

RRC NEWS

ANESTHESIOLOGY



ACGME

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

JULY 2009

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ACGME Duty Hours Congress

On June 11-12, 2009, the ACGME held an invitational symposium that included testimony based on a consensus letter from the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) and the American Board of Anesthesiology (ABA). The ABA and the ASA consensus letter featured reactions to the IOM duty hours report that was released last fall. On the basis of the consensus statement, Dr. Neal Cohen, RRC chair-elect, testified on behalf of the ASA and Dr. Steven Hall, former RRC ex-officio member, testified on behalf of the ABA; both offered brief testimony and answered questions from the audience. Additional information about the outcomes of the Congress will be included in upcoming newsletters.

Annual SAAA Meeting in Boston

Please review this year's annual Society of Academic Anesthesiology Associations conference brochure and consider attending the session during which a typical meeting of the ACGME RRC for anesthesiology will be discussed and described. This session is designed to give participants a strong sense of RRC operational processes during the program review portion of the meeting. Also, program directors who would like to ask specific questions of the RRC leadership can sign up for a 15 minute session that will take place during the SAAA meeting in Boston, MA, November 6-8, 2009.

Resident Survey

In February 2009, the ACGME initiated an annual approach to administering the Resident Survey. This version of the survey included anesthesiology-specific questions for the first time. The RRC is carefully reviewing the responses to these questions in conjunction with program reviews. The survey is located here: http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/Resident_Survey/040_surveyquestions.pdf

Simulation Survey

The RRC has been interested in learning more about the use of simulation in residency programs. In order to increase knowledge

MEETING AND AGENDA CLOSING DATES

MEETING: OCTOBER 29-30, 2009
AGENDA CLOSING: AUGUST 24, 2009

MEETING: APRIL 29-30, 2010
AGENDA CLOSING: FEBRUARY 27, 2010

about simulation, committee members had a conference call with an expert in the field during their January 2009 meeting. In early spring, an RRC subcommittee worked closely with ACGME staff members to develop and distribute a program directors survey that asked about the use of simulation during residency training. Program director responses to the instrument were prompt and highly informative; committee members appreciate the time that respondents took to complete the survey. The responses identify the size of the programs that are represented in the sample and the types of simulation education that is being offered to residents. As additional analyses are completed, the committee will release more results through this newsletter. Preliminary results follow.

Survey Results for Use of Simulation in Anesthesiology Education

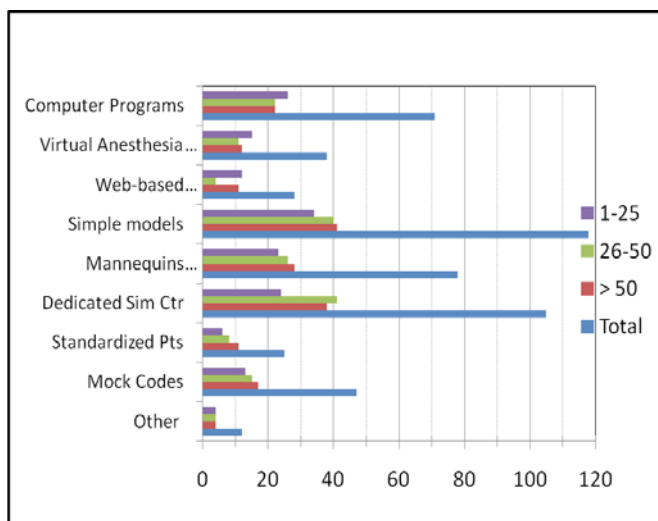
Overall Summary

Program Size (# Residents)	# Programs Using Simulation	# Programs Not Using Simulation
0	3	0
1-25	43	8
26-50	54	1
> 50	49	1
Total	149	10

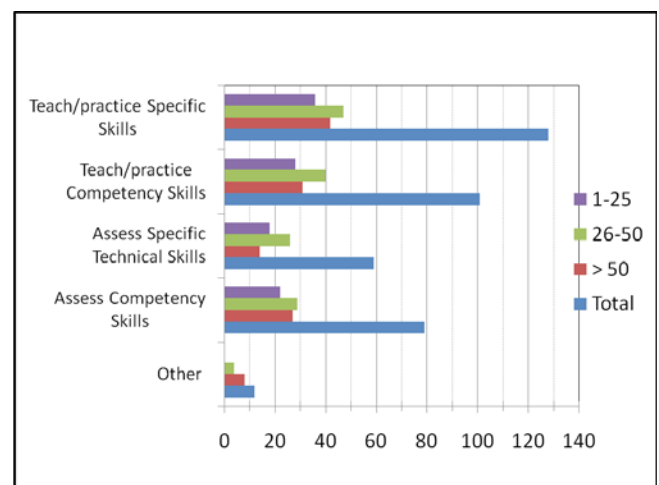
Frequency Used During 36-Month Program

Program Size (# Residents)	One Use	2-3 Uses	Other	No Answer
0		3	0	0
1-25		24	17	2
26-50	1	30	22	1
> 50	1	19	28	1
Total Programs	2	76	67	4

Simulation Methods Used in Anesthesiology Programs



Use of Simulation in Anesthesiology Programs



RRC Leadership Elections

At its May 2009 meeting, RRC members confirmed that Neal Cohen, MD will serve as their chair-elect; he will serve as the chair from January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012. James Rathmell, MD was elected RRC vice-chair and will serve in that capacity through June 30, 2012. According to the new policies that were approved by the ACGME Board of Directors in February 2009, RRC chair terms are three years in length and always

begin in July and end in June. As the RRC leadership begins to transition in accordance with these new policies, the current RRC chair Lois Bready, MD and chair-elect Dr. Neal Cohen will both attend the ACGME Council of Review Committees meeting in September 2009.

