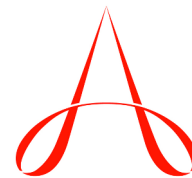


RRC NEWS

ANESTHESIOLOGY



ACGME

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

JUNE 2010

REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

AUDREE A. BENDO, MD
LOIS L. BREADY, MD
NEAL H. COHEN, MD, CHAIR
DOUGLAS B. COURSIN, MD
BRENDA G. FAHY, MD
JEFFREY R. KIRSCH, MD
RITA M. PATEL, MD
JAMES P. RATHMELL, MD, VICE CHAIR
MARK A. ROCKOFF, MD, EX-OFFICIO
SAMUEL C. SEIDEN, MD, RESIDENT
KENNETH J. TUMAN, MD

RRC STAFF

MISSY FLEMING, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
312.755.5043
MFLEMING@ACGME.ORG

NORMA RODRÍGUEZ DE YAGCIER
SENIOR ACCREDITATION ADMINISTRATOR
312.755.5042
NRDEYAGCIER@ACGME.ORG

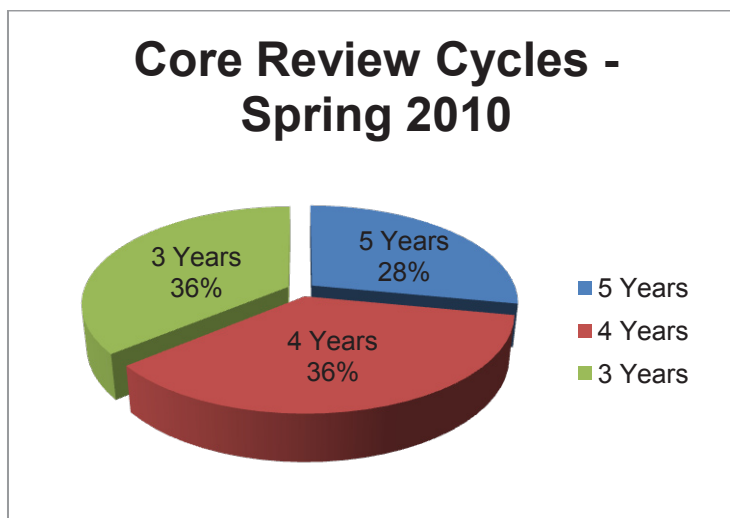
TAMARA WOLSKI, MA
ACCREDITATION ASSISTANT
312.755.5490
TWOLSKI@ACGME.ORG

ACGME
515 NORTH STATE STREET
SUITE 2000
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60654
WWW.ACGME.ORG

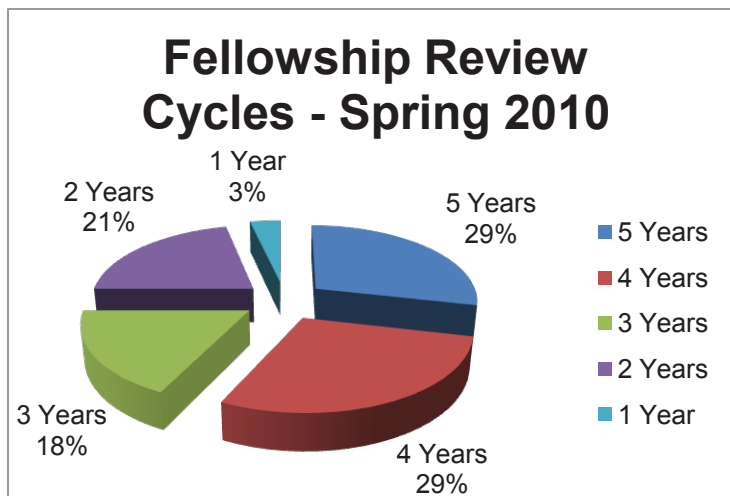
RRC NEWS PROVIDES REVIEW
COMMITTEE AND ACGME UPDATES.
PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR FOR
SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS
NEWSLETTER: MSCHWAB@ACGME.ORG.

Accreditation Decisions

The April 29-30, 2010 Review Committee meeting agenda included the accreditation status review of 14 core programs. The pie chart below illustrates the review cycles for those programs.



The meeting agenda also included the accreditation status review of 26 subspecialty programs. The second pie chart below illustrates the review cycles for those programs.



MEETING AND AGENDA CLOSING DATES

MEETING: OCTOBER 7-8, 2010
AGENDA CLOSING: AUGUST 16, 2010
MEETING: APRIL 28-29, 2011
AGENDA CLOSING: MARCH 1, 2011

Approval of Program Director Changes

Reviewing recent changes in program director positions is an important agenda item at Review Committee meetings. The credentials of each newly-appointed program director are reviewed for adherence to the program requirements. Program directors have interim status until they are approved by the Committee. Institutions that appoint program directors whose credentials do not meet the stated requirements are notified by the Committee. Letters of Notification that include information about a newly-appointed program director are sent to the program director, with a copy sent to the DIO, and are posted to ADS.

