

RRC NEWS

DERMATOLOGY



ACGME

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

NOVEMBER 2009

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Resident Mohs Micrographic Report: Report Instructions

The ACGME Case Log System generates two separate reports: a summary report with information on all procedures entered; and a report in a format compliant with the application for ACMS membership.

In order to generate the ACMS report, go to the 'Reports' tab in the Case Log System, and run the "Resident Mohs Micrographic Surgery Report." This link will generate the ACMS report which can be printed directly from the Case Log System.

Change in Process for New Dermatology Residency Applications

Beginning January 1, 2010 all new applications for accreditation of dermatology residency programs will require a site visit prior to a program's evaluation by the Residency Review Committee (RRC). This requirement is not unique to dermatology programs and supports the ACGME's efforts to ensure that education programs in all medical specialties will provide adequate resident education prior to enrolling residents. A prospective program will not be accredited until after a site visit and a decision by the RRC to award accreditation, provided the program demonstrates substantial compliance with the accreditation standards. It is likely to require approximately one year from the time an application is received until accreditation is granted. Prospective program directors (PDs) can access the program requirements as well as the new application Program Information Form (PIF) directly from the Dermatology RRC webpage on the ACGME's website, www.acgme.org. All required information, including the PIF, must also be available for site visitors during the accreditation visit. For the foreseeable future, fellowship applications will continue to be considered for approval without a site visit.

MEETING AND AGENDA CLOSING DATES

IN ORDER TO ENSURE AN ORDERLY AND EFFICIENT RRC MEETING, WE MUST ESTABLISH CUT-OFF DATES FOR REQUESTED AGENDA ITEMS. ALL EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE URGENT AGENDA ITEMS NOT RECEIVED BY THE STATED DEADLINES. PLEASE NOTE THESE DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR UPCOMING RRC MEETINGS:

MEETING:	MAY 22-23, 2010
AGENDA CLOSING:	APRIL 9, 2010

MEETING:	SEPTEMBER 11, 2010
AGENDA CLOSING:	JULY 30, 2010

Program Requirement Revisions for Procedural Dermatology - Update!

Following an intensive and fruitful public comment period which ended September 17, 2009, the Dermatology RRC and the Requirements Development Committee of the ACGME are preparing for the final step of the program requirement revision process. In February 2010 the RRC will present the proposed program requirements to the ACGME Committee on Requirements for final approval, with a planned effective date of July 1, 2010. The RRC is grateful to everyone who took the time to provide their comments.

• Summary of Public Comments

The RRC for Dermatology received comments from 19 sources including individuals, societies, organizations, the American Medical Association and the American Board of Dermatology. In aggregate, the RRC received 71 comments expressing concern in the following areas:

1. Qualifications of the Program Director
2. Qualifications of faculty members
3. Mohs Slide Quality
4. Changes in the required number of Mohs Procedures
5. Fellowships must be 'attached' to an institution that sponsors a dermatology residency program and local oversight arrangements
6. The name "Procedural Dermatology" should be changed
7. The length of the period for public comment should be extended
8. Public comment period should be better publicized

The RRC reviewed and responded to every comment in a written document that will be reviewed by the ACGME Committee on Requirements when the final document is presented for approval in February 2010.

American College of Mohs Surgery (ACMS) Transitions Fellowship Oversight to the ACGME

Beginning July 1, 2010 the ACMS will transition the approval and oversight of their American fellowship programs to the ACGME, ending a period in which programs could be both ACMS-approved and ACGME-accredited. The ACMS stopped receiving applications for new or renewed fellowship programs in June of this year. The ACMS will continue oversight of its approved programs until the end of the approval cycle of each program.

Members of both organizations are working closely to ensure an efficiently executed transition. They are

sharing each organization's existing policies and developing strategies that would allow incoming ACMS programs to move along a clear path towards ACGME accreditation.

