculty member must be responsible for the educational content of his/her respective practice domain, and must organize conferences that cover topics in that domain. (Core)

II.B.14.a).(3) Faculty The core faculty members must not have primary responsibility for the educational content of more than one practice domain, but may have clinical responsibilities and/or teaching responsibilities in multiple practice domainssubspecialty area. (Core)

II.B.14.a).(4) The program must designate one physician core faculty member to be responsible for the educational content of each of the non-interventional subspecialty areas. (Core) This individual must devote spend at least 0.50 FTE percent of his or her practice time in their practice domain subspecialty area, and. (Core)

II.B.14.a).(5) Each core faculty member must demonstrate a commitment to his/her practice domain the subspecialty. (Core)

II.B.14.a).(5).(a) Such commitment should be demonstrated by any two of the following:

II.B.14.a).(5).(a).(i) specialty/subspecialty certification in the practice domain, fellowship training, education, or three years of subspecialty practice in the domain; (Detail)

II.B.14.a).(5).(a).(ii) membership in active participation in specialty/subspecialty societies, including CME activities in the practice domain; (Detail)

II.B.14.a).(5).(a).(iii) publications or presentations in the specialty/subspecialty practice domain; or, (Detail)

II.B.14.a).(5).(a).(iv) annual CME credits in the subspecialty; or, (Detail)

II.B.14.a).(5).(a).(v) participation in Maintenance of
II.B.14.b) In addition to the practice domains, there should be designated physician faculty members with expertise in and responsibility for developing didactic content in the following educational content areas:

II.B.14.b).(1) computed tomography (CT); (Detail)
II.B.14.b).(2) magnetic resonance imaging (MRI); (Detail)
II.B.14.b).(3) radiography/fluoroscopy; (Detail)
II.B.14.b).(4) reproductive/endocrine imaging; (Detail)
II.B.14.b).(5) ultrasonography; and, (Detail)
II.B.14.b).(6) vascular imaging. (Detail)

II.B.14.c) There should be physician faculty members, non-physician faculty members, or institutional other staff members available to the program, within the institution, with expertise in quality, safety, and informatics. (Detail)

II.B.14.c).(1) These faculty or staff members should develop didactic content related to their areas of expertise. (Detail)

II.B.14.d) Faculty members for all other educational experiences should be active teaching faculty members in ACGME-accredited programs. (Detail)

II.B.14.e) An assistant or associate program director (APD) that is clinically active in diagnostic radiology should be appointed. (Detail)

II.C. Other Program Personnel

The institution and the program must jointly ensure the availability of all necessary professional, technical, and clerical personnel for the effective administration of the program. (Core)

II.C.1. At least one qualified interventional radiology technologist must be on duty or available at all times. (Core)

II.C.2. Nursing support adequate to prepare, monitor, and recover patients must be available. (Core)

II.C.2.a) Nurses competent to administer moderate sedation must also be available. (Core)
II.D. Resources

The institution and the program must jointly ensure the availability of adequate resources for resident education, as defined in the specialty program requirements. (Core)

II.D.1. The program must provide adequate space, necessary equipment, and modern other pertinent facilities to ensure an effective educational experience for residents in all of the specialty/subspecialty rotations. (Core)

II.D.1.a) There should be adequate personal or shared office space, conference space, and access to computers. (Detail)

II.D.1.b) Modern imaging equipment and procedure rooms must be available with adequate space to permit the performance of all radiologic and interventional radiologic procedures, including vascular and non-vascular invasive imaging and image-guided interventional radiological procedures broadly distributed over the domain of interventional radiology. (Core)

II.D.1.c) Imaging modalities must include fluoroscopy, digital subtraction angiography, CT computed tomography, ultrasonography, MRI magnetic resonance imaging, and radionuclide scintigraphy. (Core)

II.D.1.c).(1) Fluoroscopic and digital imaging equipment should be high resolution and have digital display with post-procedure image processing capability. (Detail)

II.D.1.d) Rooms in which interventional procedures are performed must be equipped with physiologic monitoring and resuscitative equipment. (Core)

II.D.1.e) There should be facilities for storing catheters, guide wires, contrast materials, embolic agents, and other supplies adjacent to or within procedure rooms. (Detail)

II.D.1.f) Patient recovery and holding areas must be available. (Core)

II.D.1.g) There must be space and facilities for image display, image interpretation, and consultation with other clinicians. (Core)

II.D.1.h) An interventional radiology clinic or outpatient office, separate from the procedure rooms, must be available for patient consultations and non-procedural follow-up visits. (Core)

II.D.1.h).(1) This space should be conducive to patient privacy and conducting physical examinations. (Detail)

II.D.2. Access to a teaching file must be available. (Core)

II.D.3. Patient Population
II.D.3.a) The program must ensure provide a sufficient volume and variety of pediatric and adult patients of all ages to ensure that residents gain experience in the full spectrum range of radiological and interventional radiological examinations, procedures, interpretations, outpatient clinic visits, and inpatient consultations. (Core)

II.D.3.a).(1) The number and variety of examinations and the length of rotations in each subspecialty area must be sufficient to ensure an adequate educational experience. (Core)

II.D.3.a).(2) For integrated programs, the program patient volume must have at least be no fewer than 7,000 radiological examinations per year per resident in both the diagnostic radiology program and in the PGY-2-4 years of both the integrated interventional radiology program and in the diagnostic radiology program, if applicable first three years of residency. (Core)

II.D.3.a).(3) For integrated programs, the program patient volume must have at least be no fewer than 7,000 radiological examinations per year per resident in both the diagnostic radiology program and in the PGY-2-4 years of the integrated interventional radiology program, if applicable first three years of residency. (Core)

II.D.3.a).(3).(a) The number of examinations in each of the subspecialty areas must be of sufficient volume to ensure an adequate educational experience. (Core)

II.D.3.b) The patient population must provide a diversity of illnesses from which a broad experience in interventional radiology can be obtained. (Core)

II.D.3.b).(1) This must include patients with, arterial diseases, cancer, gastrointestinal diseases, gynecologic disorders, hepatobiliary disease, endocrine diseases, musculoskeletal diseases, pulmonary disease, venous diseases, and urologic disorders. (Core)

II.D.4. Support Services

II.D.4.a) Pathology and medical laboratory services must be regularly and conveniently available to meet the needs of patients. (Core)

II.D.4.a).(1) Laboratory services must be available 24 hours a day. (Core)

II.D.4.b) Diagnostic laboratories for the non-invasive assessment of peripheral vascular disease must be available. (Core)
II.D.4.c) The sponsoring institution and program should provide laboratory and ancillary facilities to support research projects. (Detail)

II.E. Medical Information Access

Residents must have ready access to specialty-specific and other appropriate reference material in print or electronic format. Electronic medical literature databases with search capabilities should be available. (Detail)

III. Resident Appointments

III.A. Eligibility Criteria

The program director must comply with the criteria for resident eligibility as specified in the Institutional Requirements. (Core)

III.A.1. Eligibility Requirements – Residency Programs

III.A.1.a) All prerequisite post-graduate clinical education required for initial entry or transfer into ACGME-accredited residency programs must be completed in ACGME-accredited residency programs, or in Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)-accredited or College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)-accredited residency programs located in Canada. Residency programs must receive verification of each applicant’s level of competency in the required clinical field using ACGME or CanMEDS Milestones assessments from the prior training program. (Core)

III.A.1.a).(1) All prerequisite residency education must be completed within programs accredited by the ACGME, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC), or the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC). (Core)

III.A.1.a).(2) Independent Programs

III.A.1.a).(2).(a) Prior to appointment in the independent program, residents must complete an ACGME- or RCPSC-accredited diagnostic radiology program. (Core)

III.A.1.a).(2).(b) All entering residents must be eligible to take the ABR Core Examination. (Core)

III.A.1.a).(2).(c) To be eligible for appointment in the second year of education in an independent program, residents must have completed an Early Specialization in Interventional Radiology (ESIR) curriculum in graduated from a diagnostic radiology program that has prior approval from the Review Committee for
III.A.1.a).(2).(c).(i) Residents must have completed \textbf{12} interventional radiology or interventional radiology-related rotations, one ICU rotation, and at least 500 image-guided procedures within the domain of interventional radiology during their diagnostic radiology residency (a rotation is defined as an experience of at least four-weeks or one-month in duration). [(Core)]