Goodbye and Best Wishes

The RRC bid farewell to Fred Guidry, MD at its May 2009 meeting. During his tenure on the committee, Dr. Guidry assisted with the development of the FAQs that are included on the RRC website, in addition to submitting excellent program reviews. Dr. Guidry's hard work and the well-reasoned comments that he offered during committee discussions were considered irreplaceable and he will be sorely missed.

New Case Log System

Please refer to the Special Edition newsletter for specific information regarding the new case log system at: http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/RRC_040_news/Anesthesiology_Special_Edition_Case_Logs_June_2009_09AS_EDT_6_25_09.pdf

Notable Practices

A notable practice is a process or practice that an RRC or other ACGME committee deems worthy of notice. Notable practices are shared through the ACGME website or other ACGME publications to provide programs and institutions with additional resources for resident education. A notable practice is not a requirement, which is a minimum standard, and its use on the ACGME website does not imply or refer to a practice necessary to comply with a requirement.

Many committees have begun to identify notable practices and are making these available to programs in the specialty through the RC webpage. Potential notable practices may be identified in several ways: comment in a site visitor report, identified during review of submitted program materials, solicitation by the executive director or RC member based on their knowledge of the program, or an unsolicited submission sent to the executive director or RC member. The potential notable practice is viewed and discussed by all RC members and if approved, will be made available through both the RC webpage and the All RC

Save The Date: 2010 ACGME Annual Educational Conference

Gaylord Opryland Resort
Hotel and Convention Center
Nashville, TN
March 4-7, 2010

Notable Practices website.

Programs in other specialties may find some of these practices useful, and could adapt them for their specialty-specific program needs as relevant. The "All Review Committees Notable Practices" webpage is now available through the RRC webpage and is a collection of all the notable practices from all RC webpages, organized by topic.

Progress Reports to the RRC

In an effort to reduce burden, the RRC would like to remind program directors that progress reports should only be submitted for review upon specific request (within the language of the notification letter). Unsolicited progress reports will not be scheduled for review by the committee, but will be administratively acknowledged with no further action. It is also important to note that the RRC does not rescind (remove) citations from a program's history upon review of a (requested) progress report. The expectation of a progress report is to provide an update to the committee on how the program is making progress in those identified areas. Citations may only be identified as corrected at the time of a full program review when they are each thoroughly evaluated through the site visit and review of accreditation materials.

Useful Resources for New Program Directors

Institutional Requirement III.B.10.e specifies that the Graduate Medical Education (GME) Committee approves new program directors prior to submission to the ACGME. Once approved, the name of the program director is entered into the ADS, which automatically generates a welcome letter to the new program director with a copy to the designated institutional official (DIO) and program coordinator. The welcome letter provides useful information about the ACGME website, as noted below, and refers the new program director to the ACGME Virtual Handbook:

<http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/home/PDVirtual-Handbook.asp>.

The Anesthesiology RRC reviews information about program director changes at each meeting, and the RRC Executive Director provides a final letter of approval to the program director with a copy to the DIO. Other useful webpages and information are:

Residency Review Committee (RRC) webpage (http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/navPages/nav_200.asp) contains periodic updates from the Review Committee, FAQs, staff members' contact information by subject, program requirements, program information forms, a "Program Directors' Guide to the Common Program Requirements."

Program Directors & Coordinators link contains information about Case logs, Resident Duty Hours, Resident Survey, policies.

ACGME Manual of Policies and Procedures, Section II, Accreditation Policies and Procedures contains a complete explanation of accreditation statuses awarded to programs and the policies to which program directors must adhere.

About ACGME, Staff Listing, Staff listing by Department provides an overview of the four departments within ACGME, including the Department of Accreditation Committees, which houses all of the RRC staff, and the phone and email contact information for all ACGME staff.

Key to the Standard Notification Letter provides explanations for the common sections of accreditation letters.

Outcome Project webpage provides comprehensive information about the general competencies.

ID and password to access the Accreditation Data System and Resident Case Log System (if applicable).

The welcome letter also informs the new program directors that the DIO and the GME Committee of the sponsoring institution and the specialty-specific Program Directors Association are other important resources, and encourages the new program directors to contact these groups for more information.

Useful ACGME Website Links

- Virtual PD handbook: <http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/home/PDVirtualHandbook.asp>
- ACGME Data book: https://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/dataBook/dat_index.asp
- Frequency of Accreditation Statuses by Specialty and Average Cycle Length by Accreditation Status and by Specialty: <http://www.acgme.org/adspublic/>. Click on Search programs and sponsors.
- Resident Survey National Data Report - available in ADS for Program Directors: log into ADS, click Resident/Fellow Survey, click National Data; DIOs select Reporting Tools, click Resident Survey National Data Overall.
- Resident Survey Institutional Data Report for each sponsoring institution's programs – available in ADS for DIOs: log into ADS, select Reporting Tools, click Institution Level Resident Survey Results
- Faculty development resources for competency-based education, a series of four PowerPoint presentations with facilitator's manuals (introduction to competency-based resident education, practical implementation of the competencies, developing an assessment system, developing a competency-based curriculum) - http://www.acgme.org/outcome/e-learn/e_powerpoint.asp