Review Committee Update at the 2010 ACGME Annual Educational Conference

At the 2010 ACGME Educational Conference, held March 4-7 in Nashville, Tennessee, Committee Chair Dr. Neal Cohen updated attendees about the status of the Program Requirements for Anesthesiology, as well as various Review Committee procedures. The update session also gave attendees the opportunity to ask the Committee Chair and ACGME staff program-specific questions in an open discussion/forum.

Peer Selection of Residents

Program directors who are preparing for a site visit are encouraged to consult the Department of Field Activities (DFA) resources on the ACGME website (under the "Site Visit & Field Staff" option on the [homepage](#)), especially with questions about the participation of peer-selected residents. Specifically, the DFA has developed a frequently asked questions (FAQ) document, offering essential answers to a variety of pertinent queries, which can be found under the aforementioned menu item. The role of the resident is outlined as follows: "The resident interview is crucial to the site visit. Please follow these guidelines: if the program has ten or fewer residents, the Field Representative will want to speak with all residents who are on duty on the day of the visit. If the program has more than ten residents, the Field Representative will want to speak with 10 to 12 residents. Residents must be selected by their peers, with representation from each year of the program. Chief residents beyond the required years of residency (e.g., a fourth-year internal medicine chief) may not participate in the resident interview (they may be included in the faculty interview). If your program operates a combined program track, such as internal medicine-pediatrics or internal medicine-psychiatry,

residents from the combined program should be represented in the interview group. Residents should be made available for the entire interview period, with their pagers and cell phones turned off."

[Click here](#) to visit the "FAQ – Site Visit" link on the ACGME site for more information.

Site Visit Evaluation

After the conclusion of an accreditation site visit for programs or sponsoring institutions, the ACGME site visitor completes his or her report and submits it to the ACGME's Department of Field Activities (DFA). The report is logged, and then, along with the program information form (PIF) sent by the program or institution, is transmitted to the Review Committee team for assignment to reviewers.

Once the Site Visit Report has been received and logged into the DFA database, the system that manages site visit scheduling generates an e-mail to the program director, indicating that s/he has an opportunity to complete an evaluation of the site visitor's knowledge, preparation, interpersonal conduct and other relevant elements of the visit. The evaluation is completed online, and programs are provided with instructions for how to access and complete it. The form is made available to program directors only after the Site Visit Report has been filed and cannot be altered. One of the reasons for this is to ensure that programs may candidly comment on all aspects of their site visit, without concerns that this may influence the Site Visit Report or the Review Committee's subsequent review. Completed site visit evaluations are aggregated; members of the field staff periodically are provided with an aggregate report that compares their performance to that of their 30 colleagues.

The e-mail notice asking for a program's evaluation of the site visit may arrive up to several weeks after the actual site visit. Consequently, program and directors may not recognize, or appreciate that the e-mail received is soliciting their comments on both their site visit and the performance of their assigned field representative. However, this feedback is extremely valuable to the ACGME and the members of the field staff in improving the site visit process. The ACGME relies on programs' honest responses, and strongly encourages program directors to look for these messages, and to take advantage of this opportunity to provide input on the accreditation process.

Journal of Graduate Medical Education

Manuscripts suitable for *JGME* include original research, systematic reviews, practical approaches, commentaries, and Letters to the Editor. Of particular interest for the issues to be published in 2010 is original research related to the competencies, supervision, and enhancing quality and safety of care in teaching settings. *JGME* staff is also interested in practical articles on innovation in the learning environment, such as new approaches for resident teaching, faculty development, teaching and learning at the bedside, and interdisciplinary and team-based approaches to education and practice. For more information, visit the Journal's website, www.jgme.org, or e-mail jgme@acgme.org.

Simulation and the Program Requirements

Review Committee members are recommending a proposed revision to the current Program Requirements for Anesthesiology in order to include a reference to simulation. The proposed changes are currently starting the revision process. Updates about the process will be included in a future newsletter.