III.A.1.a).(2).(c).(ii) A Milestones assessment of resident competency must be completed by the program director after the first \textbf{12 weeks} three months of the educational program. [(Core)]

III.A.1.a).(3) \textbf{Integrated Programs}

III.A.1.a).(3).(a) Prior to appointment in To be eligible for appointment to the integrated program, residents must have successfully completed a pre-requisite clinical year of direct patient care in a program accredited by the ACGME, RCPSC, or CFPC. [(Core)]

III.A.1.a).(3).(a).(i) The clinical year must be completed in an ACGME-, RCPSC-, or CFPC-accredited program. [(Core)]

III.A.1.a).(3).(a).(ii) The pre-requisite clinical year must include a minimum of 36 weeks rotations in direct patient care. [(Core)]

III.A.1.a).(3).(a).(iii) During the pre-requisite clinical year, elective rotations in nuclear medicine and interventional radiology or diagnostic radiology must occur only in radiology departments with an ACGME-accredited diagnostic radiology or interventional radiology residency program, or an RCPSC-accredited diagnostic radiology or interventional radiology residency program, cannot and must not exceed a combined total of eight weeks. [(Core)]

III.A.1.a).(3).(a).(iv) The program director must verify that residents accepted into the interventional radiology program have successfully completed a pre-requisite year. [(Core)]
III.A.1.a) These electives must be limited to a maximum of two rotations. (Core)

III.A.1.b) A physician who has completed a residency program that was not accredited by ACGME, RCPSC, or CFPC may enter an ACGME-accredited residency program in the same specialty at the PGY-1 level and, at the discretion of the program director at the ACGME-accredited program may be advanced to the PGY-2 level based on ACGME Milestones assessments at the ACGME-accredited program. This provision applies only to entry into residency in those specialties for which an initial clinical year is not required for entry. (Core)

III.A.1.c) A Review Committee may grant the exception to the eligibility requirements specified in Section III.A.2.b) for residency programs that require completion of a prerequisite residency program prior to admission. (Core)

III.A.1.d) Review Committees will grant no other exceptions to these eligibility requirements for residency education. (Core)

III.A.2. Eligibility Requirements – Fellowship Programs

All required clinical education for entry into ACGME-accredited fellowship programs must be completed in an ACGME-accredited residency program, or in an RCPSC-accredited or CFPC-accredited residency program located in Canada. (Core)

III.A.2.a) Fellowship programs must receive verification of each entering fellow’s level of competency in the required field using ACGME or CanMEDS Milestones assessments from the core residency program. (Core)

III.A.2.b) Fellow Eligibility Exception

A Review Committee may grant the following exception to the fellowship eligibility requirements:

An ACGME-accredited fellowship program may accept an exceptionally qualified applicant**, who does not satisfy the eligibility requirements listed in Sections III.A.2. and III.A.2.a), but who does meet all of the following additional qualifications and conditions: (Core)

III.A.2.b).(1) Assessment by the program director and fellowship selection committee of the applicant’s suitability to enter the program, based on prior training and review of the summative evaluations of training in the core specialty; and (Core)
III.A.2.b).(2) Review and approval of the applicant’s exceptional qualifications by the GMEC or a subcommittee of the GMEC; and (Core)

III.A.2.b).(3) Satisfactory completion of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Steps 1, 2, and, if the applicant is eligible, 3, and; (Core)

III.A.2.b).(4) For an international graduate, verification of Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) certification; and, (Core)

III.A.2.b).(5) Applicants accepted by this exception must complete fellowship Milestones evaluation (for the purposes of establishment of baseline performance by the Clinical Competency Committee), conducted by the receiving fellowship program within six weeks of matriculation. This evaluation may be waived for an applicant who has completed an ACGME International-accredited residency based on the applicant's Milestones evaluation conducted at the conclusion of the residency program. (Core)

III.A.2.b).(5).(a) If the trainee does not meet the expected level of Milestones competency following entry into the fellowship program, the trainee must undergo a period of remediation, overseen by the Clinical Competency Committee and monitored by the GMEC or a subcommittee of the GMEC. This period of remediation must not count toward time in fellowship training. (Core)

** An exceptionally qualified applicant has (1) completed a non-ACGME-accredited residency program in the core specialty, and (2) demonstrated clinical excellence, in comparison to peers, throughout training. Additional evidence of exceptional qualifications is required, which may include one of the following: (a) participation in additional clinical or research training in the specialty or subspecialty; (b) demonstrated scholarship in the specialty or subspecialty; (c) demonstrated leadership during or after residency training; (d) completion of an ACGME-International-accredited residency program.

III.B. Number of Residents

The program’s educational resources must be adequate to support the number of residents appointed to the program. (Core)

III.B.1. The program director may not appoint more residents than
approved by the Review Committee, unless otherwise stated in the specialty-specific requirements. (Core)

III.B.2. Prior approval by the Review Committee must be obtained for a changes in the approved resident complement. (Core)

III. C. Resident Transfers

III.C.1. Before accepting a resident who is transferring from another program, the program director must obtain written or electronic verification of previous educational experiences and a summative competency-based performance evaluation of the transferring resident. (Detail)

III.C.2. A program director must provide timely verification of residency education and summative performance evaluations for residents who may leave the program prior to completion. (Detail)

III.C.3. Integrated Programs

The program director must conduct a Milestones assessment of the transfer resident's clinical competence in both interventional and diagnostic radiology within 12 weeks of transfer into the program. (Core)

III.C.4. Resident transfers from an ACGME- or RCPSC-accredited diagnostic radiology programs into an integrated interventional radiology programs must be limited to transfers from within the same sponsoring institution and must meet the following qualifications for transfer as specified below:

III.C.4.a) Resident transfers into the PGY-3 and or PGY-4 levels must be from the equivalent level in the diagnostic radiology program. (Core)

III.C.4.b) Residents transferring at the PGY-5 level, residents must have taken or be eligible to take the ABR Core Examination, and must have successfully completed at least three rotations in interventional radiology. (Core)

III.D. Appointment of Fellows and Other Learners

The presence of other learners (including, but not limited to, residents from other specialties, subspecialty fellows, PhD students, and nurse practitioners) in the program must not interfere with the appointed residents' education. (Core)

III.D.1. The program director must report the presence of other learners to the DIO and GMEC in accordance with sponsoring institution guidelines. (Detail)

III.D.2. The educational opportunities available to program for interventional radiology residents must not be diluted or detracted by the presence of
diagnostic radiology residents from the educational opportunities available to residents in the diagnostic radiology residency. (Core)

IV. Educational Program

IV.A. The curriculum must contain the following educational components:

IV.A.1. Overall educational goals for the program, which the program must make available to residents and faculty; (Core)

IV.A.2. Competency-based goals and objectives for each assignment at each educational level, which the program must distribute to residents and faculty at least annually, in either written or electronic form; (Core)

IV.A.3. Regularly scheduled didactic sessions; (Core)

IV.A.3.a) The core didactic curriculum must be documented. (Core)

IV.A.3.b) The core didactic curriculum must include the following core content areas of interventional radiology:

IV.A.3.b).(1) focused history and physical examination; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2) health care team coordination; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(3) informed consent for interventional radiology procedures; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(4) inpatient care; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(5) interventional radiology clinic; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(6) medical conditions relevant to interventional radiology procedures; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(7) pharmacology relevant to interventional radiology; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(8) procedural sedation for interventional radiology procedures; and, (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(9) recognition and initial management of intra- and peri-procedural emergencies. (Core)

IV.A.3.c) The didactic curriculum should include interactive conferences in addition to the core didactic series. (Detail)

IV.A.3.d) The didactic curriculum should include interdepartmental conferences in which both residents and faculty members participate on a regular basis. (Detail)
IV.A.3.e) Conferences should provide for progressive resident participation. (Detail)

IV.A.3.f) Didactic conferences must be resident-level-specific, and must provide formal review of the topics in the curriculum. (Core)

IV.A.3.g) Residents must participate in scheduled conferences on a regular basis. (Core)

IV.A.3.g).(1) Residents must be provided protected time to attend all scheduled lectures and conferences scheduled by the program. (Core)

IV.A.3.g).(2) The program must provide mechanisms for residents to participate in all scheduled lectures and conferences either in-person or by electronic means. (Core)

IV.A.3.g).(3) Residents should be provided with:

IV.A.3.g).(3).(a) five hours of conferences/lectures per week during the PGY-2-4 of an integrated program; and, (Core Detail)

IV.A.3.g).(3).(b) two hours of conferences/lectures per week during the PGY-5 and PGY-6 of an integrated program, and in all years of the independent program. (Core Detail)

IV.A.3.g).(4) Residents' attendance at conferences/lectures should be documented throughout the duration of their training. (Detail)

IV.A.3.g).(5) Residents' teaching experience should include active participation in educating diagnostic radiology residents, and if appropriate, medical students and other professional personnel in the care and management of patients. (Detail)

IV.A.3.h) Interventional Radiology Didactic Content

IV.A.3.h).(1) Morbidity and mortality (M&M) related to the performance of interventional procedures must be reviewed at least monthly regularly and be documented. (Core)

IV.A.3.h).(1).(a) Residents must actively participate actively in this review during the PGY-5 and PGY-6 of an integrated program, and during all years of an independent program. (Core)

IV.A.3.h).(1).(b) M&M reviews should be conducted at least monthly during the PGY-5 and PGY-6 of an integrated program, and during all years of an independent program. (Detail)
Residents should participate in local or national vascular and interventional radiology societies. (Detail)

Residents should prepare and present clinically- or pathologically-proven cases at departmental conferences. (Outcome)

Integrated Programs - Diagnostic Radiology Subspecialty Didactic Content

There must be a didactic component for each of the non-interventional subspecialty areas. (Core)

The core didactic curriculum must be repeated at least every two years. (Core)

The core didactic curriculum must include:

- The content should include anatomy, physiology, disease processes, and imaging, and physiology in all age groups; (CoreDetail)

Each of the designated subspecialty chiefs must organize a series of intradepartmental lectures that cover topics in his or her respective subspecialty area. (Core)

These lectures may be supplemented with other educational materials. (Detail)

Didactic instruction must include the following subjects as they relate to nuclear medicine: (Core)

- specialty/subspecialty clinical and general content; (Core)
- topics related to professionalism, physician well-being, diversity, and ethics; (Core)
- training in the clinical application of medical physics distributed throughout the 60 months of the educational program; and, (Core)
- A medical physicist must oversee the development of the physics curriculum. (Core)
- The curriculum should include real-time expert discussions and interactive educational experiences. (Detail)
- a minimum of 80 hours of classroom and laboratory
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IV.A.3.i).(5).(d).(i) Integral to the practice of nuclear radiology, these didactics must include, at a minimum, the following subjects:

(a) Diagnostic radiationologic physics and instrumentation, and radiation biology. (Core)

(b) Patient and medical personnel safety (i.e., radiation protection). (Core)

(c) Mathematics pertaining to use and measurement of radioactivity. (Core)

(d) The chemistry of byproduct material for medical use; and (Core)

(e) Radiation biology. (Core)

IV.A.3.i).(5).(e) Biologic and pharmacologic actions of materials administered in diagnostic and therapeutic procedures; and (Core)

IV.A.3.i).(5).(f) Topics in safe handling, administration, and quality control of radionuclide doses used in clinical medicine. (Core)

IV.A.3.i).(6) Didactic instruction or work experience in nuclear medicine must include: ordering, receiving, and unpacking radioactive material safely, and performing the related radiation surveys; the safe elution and quality control (QC) of radionuclide generator systems; calculating, measuring, and safely preparing patient dosages; calibration and QC of survey meters and dose calibrators; safe handling and administration of therapeutic doses of unsealed radionuclide sources (i.e., I-131); written directives; response to radiation spills and accidents (containment and decontamination procedures); radiation signage and related materials; and using administrative controls to prevent medical events involving the use of unsealed byproduct material. (Core)

IV.A.4. Delineation of resident responsibilities for patient care, progressive
responsibility for patient management, and supervision of residents over the continuum of the program; and, (Core)

IV.A.5. ACGME Competencies

The program must integrate the following ACGME competencies into the curriculum; (Core)

IV.A.5.a) Patient Care and Procedural Skills

Residents must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Residents: (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1) must competently perform the following under close, graded responsibility and supervision:

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a) provide patient care through safe, efficient, appropriately utilized, quality-controlled diagnostic and/or interventional radiologically techniques; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a).(i) practice using standards of care in a safe environment, attempt to reduce errors, and improve patient outcomes; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a).(ii) take a patient history and perform an appropriate physical exam; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a).(iii) communicate indications for, contraindications for, and risks of radiologic and interventional procedures, and understand the medical and surgical alternatives to those procedures; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a).(iv) provide appropriate pre-procedural and follow-up care related to interventional radiology, including inpatient rounds and post-procedure follow-up management of outpatients via clinic visits; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a).(v) participate in the multidisciplinary approach to continuity of procedure-related care; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a).(vi) apply radiation safety principles in performing interventional procedures; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a).(vii) administer pharmacologic agents, including
sedatives, analgesics, antibiotics, and other
drugs commonly employed in conjunction
with endovascular, invasive, and non-
vascular procedures; (Outcome)

consult with patients and referring
physicians regarding the indications for, and
risks, expected outcomes, and
appropriateness of interventional radiology
procedures; (Outcome)

formulate a treatment plan, including
appropriate additional work-up,
consultations, and procedural
recommendations, to include risk
assessment, consideration of other
treatments, and delivery of care in a
collaborative model, when appropriate;
(Outcome)

provide follow-up communications with
referring physicians; and, (Outcome)

recognize and treat or refer for treatment of
complications of interventional radiology
procedures, including contrast reactions.
(Outcome)

 Residents must be able to competently perform all
medical, diagnostic, and surgical procedures considered essential for the area of practice. Residents: (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(a) must demonstrate competence in the interpretation of CT, MRI, radiography, and radionuclide imaging of the cardiovascular system (heart and great vessels); (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(b) must demonstrate competence in the management of contrast reactions; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(c) must demonstrate competence in the ongoing awareness of radiation exposure, protection, and safety, and the application of these principles in practice; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(d) must competently apply low-dose radiation techniques for both adults and children; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(e) must demonstrate competence in the use of needles, catheters, guide wires, balloons, stents, stent-grafts, vascular filters, embolic agents, biopsy devices, ablative technologies, and other interventional devices; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(f) must demonstrate the clinical judgment and technical ability to perform complex vascular and non-vascular image-guided interventions on a sufficient variety of patients and pathological conditions to allow for competent post-graduate practice; (Outcome)

Residents must participate in a minimum of 1000 invasive imaging and image-guided vascular and non-vascular interventional procedures (Core)

This should include both adult and pediatric interventional procedures. (Detail)

Vascular procedures must include at least: arteriography; venography; arterial and venous angioplasty; arterial and venous stenting; arterial and venous percutaneous revascularization procedures; percutaneous embolization; transcatheter infusion therapy; intravascular foreign body removal;
hemodialysis interventions;
percutaneous placement of
endovascular prostheses such as
stent grafts and vena cava filters;
transvascular biopsy; and insertion
and removal of vascular access
devices. (Core)

Vascular procedures may
also include neurovascular
interventions. (Detail)

Non-vascular procedures must
include at least: percutaneous
imaging-guided biopsy;
percutaneous gastrointestinal
access and interventions;
percutaneous urinary tract access
and interventions; percutaneous
biliary access and interventions;
percutaneous drainage for diagnosis
and treatment of infections and other
fluid collections; and percutaneous
imaging-guided ablative procedures
such as ablation of neoplasms. (Core)

Non-vascular procedures
may also include
musculoskeletal, spine, and
pain management
interventions. (Detail)

must demonstrate procedural competence in:

performance of basic image-guided
procedures; (Outcome)
invasive diagnostic venous and arterial
imaging; (Outcome)
endovascular revascularization procedures,
to include: angioplasty; stent placement;
endograft placement; pharmacologic and/or
mechanical thrombolysis and/or
thrombectomy; and intravascular foreign
body retrieval; (Outcome)
endovascular embolization therapy; (Outcome)
invasive diagnostic imaging and
interventions in the hepatobiliary and urinary
IV.A.5.a).(2).(g).(vi) non-vascular interventions, to include: solid and hollow organ access; non-vascular angioplasty/stent/stent graft placement; biopsy; drainage; and tissue ablation. (Outcome)

