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## **Residency Review Committee for Pathology Summer 2003 Newsletter**

### **SUBSPECIALTY PROGRAM REQUIREMENT REVISIONS**

Draft revisions for each subspecialty area of pathology accreditation have been distributed to program directors for review and comment. Major changes include (1) the addition of language regarding the six general competencies; (2) a requirement that at least one member of the teaching staff be ABP-certified in the subspecialty; and (3) a requirement that the program director have at least three years of experience in the subspecialty following completion of training. The RRC reviewed comments submitted during its March meeting and made editorial revisions. The requirements will be submitted to the ACGME for review in September. If approved, the new requirements will become effective July 1, 2004.

### **GENERAL COMPETENCIES UPDATE**

ACGME Outcome Project directives require programs to gradually come into compliance with the new general competencies and outcome measure initiatives during the next two to three years. Therefore, the RRC will look for documentation of the following when it reviews APCP programs whose site visits are completed during the 2003-2004 academic year:

1. Documentation of educational goals and objectives and implementation of instructional strategies in four of the six competencies: medical knowledge, patient care, professionalism, and interpersonal skills.
2. Documentation of plans for resident education in practice-based learning & improvement and systems-based practice for the 2004-2005 academic year.
3. Use of at least one assessment method (a global evaluation, for example) to evaluate resident development in all six competency areas.
4. Initial plans for the eventual implementation of at least two assessment methods for the evaluation of resident development in each competency area.

Note: Fellowships will not be required to address these expectations until the 2004-2005 academic year.

### **DUTY HOURS REQUIREMENTS**

The ACGME's new duty hour requirements for all accredited programs became effective July 1. The new language has been added to the APCP program requirements, which may be obtained from the ACGME Web site ([www.acgme.org](http://www.acgme.org)).

### **COMMON PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

The ACGME has also approved new requirement language for all specialties and subspecialties in addition to those related to duty hours. So now would be a very good time to take a look at the new requirements to make sure that your program will be in compliance with the new expectations.

### **KEEP THE RRC INFORMED**

The RRC must be informed of major program changes, including program director changes and changes in participating institutions. If such a change has occurred in your program, log in to the ACGME's Web Accreditation Data System (ADS) to submit the change for RRC review. Program directors should already have a password and ID. If you do not have this information, please contact Jevon Truesdale at [jtruesdale@acgme.org](mailto:jtruesdale@acgme.org). Please note that changes in resident complement require prior approval by the RRC. If the change requested requires additional documentation, you will be contacted by a member of the RRC staff.

### **RRC MEETING DATES**

Oct. 3-4, 2003

March 26-27, 2004

Oct. 1-2, 2004

To ensure sufficient time for distribution and review of materials prior to an RRC meeting, the deadline for submissions to be considered by the RRC is two months prior to the meeting date.

### **RRC MEMBERSHIP**

William H. Hartmann, MD, will complete his service as the ex-officio member of the RRC in December. As the executive vice president of the American Board of Pathology, Dr. Hartmann has provided guidance to the RRC since 1993. The committee will miss him both personally and professionally. While Bill can never be replaced, the committee is pleased that his successor in the ex-officio position will be Betsy D. Bennett, MD, PhD, a former member and chair of the RRC.

### **CURRENT RRC MEMBERS**

C. Bruce Alexander, MD, RRC Chair  
Stephen D. Allen, MD, RRC Vice-Chair  
M. Desmond Burke, MD  
Joseph C. Fantone, MD  
Margaret M. Grimes, MD  
Rebecca Johnson, MD  
William H. Hartmann, MD, ex-officio  
Joseph Hughes, MD, Resident Member  
Janet E. Roepke, MD, PhD  
Ross E. Zumwalt, MD

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