Requests for Voluntary Withdrawal Must be Done through ADS

ACGME policy permits a program or sponsoring institution to request voluntary withdrawal of accreditation when a decision has been made by that program or institution to discontinue participation in ACGME accreditation. Requests for voluntary withdrawal of accreditation must be submitted using the Accreditation Data System (ADS). Review Committee staff will not accept letters requesting this action sent directly to them. The program director initiates the request within ADS by answering a series of questions, including: the proposed effective date which should coincide with the end of the current academic year; the reason for program closure; and a plan to place all active residents in other programs. Once submitted, ADS automatically generates an e-mail to the Designated Institutional Official (DIO) requesting approval. Once the DIO approves the request, ADS notifies the Review Committee staff. After a staff member processes the request, the program director and DIO receive official notification, and the accreditation status is changed to voluntary withdrawal.

DIO approval of this request for voluntary withdrawal of the program or sponsoring institution finalizes the request, which means the program:

1. may not accept new residents/fellows

2. may not request "reversal" of the action (*regardless of the proposed effective date*)

The program or institution *may seek* accreditation at a future date by undergoing the application process pursuant to ACGME policy. See "How to Apply for Accreditation in Seven Easy Steps" on the Program Director & Program Coordinator area of the ACGME Website (click [here](#)) for an overview.

Review Committee Staff Changes

Following the reorganization of the ACGME's Department of Accreditation Committees (DAC), the Review Committee for Anesthesiology will be staffed by Executive Director Pat Surdyk, PhD, Associate Executive Director Mary Joyce Johnston, MJ, Senior Accreditation Administrator Billy Hart, and Accreditation Assistant Anne Down as of July 1, 2010. Contact information for the new team will be available on the Review Committee webpage in July. Also as of July 1, Executive Director Missy Fleming, PhD and Senior Accreditation Administrator Norma Rodríguez de Yagcier will assume new responsibilities, providing support to the Review Committees for Diagnostic Radiology, Nuclear Medicine, and Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Changing Committee Membership

On March 22, 2010, incoming Committee members Drs. Deborah Culley, Linda Jo Mason, Matthew Patterson, and Margaret Wood participated in new member orientation at the ACGME headquarters in Chicago. The April 2010 Review Committee meeting was an observational experience for these new members; in addition to providing them with insight into the program review and meeting process, it gave them an opportunity to meet with their Committee mentors. They will assume full member responsibilities in preparation for the fall 2010 Review Committee meeting. Drs. Culley, Mason, and Wood will serve six-year terms and Dr. Patterson will serve a two-year term as the Committee's new resident member. Former Committee member Dr. Jeff Andrews will join the Committee as an ex-officio member.

Drs. Audree Bendo, Lois Bready, and Ken Tuman will rotate off the Committee when their terms conclude on June 30, 2010. All three members provided invaluable input and insights, and their contributions to Committee work were great. Dr. Bendo's careful program reviews, her perspective as a program director, and her lively contributions to issues debated and discussed during Committee meetings have always been highly appreciated by the Committee and

staff. Dr. Bready served as the Committee's chair, offered her perspective as a Designated Institutional Official, and represented the Committee on the Council of Review Committees. During her term as Chair, she was recognized by the ACGME as a *Courage to Lead Award* recipient. Dr. Tuman's concise and precise approach to all assigned Committee tasks, both written and verbal, his membership on a number of subcommittees, and his general contributions were very highly regarded. Ex-officio member Dr. Mark Rockoff is also leaving the Committee after many years of service and contributions. Each of these members will be missed, but their respective impact on the Committee and its work, and within the specialty, will be identifiable for years to come.

2010 Workshop: Basics of Accreditation for New Program Coordinators

Date: July 12, 2010

Location: ACGME Headquarters

515 North State Street, Suite 2000 Chicago, IL 60654

This one-day intensive workshop is designed to help new program coordinators understand the basics of ACGME accreditation of residency programs. The workshop is designed for individuals who assist the program director in the administration of the residency program and are new to the accreditation process. Participants must have less than two years of experience as a program coordinator.

More Information:

[Click here](#) to view the Workshop Brochure; [Click here](#) to be directed to online registration (now open); or e-mail questions about the workshops to Coordinatorworkshops@acgme.org.

Next Accreditation System is Focus of CEO's Speech at 2010 ACGME Annual Conference

The ACGME is continuing its transition to a system of accreditation that encourages and recognizes innovation, improvement, and excellence, Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP, chief executive officer of the ACGME, said at the 2010 Annual Conference.

Dr. Nasca discussed the ACGME's shift to the next accreditation system in his March 6 welcoming address, "Transitions in the Learning Environment: Milestones, the Next Accreditation System, and Other Factors Influencing Graduate Medical Education," to attendees of the 2010 ACGME Annual Educational Conference. The Conference, which was held March 4-7 at the Gaylord Opryland in Nashville, Tennessee,

attracted a record crowd of approximately 1,600 program directors, program coordinators, DIOs, and other people involved in graduate medical education.

