

Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

[Home](#) [Mission](#) [Chat](#) [Site Map](#) [Help](#)

Newsletter

Residency Review Committee for Pathology Summer, 1999

APCP REQUIREMENT CHANGES

We continue to receive comment on the potential revisions to the accreditation requirements for APCP residencies. The Committee will review your responses, including those made during the July APC/PRODS meeting, in September and will

provide further information regarding next steps before the end of the year.

RESIDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Following a pilot test in 1997-98, the RRC has decided to continue the use of a resident questionnaire as part of the accreditation process for APCP programs. While the current form is considerably shorter than the initial version, the use of a questionnaire has been well reviewed by resident groups and the ACGME, and the RRC has found the resulting data useful. The new questionnaire has been distributed to programs scheduled for site visits during 1999 and will be sent to programs with visit dates during the first half of 2000 in October. If you have questions or comments about the questionnaire, we would especially encourage you to send them via e-mail to spn@acgme.org.

RRC MEETING DATES

The Committees next two meetings will be:

September 17-18, 1999
March 31-April 1, 2000

AUTOPSY EDUCATION

PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT

A key component of the Committee's session for Program Directors in Boulder last month was Dr. Bennett's presentation on the RRC's most frequent suggestions for APCP program improvement. During its last three meetings, the RRC completed 120 reviews of APCP residencies, most of which resulted in the identification of opportunities for program improvement. For those of you who were unable to participate in the Boulder meeting, the ten most frequently cited categories were:

1. Aspiration Techniques
2. Autopsy Pathology
3. Teaching Staff
4. Forensic Pathology
5. Surgical Pathology
6. Clinical Pathology
7. Evaluation of the Program
8. Evaluation of Residents
9. Space, Facilities, Equipment
10. Program Administration

An annotated listing of the improvement suggestions most frequently made by the Committee during the last year and a half is attached. Program Directors, faculty, and others involved in resident education may find it useful as they evaluate their own programs.

ACGME & RRC ON THE WEB

The fastest route to current accreditation requirements and program information forms is the internet. We encourage you to stop by www.acgme.org to find out what else you can learn about the RRC, ACGME, and the accreditation process.

When Committee members evaluate resident education in the autopsy pathology area, they are interested in not only the number of autopsies performed but also the extent of resident involvement. If a resident is merely an observer during a case, for example, that experience should not be recorded as resident participation in an autopsy. Rather, program directors and their faculties must ensure that residents maintain a log of those autopsies (including forensic cases) which include active resident participation in each of the following:

1. Review of the circumstances of death
2. Examination of the body as received
3. Gross autopsy and gross dissection (as the primary or secondary prosector)
4. Preparation of a written autopsy protocol of the gross dissection (including the preliminary anatomic diagnosis)
5. Review of microscopic and toxicologic findings
6. Determination of the cause and manner of death
7. Critical review of the autopsy report with a pathologist from the program's teaching staff

RRC MEMBERS Since the beginning of the year, the Committee has welcomed two new members: Jennifer L. Hunt, M.D., a resident in the University of Pennsylvania APCP program, and C. Bruce Alexander, M.D., whose many responsibilities include the directorship of the University of Alabama-Birmingham APCP program. They join:

Stephen D. Allen, M.D.
 Betsy D. Bennett, M.D., Ph.D., Chair
 M. Desmond Burke, M.D.
 L. Maximilian Buja, M.D.
 E. Tessa Hedley-Whyte, M.D.
 William H. Hartmann, M.D., ex-officio
 Jeffrey McCullough, M.D.
 Deborah E. Powell, M.D., Vice-Chair
 Ross E. Zumwalt, M.D.

COMMITTEE OFFICE & STAFF

515 North State Street, Suite 2000
 Chicago, IL 60610
 FAX: 312/464-4098

Steven P. Nestler, Ph.D.
 Executive Director
 E-Mail: spn@acgme.org
 Phone: 312/464-4692

Kathy Kelly
 Accreditation Administrator
 E-Mail: kmk@acgme.org
 Phone: 312/464-4688

William H. Hart
 Senior Secretary
 E-Mail: bhart@acgme.org
 Phone: 312/464-4689

www.ACGME.org

Copyright 2000-2004 ACGME
 Legal Statements