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IV.A.5.a).(2).(h) must demonstrate proficiency competence in the generation of ultrasound images using the transducer and imaging system, and in the interpretation of ultrasonographic examinations of various types. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(h).(i) Residents should have sufficient hands-on scanning experience. (Detail)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(h).(ii) Programs should incorporate a process to document resident proficiency in ultrasonographic skills. (Detail)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(i) must competently perform, under preceptor supervision, at least three therapies involving oral administration of I-131 in quantities less than or equal to 33 millicuries (mCi), and at least three therapies in quantities greater than 33mCi. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(i).(i) Residents must participate in patient selection, obtaining informed consent, understanding and calculating the administered dose, counseling of patients and their families on radiation safety issues, and patient follow-up. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(j) must competently perform interpretation/multi-reading of the minimum number of mammograms within the specified time period as designated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA); and. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(k) must competently acquire and interpret conventional radiography, CT, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and nuclear radiology examinations of the cardiovascular system (heart and great vessels), including studies performed on both adults and children. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b) Medical Knowledge
Residents must demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care. Residents: (Outcome)

must demonstrate knowledge of:

IV.A.5.b).(1) must demonstrate competence in their knowledge of the interventional radiology clinical and general didactic content; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(2) must demonstrate competence in their knowledge of the clinical and basic sciences related to interventional radiology, including: (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(2).(a) anatomy; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(2).(b) physiology; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(2).(c) pathophysiology of the hematological, circulatory, respiratory, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, musculoskeletal, and neurologic systems; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(2).(d) relevant pharmacology; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(2).(e) patient evaluation; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(2).(f) management skills; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(2).(g) diagnostic techniques. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(3) non-interpretive skills, including health care economics, coding and billing compliance, and the business of medicine; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(4) appropriate and patient-centered imaging utilization; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(5) quality improvement techniques; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(6) radiologic/pathologic correlation; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(7) physiology, utilization, and safety of contrast agents and pharmaceuticals. (Outcome)

Integrated Programs – Diagnostic Radiology

IV.A.5.b).(8) the principles of medical imaging physics including: CT, dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry, fluoroscopy, gamma camera and hybrid imaging technologies, MRI.
Radiography, and ultrasonography, must demonstrate competence in their knowledge of diagnostic radiologic physics and radiation biology; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(8).(a) Patient and medical personnel safety (i.e., radiation protection, MRI safety); (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(8).(b) Appropriate imaging utilization (proper sequencing, cost-benefit analysis); (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(8).(c) Radiologic/pathologic correlation; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(8).(d) Fundamentals of molecular imaging; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(8).(e) Biologic and pharmacologic actions of materials administered in diagnostic or therapeutic procedures; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(8).(f) Use of needles, catheters, and other devices employed in invasive, image-based diagnostic and therapeutic procedures; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(8).(g) Socioeconomics of radiologic practice; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c) Practice-based Learning and Improvement

Residents must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning. (Outcome)

Residents are expected to develop skills and habits to be able to meet the following goals:

IV.A.5.c).(1) Identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in one’s knowledge and expertise; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(2) Set learning and improvement goals; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(3) Identify and perform appropriate learning activities; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(4) Systematically analyze practice using quality improvement methods, and implement changes with the goal of practice improvement; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(5) Incorporate formative evaluation feedback into daily practice; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(6) Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from...
IV.A.5.c).(7) Interventions related to their patients' health problems; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(8) Use information technology to optimize learning; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(9) Participate in the education of patients, families, students, residents and other health professionals. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(10) Evaluate their personal practice, utilizing scientific evidence, best practices, and self-assessment programs with the intent of practice improvement; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(11) Demonstrate a skill set that allows them to access, interpret, and apply best scientific evidence to the care of patients (evidence-based medicine); and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c)(11) Demonstrate, on an ongoing basis, an awareness of radiation exposure, protection, and safety, as well as of the application of these principles in imaging. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d) Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Residents must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals. (Outcome)

Residents are expected to:

IV.A.5.d).(1) Communicate effectively with patients, families, and the public, as appropriate, across a broad range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(1).(a) Residents must demonstrate competence in obtaining informed consent and effectively describing imaging appropriateness, safety issues, and the results of diagnostic imaging and procedures to patients. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(2) Communicate effectively with physicians, other health professionals, and health related agencies; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(2).(a) Residents must demonstrate competence in communicating the results of examinations and procedures to the referring provider and/or other appropriate individuals effectively and in a timely manner. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(3) Work effectively as a member or leader of a health care
team or other professional group; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(4) act in a consultative role to other physicians and health professionals; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(5) maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records, if applicable; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(6) supervise, provide consultation to, and teach medical students and/or residents. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(7) competently demonstrate, under close, graded responsibility and supervision with progressive responsibility, the generation of formal consultation reports and procedural reports. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e) Professionalism

Residents must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles. (Outcome)

Residents are expected to demonstrate:

IV.A.5.e).(1) compassion, integrity, and respect for others; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(2) responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(3) respect for patient privacy and autonomy; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(4) accountability to patients, society and the profession; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(5) sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in gender, age, culture, race, religion, disabilities, and sexual orientation; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(6) compliance with institutional and departmental policies, including HIPAA, the Joint Commission, patient safety, and infection control; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(7) professionalism in interpersonal interactions. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f) Systems-based Practice

Residents must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care.
Residents are expected to:

IV.A.5.f.(1) work effectively in various health care delivery settings and systems relevant to their clinical specialty; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(2) coordinate patient care within the health care system relevant to their clinical specialty; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(3) incorporate considerations of cost awareness and risk-benefit analysis in patient and/or population-based care as appropriate; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(4) advocate for quality patient care and optimal patient care systems; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(5) work in interprofessional teams to enhance patient safety and improve patient care quality; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(6) participate in identifying system errors and implementing potential systems solutions; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(6).(a) Residents must systematically analyze problems, develop solutions, implement solutions, and evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention at the departmental, institutional, local, or national levels. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(7) demonstrate an understanding of how the components of the local and national health care system function interdependently, and how changes to improve the system involve group and individual. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(8) function as consultants for other health care professionals, and act as a resource for information regarding the most appropriate use of imaging resources, and efforts; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f.(9) follow standards of care for practicing in a safe environment, attempting to reduce errors, and improving patient outcomes. (Outcome)

IV.A.6. Curriculum Organization and Resident Experiences

IV.A.6.a) Full-time participation by residents participation in patient care and radiology-related clinical and didactic activities must occur throughout at all levels of education, including the final year of the program. (Core)
IV.A.6.b) Resident participation in on-call activities, including being on duty after-hours and on weekends or holidays, should must occur throughout the PGY-3-6 years of the integrated program and both years of the independent program. (Detail Core)

IV.A.6.b).(1) Resident competence must be assessed and documented prior to assuming independent responsibilities. (Core)

IV.A.6.b).(2) Resident supervision during on-call activities must be provided by a senior resident, fellow, or radiology faculty member. (Core)

IV.A.6.b).(2).(a) A radiology faculty member must be available for direct or indirect supervision. (Core)

IV.A.6.b).(3) Resident on-call experiences must include interpretation, reporting, and management of active cases, and must not include administrative roles or duties consisting primarily of re-review of previously reported cases. (Core)

IV.A.6.b).(4) Integrated Programs - Relief from after-hours duty granted to residents, at the program director’s discretion, must not exceed 12 weeks preceding call responsibilities for short periods before the ABR Core Examination. (CoreDetail)

IV.A.6.b).(5) Residents, as an individual or group, must not be provided protected study time for the ABR Core Examination. (Core)

IV.A.6.c) By the completion of the program, residents must have completed at least 23 24 interventional radiology or interventional radiology-related rotations. (Core)

IV.A.6.c).(1) Of these, at least 18 rotations must be core interventional radiology rotations in the interventional radiology division under the supervision of an interventional radiologist. (Core)

IV.A.6.d) Residents must complete one rotation in critical care medicine. (Core)

IV.A.6.d).(1) For integrated programs, the critical care experience should occur during the PGY-5 or PGY-6. (Detail)

IV.A.6.d).(2) The critical care experience must be completed on a continuous full-time basis in a critical care setting under the supervision of a critical care specialist. (Core)

IV.A.6.e) Residents must be provided with education and specific clinical time dedicated to the performance and interpretation of non-invasive vascular testing, including vascular ultrasound studies, physiologic vascular tests, MR angiograms, and CT angiograms. (Core)
IV.A.6.e).(1) These studies must be documented in the residents’ Case Logs. (Core)

