

# RRC NEWS

## MEDICAL GENETICS



ACGME

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

FALL 2008

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### RRC STAFF

GEORGIA ANDRIANOPOULOS, PHD  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
312.755.5031  
GDA@ACGME.ORG

BILLY HART  
ACCREDITATION ADMINISTRATOR  
312.755.5026  
BHART@ACGME.ORG

JENNY BLOMGREN, MA  
ACCREDITATION ADMINISTRATOR  
312.755.5035  
JBLOMGREN@ACGME.ORG

RRC FOR MEDICAL GENETICS  
515 N. STATE STREET, SUITE 2000  
CHICAGO, IL 60610  
FAX: 312.775.7498

RRC NEWS IS A BIENNIAL PUBLICATION THAT PROVIDES REVIEW COMMITTEE AND ACGME UPDATES. PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR FOR SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER: [KREINHOLD@ACGME.ORG](mailto:KREINHOLD@ACGME.ORG).

### New Zip Code for ACGME

ACGME's zip code changed on July 1, 2008. Anything that is mailed or sent by Fed-Ex must now reference zip code 60654. Please note that the PO Box zip code, 60610 has not changed.

### Internal Reviews

The sponsoring institution is required to conduct an internal review of each residency program under its purview at approximately the midpoint of the accreditation cycle (the time between the date of the most recent accreditation action and the next scheduled site visit). The institution assembles an internal review committee, which must include at least one faculty member and at least one resident, who cannot be from the program that is being reviewed. The process involves interviews with the program director, key faculty members, peer-selected residents from each level of training, and other individuals as appropriate. Frequently it includes review of data, such as how the program has addressed the citations from the last accreditation survey.

Neither the site visitor nor the RRC reviewer sees the report from the internal review, which is not included with the program information form (PIF). During the site visit, verification that the internal review occurred includes the date, the participants, and the date the review was presented to the institution's graduate medical education committee (GMEC). This information is obtained verbally or in writing. The site visitor does not look at the results of the internal review, to ensure a review that honestly assesses the program's strengths and opportunities for improvement.

### Measuring Competencies Outcomes

The addition of the competencies as an integral part of resident education has been an evolutionary process. Initially, program directors and faculty were expected to be aware of the six competencies; then, the competencies were integrated into the goals and objectives, and resident evaluations.

Now, programs must measure the outcomes of competency-based education. The RRC has developed some sample measures and these are posted on the ACGME website:

[http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/resEvalSystem/reval\\_list.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/resEvalSystem/reval_list.asp).

However, the RRC encourages programs to be innovative in developing and using their own outcome measures.

### MEETING AND AGENDA CLOSING DATES

MEETING: APRIL 21, 2009  
AGENDA CLOSING: MARCH 2, 2009

MEETING: SEPTEMBER 12, 2009  
AGENDA CLOSING: JULY 27, 2009

## Notable Practices

The RRC is now tracking innovative ideas to share with the community, and our first such offering is from Ohio.

Drs. Hopkins and Leslie from the Cincinnati Children's Hospital shared their innovative idea to reconfigure a one-month biochemical rotation as a "task list" for residents to complete during their 2-5 year residency program, in order to ensure optimal resident education and experience in this area.

## Accreditation Data System

The ACGME's online ADS alerts the RRC to changes in programs. Program directors should update ADS to:

- Notify the RRC of any changes in their program (i.e., new program director or adding or deleting a site)
- Request a change which needs RRC approval (i.e., an increase in resident complement. The request for a permanent increase in the resident complement must include a copy of the institutional data for all participating sites. Only one academic or one calendar year of data is necessary.)
- Submit the academic year "Annual Update" (ADS staff will e-mail the deadline for updating faculty and resident rosters to the program director and DIO)
- Prepare for an upcoming site visit (the ADS will populate many sections of the PIF with the data entered)

Address your questions or concerns about ADS to [ADS@acgme.org](mailto:ADS@acgme.org).

## Voluntary Withdrawal Requests

Programs must now enter requests to voluntarily withdraw accreditation (VW) using ADS only. Programs initiate the request by answering a series of questions, including the proposed effective date, which should coincide with the end of an academic year, the reason for program closure, and a plan to place any active residents in other programs. After submitting in ADS, the request is automatically emailed to the DIO for approval. After the DIO/GMEC approves the request in ADS, the system informs the RRC staff designee. The RRC considers the request at its next meeting and notifies the program director via an official letter that the accreditation status is changed to VW.

## "Red Flags" Help Programs Recognize Potential Issues

In the [February 2008](#) issue of the ACGME e-Bulletin, an article entitled "Nine 'Red Flags' in Accreditation Site Visits and Reviews" by members of the ACGME Field Staff provides observations that may raise questions about program quality and compliance with program and institutional requirements. This may be of particular interest to programs preparing for upcoming site visits.

## Council of Review Committee Residents

The Council of Review Committee Residents (CRCR) is composed of physicians in-training, and their unique perspective makes them invaluable members of the 28 residency review committees to which they belong.

The CRCR meets in February and September, and provides advice and feedback to the ACGME Board through its chair, Karen Hsu Blatman, MD. Dr. Hsu Blatman is one of two ACGME resident directors of the ACGME Board of Directors (the AMA appoints a resident director from its Resident and Fellow Section), and she also serves on the ACGME Strategic Initiatives Committee. Adeline Deladisma, MD, vice chair, serves on the ACGME Monitoring Committee.

In recent years, the CRCR has provided feedback on the redesign of the ACGME resident survey and has also recommended a change in the institutional requirements to allow for a fairer grievance process when the designated institutional official is also the program director. In addition, the CRCR has voiced concerns with the Federation of State Medical Boards about its "unusual circumstance" question on the verification credentialing form.



