

RRC News



Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

Fall 2006

Administrative Updates

ACGME has transitioned from a paper based to web based system through greater use of the ADS in order to decrease the burden of paper submissions, increase in the consistency of the process across the RRCs and support the role of the DIO and GME Committees in complying with the Institutional Requirements. (1) All administrative changes should first be initiated in WebADS; (2) Program director changes are approved by the RRC for Allergy and Immunology and notification of a change must be accompanied by a current C.V. and the submission is through ADS.

Resident Surveys

The ACGME resident survey will be administered every other year to all programs with the exception of programs with four or fewer residents. The questionnaire as well as its design will be changed for the calendar year 2007.

Progress Reports

Progress reports should provide evidence that the citation(s) have been addressed. A progress report that indicates that the citation(s) have gone unaddressed or where there is no change or improvement noted could result in change in the site visit date for the program or a change in the resident complement. In other words, the RRC can shorten a cycle or propose a reduction in the resident complement, depending on the nature of the citation.

New ACGME Education Conference

The ACGME invites you to its annual educational conference that is being held in Kissimmee Florida March 2-4, 2007. The conference is jam packed with information related to the accreditation process, the competencies, portfolios, site visits and opportunities to meet with the ACGME staff. It is an extraordinary occasion for new program directors, coordinators and others to learn more about the accreditation process and graduate medical education. There is an opportunity to submit abstracts (see the front page of the website at www.acgme.org) and awards for exemplary scholarly projects.

Competencies

“Educating Physicians for the 21st Century,” a series of five PowerPoint modules with a Facilitator’s Manual, is a new educational resource from the Research and Education Department. The Facilitator’s Manual provides program directors with speaker notes and discussion questions. There are three lectures- Introduction to Competency Based Education, “Practical Implementation of the Competencies” and Developing an Assessment System. The series describes skill sets for each competency and identifies practical ways to implement the competencies into your educational program. The module is designed to be given as a PowerPoint lecture to faculty to familiarize them with the above topics. The module is approximately ½ hour long in order to respect the time demands experienced by program directors and faculty. This presentation is linked to the Outcome Project Page under

Faculty Development.

Please go to:

http://www.acgme.org/outcome/learn/e_powerpoint.asp

The ACGME is shifting its focus from a structure and process system of graduate medical education to one that is outcomes based, requiring fellows in training to achieve competence in six broad domains. Programs should begin using resident performance data as a basis for improvement and use external measures (i.e. patient surveys, clinical quality measures) to verify fellow and program performance.

National Data on ACGME Web Site

Program directors can access the national data for academic year 2005-2006 by logging into WebADS and going to "report tools." Access to the national data as well as the data for your program can be captured by going to www.acgme.org/ads/default.org. The information related to how any one program compares to all other programs is available. The Committee continues to work to improve the data collection system and its components.

Accreditation Cycles

There are 40 A&I programs with accreditation cycle of 4 or 5 years. Fifteen programs have cycles of at least three years. Currently there are 71 accredited programs in Allergy and Immunology.

Letters of Agreement

Beginning **August 1, 2006**, program directors should not attach the program letters of agreement to the PIF for a continued accreditation review. All of these letters must be available on-site at the program. During the site visit the surveyor will 'spot check' several of the letters for the required elements.

However, program letters of agreement must be included in the documents submitted for an application for a new

specialty or subspecialty program.

Standard Notification Letters

The ACGME has developed a standard format and standard language for accreditation notification letters across specialties. These changes are in effect now. In addition, the method for distribution of these letters has changed. The ACGME will no longer mail hard copies of accreditation notification letters. Instead, letters will be posted to the ACGME Accreditation Data System as a PDF and will be accessible to the program director by entering the program's user ID and password. DIOs will also be able to access notification letters for programs via the same user ID and password.

Duty Hour Achievement Report

Recently Ingrid Philibert produced the third annual report on ACGME accomplishments about monitoring duty hours. It will be posted to the website.

New RRC Members

Eyal Oren, MD, a resident at Mass General, is replacing Weily Soong, MD, and James E. Gern, MD will replace Wesley Burks MD

Updating ADS

More and more of the data collection related to programs will be handled by ADS. All programs should also be interacting with the ACGME's Accreditation Data System (ADS) to record any changes in basic information about the program. This information can then easily be retrieved at the time of survey. Programs should also be aware of the Resident Survey, which is also used at the time of survey. The RRC has noticed various inconsistencies and errors in PIF's submitted by programs. This inattention to detail can result in deferral of action and does impede the accreditation process. In preparing the PIF, the program director should carefully review the information submitted for accuracy and consistency.

Residency Review Committee

Bryan L. Martin, DO, (chair)
Vincent R. Bonagura, MD (vice chair)
A. Wesley Burks, MD
J. Andrew Grant, MD
Marianne Frieri, MD
Dennis K. Ledford, MD
George R. Green, MD
Laurie J. Smith, MD
Weily Soong, MD (resident)
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In order to ensure an orderly and efficient RRC meeting, we must establish cut-off dates for requested agenda items. Please note these deadlines in the event you have submissions for future R.C. meetings; March 2007 meeting deadline for materials is **January 22, 2007** and **July 30, 2007** for the September 2007 meeting.

We understand that emergencies occur and we will try being sensitive to your needs in these situations. However, we will no longer be able to accept last minute requests. All routine agenda items will be held for the next meeting after the cut-off dates.