The shift to the next accreditation system began in the early 1990s when the ACGME introduced the Outcome Project, which requires residents to master six general competencies: interpersonal skills and communication, medical knowledge, patient care, practice-based learning and improvement, professionalism, and systems-based practice.

The ACGME is working with Review Committees, and specialty medical organizations and boards to develop specific benchmarks of skills and knowledge that residents in every specialty must achieve at certain identified points or stages during their residency education. These benchmarks, or milestones, not only will help to demonstrate that all graduates meet the core competencies, but will enable both programs and the ACGME to certify that the residents meet them.

"We have entered an era of zero tolerance for medical errors and the public has very high expectations for the quality of care that they will receive," said Dr. Nasca. "The profession, and those of us involved in the education of the next generation of physicians, must enhance the public's trust in the profession and the quality of care provided by our residents in the teaching setting.

The next accreditation system will have longer accreditation cycles for strong programs, an emphasis on innovation and excellence, and more frequent collection and review of data between site visits. It will require more accountability from institutions that sponsor residency programs, more sharing of aggregate graduate medical education data, and less frequent revisions of standards.

Dr. Nasca noted that three principles underscore everything the ACGME does: the safety of patients under the care of residents and faculty in teaching institutions; the safety of patients that will receive care in later years when residents practice independently; and the assurance that residents are being educated in a safe, humanistic environment that nurtures professionalism and the effacement of self-interest.

The ACGME Board of Directors discussed next steps for this new accreditation system at a strategic retreat in February. The Board appointed a task force to develop recommendations for the next accreditation system, which will be presented to the Board in February 2011.

2011 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award, Courage to Lead Award, David C. Leach Award, GME Program and Institutional Coordinator Excellence Awards

The ACGME is accepting nominations for the 2011 *Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach* and *Courage to Lead Awards*, the *David C. Leach Award*, and *GME Program and Institutional Coordinator Excellence Awards*.

The *Courage to Teach Award* – named after Parker J. Palmer, PhD, a noted teacher and sociologist who wrote *The Courage to Teach* and other books on teaching and vocation – is given annually to program directors who have developed innovative teaching practices and demonstrated a commitment to teaching. The *Courage to Lead Award*, also named for Dr. Palmer, is presented each year to DIOs who have created an optimal environment for resident education, one each from the three categories of sponsoring institutions: small hospital (25 or fewer residency programs), large hospital (25 to 50 residency programs), and tertiary academic medical center (more than 50 residency programs).

More information about these awards is available in these FAQs:

- www.acgme.org/acWebsite/courageLeadAward/CTLawardFAQs.pdf
- www.acgme.org/acWebsite/palmerAward/CTTawardFAQs.pdf

The *David C. Leach Award* honors the ACGME's former chief executive officer, David C. Leach, MD, who retired in 2007. This annual award recognizes five residents and/or resident teams (residents, fellows, faculty, program coordinators, allied health professionals) who have developed a project or activity that improves graduate medical education.

For more information, FAQs can be reviewed here:

- www.acgme.org/acWebsite/dcl_award/DCLawardFAQs.pdf

The ACGME created the *GME Program and Institutional Coordinator Excellence Awards* to honor and recognize the very crucial role that program and institutional coordinators play in the success of the institution and its residency programs. These new awards will be given annually to five program coordinators and one institutional coordinator.

For more information, FAQs are available here:

- www.acgme.org/acWebsite/gme_award/CoordawardFAQs.pdf

- www.acgme.org/acWebsite/gme_ic_award/InstitutionalCoordawardFAQs.pdf

The ACGME Awards Committee will choose the 2011 *Courage to Teach*, *Courage to Lead*, *David C. Leach* and *GME Program and Institutional Coordinator Excellence* award recipients in September, 2010. Nominations for all five awards are **due by July 1, 2010**. Applications can be found online:

Courage to Teach Award Application Form:
www.acgme.org/acWebsite/palmerAward/CTTawardapplication.doc

Courage to Lead Award Application Form:
www.acgme.org/acWebsite/courageLeadAward/CTLawardapplication.doc

David C. Leach Award Application Form:
www.acgme.org/acWebsite/dcl_award/DCLawardapplication.doc

GME Program Coordinator Excellence Award Application Form:
www.acgme.org/acWebsite/dcl_award/DCLawardapplication.doc

GME Institutional Coordinator Excellence Award Application Form:
www.acgme.org/acWebsite/gme_ic_award/InstitutionalCoordawardapplication2011.doc

Completed applications and supporting materials should be sent **as a PDF document** to DeLonda Dowling: ddowling@acgme.org.

Save the Date:
**2011 ACGME Annual
Educational Conference**

**Gaylord Opryland Resort Hotel
and Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee
March 3-6, 2011**

****more information to follow****