*Pictured above: From Back Row (left to right): Miriam D. Post, MD, Pathology; Meredith Riebschleger, MD, Pediatrics; Monica E. Rho, MD, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation; Jeffrey H. Kozlow, MD, Plastic Surgery; Samuel Seiden, MD, Anesthesiology; Kayla Pope, MD, Psychiatry;*

Todd J. Mondzelewski, MD, Ophthalmology.

Middle Row: Matthew M. Poppe, MD, Radiation Oncology; Ruth Ann Vleugels, MD, Dermatology; Brian Lane, MD, PhD, Urology; Michael L. DiLuna, MD, Neurological Surgery; Adeline Deladisma, MD, Surgery; Joanna R. Fair, MD, Nuclear Medicine.

Front Row): Esther J. Cheung, MD, Otolaryngology; Rupa J. Dainer, MD, Institutional Review Committee; Karen Hsu Blatman, MD, Internal Medicine (and baby Penelope); Jaime Lynn Bohl, MD, Colon and Rectal Surgery; Gretchen Glaser, MD; Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Not pictured: Jose A. Carillo, MD, Neurology, Molly Cohen-Osher, Family Medicine, Brian P. Freeman, MD, Internal Medicine, James Huang, MD, Thoracic Surgery, Shauna Lawless, MD, Preventive Medicine, Keri A. Reese, MD, Orthopaedic Surgery, Jessica B. Robbins, MD, Diagnostic Radiology, Benjamin P. Soule, MD, Allergy and Immunology, Sarah Taylor, MD, Transitional Year, Michael J. Tocci, MD, Emergency Medicine, Audrey C. Woerner, MD, Medical Genetics.

## Courage to Teach, Courage to Lead, and John C. Gienapp Awardees

Eleven program directors and three designated institutional officials have been chosen to receive the Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach and Courage to Lead awards. These annual awards, selected from a large pool of nominees, honor outstanding teachers and leaders in graduate medical education.

The Courage to Teach Award is given to program directors, nominated by their peers and students, who have innovative residency program curricula, and who have improved graduate medical education and served as exemplary role models for residents. The award is named for Parker J. Palmer, PhD, a sociologist and teacher who wrote *The Courage to Teach*. The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Award is given to designated institutional officials, who are responsible for all ACGME-accredited residency programs at an institution, for creating an optimum learning environment for residents; encouraging the ethical, professional, and personal development of residents; and ensuring safe and appropriate patient care.

The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach and Courage to Lead award recipients will receive plaques and checks for \$1,000 at a luncheon held during the ACGME's Annual Educational Conference, which will take place March 5-8 at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Dallas. The award recipients will also be invited to attend an educational retreat next May at the Fetzer Institute in Kalamazoo, Mich.

The 2008-09 Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach and Courage to Lead recipients are:

## Courage to Teach Awardees

- Michael S. Beeson, MD, emergency medicine, Summa Health System, Akron, Ohio
  - James Burks, MD, internal medicine, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas
  - Peter Carek, MD, family medicine, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, South Carolina
  - Edmund Cibas, MD, cytopathology, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts
  - Nancy Gaba, MD, obstetrics and gynecology, George Washington University, Washington, DC
  - Sheela Kapre, MD, internal medicine, San Joaquin General Hospital, French Camp, California
  - Gail Manos, MD, psychiatry, Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, Virginia
  - D. Karl Montague, MD, urology, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio (recently retired with 31 years experience as program director)
  - Lori Schuh, MD, neurology, Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan
  - James Valentine, MD, surgery, University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas
  - Richard Welling, MD, surgery, Good Samaritan Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- ## Parker J. Palmer Courage to Lead Awardees
- Lois Bready, MD, University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, Texas
  - Diane Hartmann, MD, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, New York
  - Andrew Filak, MD, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio

## John C. Gienapp Awardee

William H. Hartmann, MD was selected for the John C. Gienapp Award, which honors him for his significant lifetime contributions to the ACGME and graduate medical education. The award is named after the ACGME's first executive director, John C. Gienapp, PhD, who headed the ACGME from its inception in

1981 to 1997.

### **RRC Webpage Redesign**

During this past year the RRC web pages have been redesigned. The user-friendly format has a new look for each page, and allows users to quickly locate information on the RRC pages through new menus and navigation bars; content has been organized into specific categories, and keywords have been updated to improve search engine results. A link to your RRC staff listing, along with their contact information, is located at the top of the page. The contact list is organized by subject so that you may easily access the staff member who is responsible for key areas and get your questions answered in a timely manner. The new Diagnostic Radiology webpage is located here: [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/navPages/nav\\_130.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/navPages/nav_130.asp)

### **2009 ACGME Educational Conference March 5-8, 2009 in Grapevine, Texas**

Each year, the ACGME Annual Educational Conference provides a venue for graduate medical educators to learn more about the accreditation process and ways to enhance residency program quality related to ACGME initiatives, such as general competencies, educational outcome assessment, and duty hours.

The 2009 conference theme, "Shaping the Future," will offer more than 80 sessions clearly focused on the topics of education, assessment, the learning environment, and accreditation. The Conference will begin with an international pre-conference titled "Promoting Good Learning and Safe, Effective Care: A Five-Year Review of the ACGME's Common Duty Hour Standards," as well as an introductory pre-course for new program directors and coordinators.

The Medical Genetics specialty session will be held on Friday, March 6, from 4:15 to 5:00pm. Program directors will have the opportunity to meet ACGME staff and discuss issues of common interest.

Attendees and speakers can register here: [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/meetings/me\\_EducConf\\_09\\_Speakers.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/meetings/me_EducConf_09_Speakers.asp).