

RRC NEWS

NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY



Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

FALL 2008

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RRC Accreditation Decisions: 2008

A total of 47 programs were reviewed during the January 2008 and June 2008 RRC meetings. Ten complement increase requests were approved (5 of 11 independent requests and 5 in conjunction with full program reviews).

Total Accredited Programs:	99
Initial Accreditation	02
Continued Accreditation	18
Resident Complement Increase	10
Other requests (progress reports, fellowship acknowledgements, etc.)	17

Competency and Other Support Resources: The “Senior Society” Website and Program Director’s Toolkit

The Society of Neurological Surgeons (SNS) or the “Senior Society” membership group, comprised of neurosurgery residency program directors, chairs, and other educational leaders, offers a forum for the development of the field in graduate and post-graduate education. To further this goal, the Society’s recently redesigned website www.societyns.org features a new Program Director’s Toolkit. The Toolkit houses extensive material on curricular design and content, competencies education, compliance, and accreditation review.

The Toolkit contains three main sections:

Toolkit – Resident and Program evaluation forms, competencies educational material, curricular material, policies, portfolio documents, and site visit preparatory materials.

Forums – Online discussion area for topics of interest and concern to program directors.

Links – Links to important and useful residency education and regulatory sites on the web.

The SNS website also houses other major educational and residency related resources, including:

--An online archive of all PowerPoint presentations made at Annual SNS meetings, starting from 2007. Much of this content is related to educational methods and quality improvement.

--Information for applicants and programs regarding ERAS and NRMP, which now administer the Neurosurgery Residency application and matching processes. This includes a listing of all interview dates, to help programs and applicants coordinate dates regionally.

--Information and registration materials for the Research Update in Neuroscience for Neurosurgeons (RUNN) annual course at the Woods Hole Laboratory on Cape Cod.

The Program Director's Toolkit is a living document, created for and by program directors. Program directors are encouraged to submit successful curriculum, compliance, and accreditation material for posting on the website. Please send material by email to: seldenn@ohsu.edu.

Members of the community are also encouraged to join or initiate discussions in the Forum area on the site. Your knowledge and experience will benefit your peers, so please share it with them at any time using the site.

Dr. Nathan R. Selden, MD, PhD, FACS
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Dr. Kim J. Burchiel, MD, FACS
Chairman, Neurological Surgery, OHSU
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ACGME Learning Portfolios in the Neurosurgery Community

The ACGME Learning Portfolio is an interactive web-based professional development tool that residents can use throughout their residencies to record and organize their learning and to reflect and receive feedback on their skills as physicians, building evidence that allows them to chart their own progress over time.

In the neurosurgery community, portfolios allow residents the opportunity to capture their learning experiences (e.g., clinical, use of stimulators, research, PowerPoint presentations, videos, etc), and to document those experiences in a variety of ways. The portfolio can be a meaningful journal about the resident; it can offer feedback, and it can be used in semi-annual reviews. Furthermore, evaluations are customizable for program directors, for resident self-learning, and for faculty and program evaluations. The portfolio is flexible and has a variety of tools to suit individual

programs; the portfolio could include educational materials along with educational objectives and criteria, utilizing existing software.

One neurological surgery residency program is participating in the alpha 2 phase of the learning portfolio, and three programs have volunteered for the beta phase.

More information can be found at the ACGME Learning Portfolio website

FAQs

http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/portfolio/cbpac_faq.pdf

Timeline

http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/portfolio/cbpac_revisedtimeline.pdf

Narrated demonstration

<http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/portfolio/AlphaDemonstration.wmv>

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 2008 conference theme "Building Community, Improving Quality" emphasized how better education and better patient care can occur when individuals in diverse roles work together toward shared goals.

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.

Accreditation Data System

The online Accreditation Data System (ADS) alerts the RRC to changes in programs. Program directors

should update the 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)
- Submit the academic year “Annual Update” (ADS staff will e-mail the deadline for updating faculty and resident rosters)
- Prepare for an upcoming site visit (the ADS will populate many sections of the PIF with the data entered)

The ADS is also a historical resource for programs, and includes recent notification letters and previous citations.

For questions or concerns contact Emilio Villatoro at 312.755.7117, email webADS@acgme.org.

Programs should contact the Helpdesk Line for Case Logs at 312.755.7464, email Oplog@acgme.org

Request for Complement Increase

All requests for changes in resident complement must be made through the ADS. The DIO must approve all requests, a step that is required before ACGME staff can make a submission to the RRC.

Accreditation Decision Letters

Program directors are able to access and print accreditation notification letters dated after July 1, 2004 through ADS. Copies of letters prior to this date are available upon request to RRC staff.

Future RRC Meeting and Agenda Closing Dates

Meeting Date: January 16-17, 2009
Agenda Closing Date: November 7, 2008

Meeting Date: June 19-20, 2009
Agenda Closing Date: April 17, 2009