

Hematology-Oncology Fellowship Programs FAQ	
General Subspecialty Requirements	
Question	Answer
Do the General Subspecialty Program Requirements apply to Hematology-Oncology? [see ACGME Program Requirements for Fellowship Education in the Subspecialties of Internal Medicine] [see RRC-IM General Subspecialty FAQ]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Absolutely. Hematology-Oncology program directors should study carefully the General Subspecialty Program Requirements, and the FAQs related to these PRs. The requirements cover required structural elements in the program such as required institutional support, facilities and resources, key faculty and program director qualifications and responsibilities, conferences, continuity clinic, scholarship and research, evaluation, etc.</li> <li>Subspecialty fellowship programs are expected to be in full compliance with <u>both</u> the General Subspecialty Program Requirements, and the Subspecialty Specific Program Requirements.</li> </ul>
Does the program director for a hematology-oncology fellowship program need to be ABIM certified in both hematology and oncology? [Program Requirement II.A.3.b)]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Committee standard for subspecialty program director certification is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Sub IM program director must be ABIM-certified, and must maintain certification in the internal medicine subspecialty. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i.e., The Sub program director may allow core certification to lapse, but must maintain certification in <u>subspecialty</u>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>In combined fellowships (hematology-oncology, pulmonary-critical care) the program director must maintain certification in at least one subspecialty.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Educational Program	
Question	Answer
Can we offer a Hematology or an Oncology track in the Heme-Onc program? [Program Requirement VIII.A.]	<p>Yes. A three-year combined subspecialty training program in hematology and oncology can provide two-year training in either hematology or oncology by developing a <u>curriculum</u> and <u>rotation schedule</u> that <u>meets the published program requirements</u> for the specialty training, as stated in the Program Requirements for Fellowship Education in Hematology and Program Requirements for Fellowship Education in Oncology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the endeavor is to be a routine track (i.e., 2 or more fellows in 3 years), the program director must submit the didactic and rotation schedules and narrative that describes the educational and clinical experience for the track(s) to the RRC-IM for approval.</li> <li>If the accommodation is only for individual fellows on request (i.e., one fellow every 3 years), then RRC approval of the curriculum is not required.</li> </ul> <p>At all times, programs must stay within their approved complement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programs must request a temporary complement increase (via Web ADS) if the addition of a hematology or oncology fellow will cause the program to exceed their approved complement.</li> <li>The RRC-IM will grant temporary increases to accommodate additional hematology or oncology trainees. If it becomes more than occasional (i.e., one fellow every 3 years), then the program should request a permanent complement increase and have the hematology or oncology track approved.</li> </ul>
What does the Committee 'count' as clinical training? [Program Requirement VIII.D.]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuity clinic time during research, or the additional 72 sessions of ambulatory clinic (if it occurs during research time) may not be used to reduce the 18 months of (block) clinical time.</li> <li>Electives such as hematopathology, blood bank, coagulation and radiation therapy may be counted in the 18 months. These are necessary skills for the hem-onc specialty. However, these electives should not exceed 3 months of the total 18 months.</li> </ul>
Will experience in autologous BMT fulfill the transplant requirement? [Program Requirement VIII.G.]	Experience must include <u>both</u> autologous and allogeneic bone marrow transplantation (including peripheral stem cell).
How will the RRC calculate the additional 10% ambulatory time? [Program Requirement VIII.H.2.]	Programs must provide the equivalent of at least 72 ambulatory half-day sessions, in addition to continuity clinic (10% of 18 months = 72 half-day sessions). It may occur in blocks, or longitudinally, during either the required 18 months clinical, or during research time.
What procedures does the	Heme-Onc Procedures that Must be Documented In Fellow' Procedure