IV.A.6.f) Residents should be instructed in proper use and interpretation of laboratory tests and methods that are adjunctive to vascular and interventional procedures, including the use of physiologic monitoring devices, non-invasive vascular testing, and non-invasive vascular imaging. (Detail)

IV.A.6.g) Residents must have supervised progressive responsibility in a dedicated interventional radiology clinic, the admission and routine procedure-related inpatient care of interventional radiology patients, discharge planning, and procedure-related follow-up. (Core)

IV.A.6.h) Residents’ patient care experience must be of sufficient duration to provide continuity of care that enables residents to attain competency in the peri-procedural management of patients. (Core)

IV.A.6.i) Residents must maintain current certification in advanced cardiac life-support (ACLS). (Outcome/Outcome Core)

IV.A.6.j) Residents should have experience in sedation analgesia. (Detail)

IV.A.6.k) Residents’ procedural experiences must be tracked using the ACGME Case Log System, and must at least meet the procedural minimums defined by the Review Committee. (Core)

IV.A.6.l) Residents must maintain a Resident Learning Portfolio which must include, at a minimum, documentation of the following: (Core)

Patient Care – Integrated Programs

Case/Procedure Logs – integrated programs

IV.A.6.l).(1) resident participation in therapies involving oral administration of sodium iodide I-131, which must include the date, diagnosis, and dosage dose of each I-131 therapy. (Core)

IV.A.6.l).(2) resident interpretation/multi-reading of the number of mammograms; and. (Core)

IV.A.6.l).(3) participation in hands-on ultrasonographic examinations of various types. (Core)

IV.A.6.l).(4) 12 rotations in diagnostic radiology prior to assuming independent, in-house, on-call responsibilities. (Core)

Case/Procedure Logs – All Programs
IV.A.6.I).(5) resident experience in the performance, interpretation, and complications of vascular, interventional, and invasive procedures, including image-guided biopsies, drainage procedures, angioplasty, embolization and infusion procedures, and other percutaneous interventional procedures. (Core)

Medical Knowledge – All Programs

IV.A.6.I).(6) conferences attended, courses/meetings attended, and self-assessment modules completed; and. (Core)

IV.A.6.I).(7) compliance with regulatory-based requirements in nuclear medicine and breast imaging; (Core)

IV.A.6.I).(8) performance on rotation-specific and/or annual the yearly objective examinations. (Core)

Practice-based Learning and Improvement – All Programs

IV.A.6.I).(9) evidence of a reflective process that must result in the annual documentation of an individual learning plan and self-assessment; and. (Core)

IV.A.6.I).(10) scholarly activity, such as publications and/or presentations. (Core)

Interpersonal and Communication Skills – All Programs

IV.A.6.I).(11) formal documented assessment of oral and written communication. (Core)

IV.A.6.I).(11).(a) Competence in oral communication must be judged through direct observation; competence in written communication must be judged on the basis of the quality and timeliness of dictated reports. (Core)

Professionalism – All Programs

IV.A.6.I).(12) compliance with institutional and departmental policies (e.g., including, but not limited to HIPAA, JCAHO Joint Commission, patient safety, infection control, and dress code, etc.), and. (Core)

IV.A.6.I).(13) status of medical license, if appropriate. (Core)

Systems-based Practice – All Programs

IV.A.6.I).(14) a learning activity that involves deriving a solution to a system problem at the departmental, institutional, local,
regional, or national, or international level. (Core)

Scholarly Activities

demonstration of scholarly activity, such as publications, announcement of presentations, etc.; and, (Core)

Other

any other materials pertinent to the educational experience of residency. (Detail)

IV.A.6.m) Independent Programs

The independent program curriculum must consist of 24 months two years of interventional radiology education under the direction of the program director. (Core)

IV.A.6.m).(1) While the independent program curriculum does not need to include diagnostic radiology educational content, any diagnostic radiology content in the independent program should be limited to a maximum of four rotations. (Detail)

IV.A.6.n) Integrated Programs

The integrated curriculum must consist of five years six years of diagnostic and interventional radiology education under the direction of the program director. (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(1) Of the five years During the PGY-2-4, 36 months three years must be concentrated in diagnostic radiology education, including at least three rotations in interventional radiology. (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(2) PGY-2-4 residents on interventional radiology rotations must:

IV.A.6.n).(2).(a) fully participate in all of the clinical and educational activities, including non-procedural patient care; and, (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(2).(b) be provided responsibilities and supervision commensurate with their level of education and experience. (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(3) The final 24 months two years of the program should be focused primarily on interventional radiology training and education. (Detail)

IV.A.6.n).(3).(a) Diagnostic radiology educational content during the final 24 months two years should be limited to a
Residents must have a minimum of 700 hours (approximately four months) of training and work experience under the supervision of an Authorized User (AU) in basic radionuclide handling techniques and radiation safety applicable to the medical use of unsealed byproduct material for imaging and localization studies (10 CFR 35.290) and oral administration of sodium iodide 131 for procedures requiring a written directive (10 CFR 35.392, 10 CFR 35.394) experience in clinical nuclear medicine, which may include the required 80 hours of classroom and laboratory instruction. (Core)

Supervised work experience, at a minimum, must involve all operational and quality control procedures integral to the practice of nuclear radiology, including but not limited to:

- receiving packages; (Core)
- using generator systems; (Core)
- calibrating and administering unsealed radioactive materials for diagnostic and therapeutic use; (Core)
- completing written directives; (Core)
- adhering to ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable) principles; (Core)
- ensuring radiation protection in practice, to include dosimeters, exposure limits, and signage; (Core)
- using radiation-measuring instruments; (Core)
IV.A.6.n).(7).(a).(viii) conducting area surveys; (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(a).(ix) managing radioactive waste; (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(a).(x) preventing medical events; and, (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(a).(xi) responding to radiation spills and accidents.

IV.A.6.n).(7). Under AU preceptor supervision residents must:

IV.A.6.n).(7).(b).(i) participate in at least three cases involving
the oral administration of less than or equal
to 1.22 gigabecquerels (33 millicuries) of
sodium iodide I-131 and at least three cases
involving the oral administration of greater
than 1.22 gigabecquerels (33 millicuries) of
sodium iodide I-131; (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(b).(ii) participate in patient selection and
preparation; (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(b).(iii) complete documentation, including the
written directive and informed consent; (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(b).(iv) understand and calculate the administered
dosage, (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(b).(v) counsel patients and their families on
radiation safety issues; (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(b).(vi) determine release criteria; (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(b).(vii) arrange patient follow-up; and, (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(7).(b).(viii) make pregnancy and breastfeeding
recommendations. (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(8) Residents must have a minimum of 12 weeks of three
clinical rotations in breast imaging. (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(9) Residents must interpret the minimum number of
mammograms within the specified time period as
designated by the US Food and Drug Administration’s
(FDA) Mammography Quality Standards Act (MQSA)
regulations. (Core)

IV.A.6.n).(10) Diagnostic radiology education must encompass image-
based diagnosis and image-guided therapeutic techniques,
and must include, but not limited to: CT; interventional
procedures; MRI; medical physics; nuclear radiology and
molecular imaging; radiography/fluoroscopy; 
ultrasonography; and radiology quality and safety. (Core)

Residents must have clinical rotations and formal 
instruction in each of the educational content areas of 
diagnostic radiology, including, but not limited to: 
subspecialty areas of diagnostic imaging and related 
image-guided interventions in the following 10 categories: 
breast, cardiac, gastrointestinal, musculoskeletal, 
neurologic, pediatric, reproductive and endocrine, thoracic, 
urinary, and vascular radiology, including neuroradiology, 
musculoskeletal radiology, cardiothoracic radiology, breast 
radiology, abdominal radiology, pediatric radiology, 
ultrasonography (to include obstetrical and vascular 
ultrasound), and nuclear radiology (to include positron 
emission tomography (PET) and nuclear cardiology), in 
addition to interventional radiology prior to taking the ABR 
Core Examination. (Core)

Residents must be provided education in the core subjects pertaining to diagnostic radiology (e.g., medical physics, 
physiology of contrast media, etc.) prior to taking the ABR 
Core Examination. (Core)

The curriculum must advance residents’ knowledge of the basic principles of research, including how research is conducted, 
evaluated, explained to patients, and applied to patient care. (Core)

Residents should participate in scholarly activity. (Core)

Residents must have training education in critical thinking skills 
and research design using methods such as lectures and journal 
club. (Core)

All residents must engage in a scholarly project under faculty 
member supervision. (Core)

Resident scholarly projects should include one of the following: laboratory research, clinical research, case 
reports, or evidence-based analysis of disease processes, 
imaging techniques, or practice management issues. (Detail)

The results of such projects must be published or 
presented at departmental, institutional, local, regional, or 
national, or international meetings, and must be included in 
each resident’s Learning Portfolios. (Outcome)

The program should specify how each project will be 
evaluated. (Detail)
IV.B.2.c) The program should provide opportunities for research in new technologies. (Detail)

IV.B.3. The sponsoring institution and program should allocate adequate educational resources to facilitate resident involvement in scholarly activities. (Detail)

V. Evaluation

V.A. Resident Evaluation

V.A.1. The program director must appoint the Clinical Competency Committee (Core)

V.A.1.a) At a minimum the Clinical Competency Committee must be composed of three members of the program faculty. (Core)

V.A.1.a).(1) The program director may appoint additional members of the Clinical Competency Committee.

