

## **Global Health Exception Training in Internal Medicine**

### **Residency Review Committee for Internal Medicine (RC-IM) Action**

The RC-IM supports initiatives to promote training in international health (IH) for residents in ACGME accredited internal medicine residency programs.

The Committee has drafted the following guidelines for requesting approval of a core internal medicine track in International Health and/or Underserved Population(s).

1. This core internal medicine track is defined as an extended period of training beyond three years, to focus on international health and/or underserved population(s).
2. Requests for individual resident variations in training will be dealt with on an ad hoc basis and approved by the appropriate organization.
3. The Committee will review requests for a 2-12 month experience in international health and/or underserved population(s) on a program-by-program basis. Rotations of less than 6 weeks in duration will not require the following approval process.
4. The Committee will not allow a specialty-wide exception to the internal medicine program requirements.
5. Applications must be submitted in writing to the RC-IM first, with sign-off by the GMEC and the DIO to verify the accreditation status of the program.
  - a. Programs with short cycles (2 years or less), on probation, or with recurrent duty hour violations will not be considered.
  - b. The request should indicate whether the program will be over its approved resident complement at any time during this training and request approval for an increase as necessary.
  - c. List the location(s) of the training.
  - d. List the goals and objectives of the track.
  - e. Explain supervision of the resident(s). The program should be able to justify to the RC-IM that the supervising physician(s) is in fact adequate to teach the fellows at the distant site.
  - f. The experience must be elective (not required).
6. The application will then be sent to ABIM for approval of the track and the training pattern.
7. The ABIM will send the final approval to the RC-IM and program director and the approval of and/or suggested revisions to the training pattern.

8. At the time of the reaccreditation site visit, the track will be examined and the program must provide a mechanism for the site visitor to interview the residents assigned to the international site and/or underserved population location(s).
9. At completion of the rotation, the resident(s) will be required to complete an RC-IM developed Resident Questionnaire which will be returned to the RC-IM in order to track the fellow's experiences.
10. The program must provide the Committee with a progress report on outcomes of the international health and/or underserved population experience after the first two years of the variance.

**Effective Date: February 1, 2009**