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program need to track for Hematology-Oncology fellows? [Program Requirement XI.B.1.e)]	Log: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bone Marrow aspirate and Biopsy</li> </ul>
<b>Faculty</b>	
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
Does the Hem-Onc program director need to be ABIM certified in both specialties? [Program Requirement IX.B.1.]	The requirement allows flexibility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The program director must be ABIM certified in Hematology <u>and</u> Medical Oncology; or must be certified in <u>either</u> Hematology <u>or</u> Medical Oncology. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If certified in only one specialty, one of the key clinical faculty must function as an associate program director with responsibility for the curriculum of the specialty for which the program director is not certified.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Facilities and Resources</b>	
<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
Can our program use off-site radiation oncology facilities? [Program Requirement X.B.2.]	Radiation Oncology facilities may be off site <u>if the institution</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is using a shared regional facility, and</li> <li>• There are radiation oncology faculty present on site that participate in the training program and multidisciplinary tumor boards.</li> </ul>
Does Tumor Board 'count' as a clinical case conference? [Program Requirement X.D.3.]	Fellows must participate in a multidisciplinary case management or tumor conference. This can count as one of the four required case conferences per month.

# APPENDIX I

## RRC-IM Calculation of Minimum Key Clinical Faculty (KCF) and Key Clinical Faculty (KCF) Scholarship Participation/Productivity

### Hematology/Medical Oncology

**Minimum 6 KCF or 1:1.5 faculty-fellow ratio for programs with 10 or more fellows**

Approved Fellow Complement	Minimum Certified KCF (incl PD)	Minimum Certified <u>HEME</u> KCF (incl PD)	Minimum Certified <u>ONC</u> KCF (incl PD)	Majority of Minimum KCF (50%)	<u>PARTICIPATION</u> KCF with at Least 1 Pub Past 3 Years [259]	<u>PRODUCTIVITY</u> Pubs All KCF Past 3 Years (1/yr x 3 yrs) [259]
2	6	3	3	3	3	9
3	6	3	3	3	3	9
4	6	3	3	3	3	9
5	6	3	3	3	3	9
6	6	3	3	3	3	9
7	6	3	3	3	3	9
8	6	3	3	3	3	9
9	6	3	3	3	3	9
10	7	3	3	4	4	12
11	8	3	3	4	4	12
12	8	3	3	4	4	12
13	9	3	3	5	5	15
14	10	3	3	5	5	15
15	10	3	3	5	5	15
16	11	3	3	6	6	18
17	12	3	3	6	6	18
18	12	3	3	6	6	18
19	13	3	3	7	7	21
20	14	3	3	7	7	21
21	14	3	3	7	7	21
22	15	3	3	8	8	24
23	16	3	3	8	8	24
24	16	3	3	8	8	24
25	17	3	3	9	9	27

- Publication = Research publication, review article, or editorial in a peer review journal (PRJ), funded peer-review grant, or book chapter.
- Scholarly case reports acceptable (Sept 2007) if indexed in Pub Med, and copy submitted with PIF
- Peer review publication = indexed in Pub Med (or Medline). If not in Pub Med, PD must supply evidence of peer review
- In press or accepted for publication counts. Submitted or in preparation does not count.
- Abstract, illustration, letter to the editor, presentation, or publication in non-PRJ does not count.
- Peer-reviewed funding (NIH, NCI, or other government-funded or national-foundation funded) counts
- Industry, pharmaceutical, or other non-peer-review grant does not count.
  - Exception: Pharmaceutical studies in which the KCF is the overall PI (lead investigator) for all sites will be

accepted as counting as one product of scholarship

- 1 paper = 1 paper; Do not count multi-author papers more than once.
- Count the last three calendar years prior to PIF submission. If site visit is in Sep. 2008, count publications from 2005, 2006, and 2007 as well as 2008.
- Contribute to participation: Only ABIM certified KCF
- Contribute to productivity:
  - Certified KCF
  - Additional sub-specialty KCF (above minimum required, certified or non-certified)
  - Non-physician faculty and faculty in other specialties IF:
    - Contribute to fellow education
    - Devote at least 10 hours/ week to the program