V.A.1.a).(1).(a) These additional members must be physician faculty members from the same program or other programs, or other health professionals who have extensive contact and experience with the program’s residents in patient care and other health care settings. (Core)

V.A.1.a).(1).(b) Chief residents who have completed core residency programs in their specialty and are eligible for specialty board certification may be members of the Clinical Competency Committee. (Core)

V.A.1.b) There must be a written description of the responsibilities of the Clinical Competency Committee. (Core)

V.A.1.b).(1) The Clinical Competency Committee should:

V.A.1.b).(1).(a) review all resident evaluations semi-annually; (Core)

V.A.1.b).(1).(b) prepare and ensure the reporting of Milestones evaluations of each resident semi-annually to ACGME; and, (Core)

V.A.1.b).(1).(c) advise the program director regarding resident progress, including promotion, remediation, and dismissal. (Detail)

V.A.2. Formative Evaluation
V.A.2.a) The faculty must evaluate resident performance in a timely manner during each rotation or similar educational assignment, and document this evaluation at completion of the assignment. (Core)

V.A.2.b) The program must:

V.A.2.b).(1) provide objective assessments of competence in patient care and procedural skills, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, and systems-based practice based on the specialty-specific Milestones; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(2) use multiple evaluators (e.g., faculty, peers, patients, self, and other professional staff); (Detail)

V.A.2.b).(3) document progressive resident performance improvement appropriate to educational level; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(4) provide each resident with documented semiannual evaluation of performance with feedback; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(5) ensure that assessment for progressive resident responsibility or independence is based upon knowledge, technical skills, and experience; and, (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6) ensure that written end-of-rotation evaluations by faculty members are provided to the residents within one month of completion of the rotation; and, (Core)

V.A.2.b).(7) ensure that the semi-annual evaluation resident assessment includes a review of:

V.A.2.b).(7).(a) global faculty evaluations (all competencies); (Core)

V.A.2.b).(7).(b) multi-source evaluations (for Interpersonal and Communication Skills and Professionalism); (Core)

V.A.2.b).(7).(c) resident ability to take independent call; and, (Core)

V.A.2.b).(7).(d) the Resident Learning Portfolio. (Core)

V.A.2.c) The evaluations of resident performance must be accessible for review by the resident, in accordance with institutional policy. (Detail)

V.A.2.c).(1) The program must have a clearly defined process for remediation of resident underperformance. (Core)
The program should provide more frequent performance reviews of residents experiencing difficulties or receiving unfavorable evaluations. (Detail)

When a resident fails to progress satisfactorily, the program should develop a written plan identifying the problems, and address how they can be corrected, and then discuss this plan with the resident. (Detail)

This plan should be signed by the resident and placed in his or her individual file. (Detail)

The specialty-specific Milestones must be used as one of the tools to ensure residents are able to practice core professional activities without supervision upon completion of the program. (Core)

The program director must provide a summative evaluation for each resident upon completion of the program. (Core)

This evaluation must:

- become part of the resident’s permanent record maintained by the institution, and must be accessible for review by the resident in accordance with institutional policy; (Detail)
- document the resident’s performance during the final period of education; and, (Detail)
- verify that the resident has demonstrated sufficient competence to enter practice without direct supervision. (Detail)

At least annually, the program must evaluate faculty performance as it relates to the educational program. (Core)

These evaluations should include a review of the faculty’s clinical teaching abilities, commitment to the educational program, clinical knowledge, professionalism, and scholarly activities. (Detail)

This evaluation must include at least annual written confidential evaluations by the residents. (Detail)

Faculty members must receive annual feedback from resident
evaluations at least annually. (Core)

V.C. Program Evaluation and Improvement

V.C.1. The program director must appoint the Program Evaluation Committee (PEC). (Core)

V.C.1.a) The Program Evaluation Committee:

V.C.1.a).(1) must be composed of at least two program faculty members and should include at least one resident; (Core)

V.C.1.a).(2) must have a written description of its responsibilities; and, (Core)

V.C.1.a).(3) should participate actively in:

V.C.1.a).(3).(a) planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating educational activities of the program; (Detail)

V.C.1.a).(3).(b) reviewing and making recommendations for revision of competency-based curriculum goals and objectives; (Detail)

V.C.1.a).(3).(c) addressing areas of non-compliance with ACGME standards; and, (Detail)

V.C.1.a).(3).(d) reviewing the program annually using evaluations of faculty, residents, and others, as specified below. (Detail)

V.C.2. The program, through the PEC, must document formal, systematic evaluation of the curriculum at least annually, and is responsible for rendering a written, annual program evaluation. (Core)

The program must monitor and track each of the following areas:

V.C.2.a) resident performance; (Core)

V.C.2.b) faculty development; (Core)

V.C.2.c) graduate performance, including performance of program graduates on the certification examination; (Core)

V.C.2.c).(1) Independent Programs

During the most recent five-year period, at least 50 percent of a program’s graduates taking the ABR Interventional Radiology certification examination for the first time should
V.C.2.c).(2) Integrated Programs

At least 90 percent of a program’s residents and graduates from the preceding three five-year period who take the ABR Core Examination must pass by the end of the PGY-5. During the most recent five-year period, at least 50 percent of a program’s graduates taking the ABR Core Examination and the Interventional Radiology certification examinations for the first time should pass. (Outcome)

V.C.2.d) program quality. (Core)

V.C.2.d).(1) Residents and faculty must have the opportunity to evaluate the program confidentially and in writing at least annually, and (Detail)

V.C.2.d).(2) The program must use the results of residents’ and faculty members’ assessments of the program together with other program evaluation results to improve the program. (Detail)

V.C.2.e) progress on the previous year’s action plan(s). (Core)

V.C.3. The PEC must prepare a written plan of action to document initiatives to improve performance in one or more of the areas listed in section V.C.2., as well as delineate how they will be measured and monitored. (Core)

V.C.3.a) The action plan should be reviewed and approved by the teaching faculty and documented in meeting minutes. (Detail)

VI. The Learning and Working Environment

Residency education must occur in the context of a learning and working environment that emphasizes the following principles:

- Excellence in the safety and quality of care rendered to patients by residents today
- Excellence in the safety and quality of care rendered to patients by today’s residents in their future practice
- Excellence in professionalism through faculty modeling of:
  - the effacement of self-interest in a humanistic environment that supports the professional development of physicians
  - the joy of curiosity, problem-solving, intellectual rigor, and discovery
Commitment to the well-being of the students, residents, faculty members, and all members of the health care team

VI.A. Patient Safety, Quality Improvement, Supervision, and Accountability

VI.A.1. Patient Safety and Quality Improvement

All physicians share responsibility for promoting patient safety and enhancing quality of patient care. Graduate medical education must prepare residents to provide the highest level of clinical care with continuous focus on the safety, individual needs, and humanity of their patients. It is the right of each patient to be cared for by residents who are appropriately supervised; possess the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities; understand the limits of their knowledge and experience; and seek assistance as required to provide optimal patient care.

Residents must demonstrate the ability to analyze the care they provide, understand their roles within health care teams, and play an active role in system improvement processes. Graduating residents will apply these skills to critique their future unsupervised practice and effect quality improvement measures.