A timeline for transition has been identified by representatives of both the ACMS and ACGME:

- All new and renewing applications submitted to the ACMS prior to June 30, 2009 have been processed. If approved, these programs will receive either provisional approval (two years) or full approval (four years) by the ACMS. After these approval periods have expired, these programs must seek accreditation by the ACGME should they wish to continue accreditation.
- Fellowship programs with ACMS-approval predating June 30, 2009 must seek ACGME accreditation when their approval periods expire should they wish to continue accreditation. Such programs which do not also already have ACGME accreditation will be required to apply to the ACGME as new programs after their ACMS approval period expires should they wish to continue accreditation. Programs will apply in the subspecialty of procedural dermatology. The Dermatology RRC will follow the procedure noted in the article above (*Change in Process for New Dermatology Residency Applications*: i.e., prospective programs complete the application PIF and undergo an assessment by the RRC to determine compliance with ACGME standards, which then makes a decision regarding initial accreditation). It is highly encouraged that solely-ACMS-approved programs begin the application process for ACGME accreditation as early as possible, and no later than 18 months prior to the expiration of their ACMS approval. It is important to note that prior ACMS-approval does not necessarily guarantee ACGME accreditation, as the ACGME's accreditation standards must be met in order for the RRC for Dermatology to award ACGME accreditation.
- By 2013, the ACGME will be the sole provider of accreditation of those fellowship programs with prior ACMS approval and which have successfully completed the ACGME application process.
- After 2013, graduation from an ACGME-accredited procedural dermatology fellowship program will be required for ACMS membership.

ACGME Procedural Dermatology Programs-- At a Glance

Currently there are 37 fellows enrolled in 37 ACGME-accredited procedural dermatology programs (2008-2009). ACGME-accredited programs are evaluated at least every five years. The maximum length of accreditation for new applications and existing programs is three years and five years respectively. The accreditation cycle length is set by the RRC at the time of program review. Cycle length reflects the degree to which an individual program is in compliance with the program requirements so that substantial compliance is rewarded with a longer approval cycle. For 2008-2009 the average cycle was 3.98 years.

ACGME Initiatives: Specialty-specific Milestones

Responding to a greater emphasis on, and need to include better defined outcomes in accreditation, the ACGME, together with specialty boards and other specialty-specific organizations, has initiated the process of identifying essential achievement milestones. Milestones are markers (benchmarks or thresholds) that are determined by each specialty. Resident performance along these benchmarks is examined in a periodic fashion, giving programs the opportunity to focus on what is most important, allowing for timely intervention and necessary improvement, and increasing transparency to residents regarding expectations of proficiency to be achieved during the residency. Initiatives to develop assessment methods to determine achievement will take place in conjunction with milestone development with the ultimate goal of ensuring that residency program graduates meet proficiency standards as determined by each specialty. Currently, internal medicine, pediatrics and surgery are defining the 'competent/proficient residency graduate'; it is expected that ACGME will engage other specialties during the next two years.

ACGME Resources for Program Directors and Faculty

- The ACGME website: www.acgme.org
- General Questions and Comments for the RRC: dermatology@acgme.org
- Questions related to the ADS and completing the electronic portion of the PIF: Raquel Eng, 312.755.7120 or reng@acgme.org
- Questions related to site visits: Jim Cichon, 312.755.5015 or jcichon@acgme.org
- Questions related to the PIF: Beth Murphy, 312.755.5035 or emurphy@acgme.org; Jenny Blomgren, 312.755.5026 or jblomgren@acgme.org
- Questions related to Agenda Closing Dates and Progress Report Due Dates: Beth Murphy, 312.755.5035 or emurphy@acgme.org
- Questions related to Program Requirements or notification letters: Georgia D. Andrianopoulos, PhD, gda@acgme.org

Save the Date: 2010 ACGME Annual Educational Conference

Transitions in GME

Gaylord Opryland Resort Hotel
and Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee

March 4-7, 2010

For more information:

[www.acgme.org/acWebsite/meetings/
2010Conf/me_EducConf_10.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/meetings/2010Conf/me_EducConf_10.asp)