It is necessary for residents and faculty members to consistently work in a well-coordinated manner with other health care professionals to achieve organizational patient safety goals.

VI.A.1.a) Patient Safety

VI.A.1.a).(1) Culture of Safety

A culture of safety requires continuous identification of vulnerabilities and a willingness to transparently deal with them. An effective organization has formal mechanisms to assess the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of its personnel toward safety in order to identify areas for improvement.

The program, its faculty, residents, and fellows must actively participate in patient safety systems and contribute to a culture of safety. (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(1).(a)

The program must have a structure that promotes safe, interprofessional, team-based care. (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(1).(b)

Education on Patient Safety

Programs must provide formal educational activities that promote patient safety-related goals, tools, and
VI.A.1.a).(3)

Patient Safety Events

Reporting, investigation, and follow-up of adverse events, near misses, and unsafe conditions are pivotal mechanisms for improving patient safety, and are essential for the success of any patient safety program. Feedback and experiential learning are essential to developing true competence in the ability to identify causes and institute sustainable systems-based changes to ameliorate patient safety vulnerabilities.

VI.A.1.a).(3).(a) Residents, fellows, faculty members, and other clinical staff members must:

VI.A.1.a).(3).(a).(i) know their responsibilities in reporting patient safety events at the clinical site; (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(3).(a).(ii) know how to report patient safety events, including near misses, at the clinical site; and, (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(3).(a).(iii) be provided with summary information of their institution’s patient safety reports. (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(3).(b) Residents must participate as team members in real and/or simulated interprofessional clinical patient safety activities, such as root cause analyses or other activities that include analysis, as well as formulation and implementation of actions. (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(4) Resident Education and Experience in Disclosure of Adverse Events

Patient-centered care requires patients, and when appropriate families, to be apprised of clinical situations that affect them, including adverse events. This is an important skill for faculty physicians to model, and for residents to develop and apply.

VI.A.1.a).(4).(a) All residents must receive training in how to disclose adverse events to patients and families. (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(4).(b) Residents should have the opportunity to participate in the disclosure of patient safety
VI.A.1.b) Quality Improvement

VI.A.1.b).(1) Education in Quality Improvement

A cohesive model of health care includes quality-related goals, tools, and techniques that are necessary in order for health care professionals to achieve quality improvement goals.

VI.A.1.b).(1).(a) Residents must receive training and experience in quality improvement processes, including an understanding of health care disparities. (Core)

VI.A.1.b).(2) Quality Metrics

Access to data is essential to prioritizing activities for care improvement and evaluating success of improvement efforts.

VI.A.1.b).(2).(a) Residents and faculty members must receive data on quality metrics and benchmarks related to their patient populations. (Core)

VI.A.1.b).(3) Engagement in Quality Improvement Activities

Experiential learning is essential to developing the ability to identify and institute sustainable systems-based changes to improve patient care.

VI.A.1.b).(3).(a) Residents must have the opportunity to participate in interprofessional quality improvement activities. (Core)

VI.A.1.b).(3).(a).(i) This should include activities aimed at reducing health care disparities. (Detail)

VI.A.2. Supervision and Accountability

VI.A.2.a) Although the attending physician is ultimately responsible for the care of the patient, every physician shares in the responsibility and accountability for their efforts in the provision of care. Effective programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, define, widely communicate, and monitor a structured chain of responsibility and accountability as it relates to the supervision of all patient care.

Supervision in the setting of graduate medical education provides safe and effective care to patients; ensures each
resident’s development of the skills, knowledge, and attitudes required to enter the unsupervised practice of medicine; and establishes a foundation for continued professional growth.

VI.A.2.a).(1) Each patient must have an identifiable and appropriately-credentialed and privileged attending physician (or licensed independent practitioner as specified by the applicable Review Committee) who is responsible and accountable for the patient’s care. (Core)

VI.A.2.a).(1).(a) This information must be available to residents, faculty members, other members of the health care team, and patients. (Core)

VI.A.2.a).(1).(b) Residents and faculty members must inform each patient of their respective roles in that patient’s care when providing direct patient care. (Core)

VI.A.2.b) Supervision may be exercised through a variety of methods. For many aspects of patient care, the supervising physician may be a more advanced resident or fellow. Other portions of care provided by the resident can be adequately supervised by the immediate availability of the supervising faculty member, fellow, or senior resident physician, either on site or by means of telephonic and/or electronic modalities. Some activities require the physical presence of the supervising faculty member. In some circumstances, supervision may include post-hoc review of resident-delivered care with feedback.

VI.A.2.b).(1) The program must demonstrate that the appropriate level of supervision in place for all residents is based on each resident’s level of training and ability, as well as patient complexity and acuity. Supervision may be exercised through a variety of methods, as appropriate to the situation. (Core)

VI.A.2.c) Levels of Supervision

To promote oversight of resident supervision while providing for graded authority and responsibility, the program must use the following classification of supervision: (Core)

VI.A.2.c).(1) Direct Supervision – the supervising physician is physically present with the resident and patient. (Core)

VI.A.2.c).(2) Indirect Supervision:

VI.A.2.c).(2).(a) with Direct Supervision immediately available –
the supervising physician is physically within the hospital or other site of patient care, and is immediately available to provide Direct Supervision. (Core)

VI.A.2.c).(2).(b) with Direct Supervision available – the supervising physician is not physically present within the hospital or other site of patient care, but is immediately available by means of telephonic and/or electronic modalities, and is available to provide Direct Supervision. (Core)

VI.A.2.c).(3) Oversight – the supervising physician is available to provide review of procedures/encounters with feedback provided after care is delivered. (Core)

VI.A.2.d) The privilege of progressive authority and responsibility, conditional independence, and a supervisory role in patient care delegated to each resident must be assigned by the program director and faculty members. (Core)

VI.A.2.d).(1) The program director must evaluate each resident’s abilities based on specific criteria, guided by the Milestones. (Core)

VI.A.2.d).(2) Faculty members functioning as supervising physicians must delegate portions of care to residents based on the needs of the patient and the skills of each resident. (Core)

VI.A.2.d).(3) Senior residents or fellows should serve in a supervisory role to junior residents in recognition of their progress toward independence, based on the needs of each patient and the skills of the individual resident or fellow. (Detail)

VI.A.2.e) Programs must set guidelines for circumstances and events in which residents must communicate with the supervising faculty member(s). (Core)

VI.A.2.e).(1) Each resident must know the limits of their scope of authority, and the circumstances under which the resident is permitted to act with conditional independence. (Outcome)

VI.A.2.e).(1).(a) Initially, PGY-1 residents must be supervised either directly, or indirectly with direct supervision immediately available. (Core)

VI.A.2.f) Faculty supervision assignments must be of sufficient duration to assess the knowledge and skills of each resident
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VI.B.5. All residents and faculty members must demonstrate responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest. This includes the recognition that under certain circumstances, the best interests of the patient may be served by transitioning that patient’s care to another qualified and rested provider. (Outcome)

VI.B.6. Programs must provide a professional, respectful, and civil environment that is free from mistreatment, abuse, or coercion of students, residents, faculty, and staff. Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, should have a process for education of residents and faculty regarding unprofessional behavior and a confidential process for reporting, investigating, and addressing such concerns. (Core)

VI.C. Well-Being

In the current health care environment, residents and faculty members are at increased risk for burnout and depression. Psychological, emotional, and physical well-being are critical in the development of the competent, caring, and resilient physician. Self-care is an important component of professionalism; it is also a skill that must be learned and nurtured in the context of other aspects of residency training. Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, have the same responsibility to address well-being as they do to evaluate other aspects of resident competence.

VI.C.1. This responsibility must include:

VI.C.1.a) efforts to enhance the meaning that each resident finds in the experience of being a physician, including protecting time with patients, minimizing non-physician obligations, providing administrative support, promoting progressive autonomy and flexibility, and enhancing professional relationships; (Core)

VI.C.1.b) attention to scheduling, work intensity, and work compression that impacts resident well-being; (Core)

VI.C.1.c) evaluating workplace safety data and addressing the safety of residents and faculty members; (Core)

VI.C.1.d) policies and programs that encourage optimal resident and faculty member well-being; and, (Core)

VI.C.1.d).(1) Residents must be given the opportunity to attend medical, mental health, and dental care appointments, including those scheduled during their working hours. (Core)

VI.C.1.e) attention to resident and faculty member burnout, depression, and substance abuse. The program, in
partnership with its Sponsoring Institution, must educate faculty members and residents in identification of the symptoms of burnout, depression, and substance abuse, including means to assist those who experience these conditions. Residents and faculty members must also be educated to recognize those symptoms in themselves and how to seek appropriate care. The program, in partnership with its Sponsoring Institution, must: (Core)

VI.C.1.e).(1) encourage residents and faculty members to alert the program director or other designated personnel or programs when they are concerned that another resident, fellow, or faculty member may be displaying signs of burnout, depression, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, or potential for violence; (Core)

VI.C.1.e).(2) provide access to appropriate tools for self-screening; and, (Core)

VI.C.1.e).(3) provide access to confidential, affordable mental health assessment, counseling, and treatment, including access to urgent and emergent care 24 hours a day, seven days a week. (Core)

VI.C.2. There are circumstances in which residents may be unable to attend work, including but not limited to fatigue, illness, and family emergencies. Each program must have policies and procedures in place that ensure coverage of patient care in the event that a resident may be unable to perform their patient care responsibilities. These policies must be implemented without fear of negative consequences for the resident who is unable to provide the clinical work. (Core)

VI.D. Fatigue Mitigation

VI.D.1. Programs must:

VI.D.1.a) educate all faculty members and residents to recognize the signs of fatigue and sleep deprivation; (Core)

VI.D.1.b) educate all faculty members and residents in alertness management and fatigue mitigation processes; and, (Core)

VI.D.1.c) encourage residents to use fatigue mitigation processes to manage the potential negative effects of fatigue on patient care and learning. (Detail)

VI.D.2. Each program must ensure continuity of patient care, consistent with the program’s policies and procedures referenced in VI.C.2, in the event that a resident may be unable to perform their patient care responsibilities due to excessive fatigue. (Core)
VI.D.3. The program, in partnership with its Sponsoring Institution, must ensure adequate sleep facilities and safe transportation options for residents who may be too fatigued to safely return home. (Core)

VI.E. Clinical Responsibilities, Teamwork, and Transitions of Care

VI.E.1. Clinical Responsibilities

The clinical responsibilities for each resident must be based on PGY level, patient safety, resident ability, severity and complexity of patient illness/condition, and available support services. (Core)

VI.E.2. Teamwork

Residents must care for patients in an environment that maximizes communication. This must include the opportunity to work as a member of effective interprofessional teams that are appropriate to the delivery of care in the specialty and larger health system. (Core)

VI.E.3. Transitions of Care

VI.E.3.a) Programs must design clinical assignments to optimize transitions in patient care, including their safety, frequency, and structure. (Core)

VI.E.3.b) Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, must ensure and monitor effective, structured hand-over processes to facilitate both continuity of care and patient safety. (Core)

VI.E.3.c) Programs must ensure that residents are competent in communicating with team members in the hand-over process. (Outcome)

VI.E.3.d) Programs and clinical sites must maintain and communicate schedules of attending physicians and residents currently responsible for care. (Core)

VI.E.3.e) Each program must ensure continuity of patient care, consistent with the program’s policies and procedures referenced in VI.C.2, in the event that a resident may be unable to perform their patient care responsibilities due to excessive fatigue or illness, or family emergency. (Core)

VI.F. Clinical Experience and Education

Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, must design an effective program structure that is configured to provide residents with educational and clinical experience opportunities, as well as reasonable opportunities for rest and personal activities.
VI.F.1. Maximum Hours of Clinical and Educational Work per Week

Clinical and educational work hours must be limited to no more than 80 hours per week, averaged over a four-week period, inclusive of all in-house clinical and educational activities, clinical work done from home, and all moonlighting. (Core)

VI.F.2. Mandatory Time Free of Clinical Work and Education

VI.F.2.a) The program must design an effective program structure that is configured to provide residents with educational opportunities, as well as reasonable opportunities for rest and personal well-being. (Core)

VI.F.2.b) Residents should have eight hours off between scheduled clinical work and education periods. (Detail)

VI.F.2.b).(1) There may be circumstances when residents choose to stay to care for their patients or return to the hospital with fewer than eight hours free of clinical experience and education. This must occur within the context of the 80-hour and the one-day-off-in-seven requirements. (Detail)

VI.F.2.c) Residents must have at least 14 hours free of clinical work and education after 24 hours of in-house call. (Core)

VI.F.2.d) Residents must be scheduled for a minimum of one day in seven free of clinical work and required education (when averaged over four weeks). At-home call cannot be assigned on these free days. (Core)

VI.F.3. Maximum Clinical Work and Education Period Length

VI.F.3.a) Clinical and educational work periods for residents must not exceed 24 hours of continuous scheduled clinical assignments. (Core)

VI.F.3.a).(1) Up to four hours of additional time may be used for activities related to patient safety, such as providing effective transitions of care, and/or resident education. (Core)

VI.F.3.a).(1).(a) Additional patient care responsibilities must not be assigned to a resident during this time. (Core)

VI.F.4. Clinical and Educational Work Hour Exceptions

VI.F.4.a) In rare circumstances, after handing off all other responsibilities, a resident, on their own initiative, may elect
VI.F.4.a).(1) to continue to provide care to a single severely ill or unstable patient; (Detail)
VI.F.4.a).(2) humanistic attention to the needs of a patient or family; or, (Detail)
VI.F.4.a).(3) to attend unique educational events. (Detail)

VI.F.4.b) These additional hours of care or education will be counted toward the 80-hour weekly limit. (Detail)

VI.F.4.c) A Review Committee may grant rotation-specific exceptions for up to 10 percent or a maximum of 88 clinical and educational work hours to individual programs based on a sound educational rationale.

The Review Committee for Radiology will not consider requests for exceptions to the 80-hour limit to the residents’ work week.

VI.F.4.c).(1) In preparing a request for an exception, the program director must follow the clinical and educational work hour exception policy from the ACGME Manual of Policies and Procedures. (Core)
VI.F.4.c).(2) Prior to submitting the request to the Review Committee, the program director must obtain approval from the Sponsoring Institution’s GMEC and DIO. (Core)

VI.F.5. Moonlighting

VI.F.5.a) Moonlighting must not interfere with the ability of the resident to achieve the goals and objectives of the educational program, and must not interfere with the resident’s fitness for work nor compromise patient safety. (Core)
VI.F.5.b) Time spent by residents in internal and external moonlighting (as defined in the ACGME Glossary of Terms) must be counted toward the 80-hour maximum weekly limit. (Core)
VI.F.5.c) PGY-1 residents are not permitted to moonlight. (Core)

VI.F.6. In-House Night Float

Night float must occur within the context of the 80-hour and one-day-off-in-seven requirements. (Core)

VI.F.7. Maximum In-House On-Call Frequency
Residents must be scheduled for in-house call no more frequently than every third night (when averaged over a four-week period). (Core)

VI.F.8. At-Home Call

VI.F.8.a) Time spent on patient care activities by residents on at-home call must count toward the 80-hour maximum weekly limit. The frequency of at-home call is not subject to the every-third-night limitation, but must satisfy the requirement for one day in seven free of clinical work and education, when averaged over four weeks. (Core)

VI.F.8.a).(1) At-home call must not be so frequent or taxing as to preclude rest or reasonable personal time for each resident. (Core)

VI.F.8.b) Residents are permitted to return to the hospital while on at-home call to provide direct care for new or established patients. These hours of inpatient patient care must be included in the 80-hour maximum weekly limit. (Detail)

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*Core Requirements: Statements that define structure, resource, or process elements essential to every graduate medical educational program.

Detail Requirements: Statements that describe a specific structure, resource, or process, for achieving compliance with a Core Requirement. Programs and sponsoring institutions in substantial compliance with the Outcome Requirements may utilize alternative or innovative approaches to meet Core Requirements.

Outcome Requirements: Statements that specify expected measurable or observable attributes (knowledge, abilities, skills, or attitudes) of residents or fellows at key stages of their graduate medical education.

Osteopathic Recognition

For programs seeking Osteopathic Recognition for the entire program, or for a track within the program, the Osteopathic Recognition Requirements are also applicable. (http://www.acgme.org/Portals/0/PFAssets/ProgramRequirements/Osteopathic_Recognition_Requirements.pdf)