

Frequently Asked Questions: Obstetric Anesthesiology

Question	Answer
Program Personnel and Resources	
<p>How much academic achievement within the faculty is sufficient?</p> <p>[Program Requirement II.B.7]</p>	<p>More than half of the members of the faculty must demonstrate ongoing academic achievement in the past three years by publishing in a peer-reviewed journal, developing an educational program, or conducting research. At least one product from each of the above components must be represented in the academic achievements output of the full faculty.</p>
<p>Must the faculty include certified anesthesiologist-intensivists?</p> <p>[Program Requirement II.B.9]</p>	<p>No. There must be faculty members certified in critical care medicine (CCM) for the joint and collaborative management of critically-ill women during the puerperium. It is preferable, but not required, that the faculty includes anesthesiologist-intensivists. However, also acceptable are other similarly qualified CCM faculty members who are not anesthesiologists. The adequacy of the educational experience for the fellow will be determined through emphasis on the joint and collaborative care of critically ill obstetric patients by intensivists.</p>
<p>Who are the necessary allied health staff and other support personnel?</p> <p>[Program Requirement II.C.2]</p>	<p>The Review Committee recognizes that titles will vary by region or institution, that roles may overlap or be shared by multiple staff, and that not all of the following need be present. The support personnel that would typically be associated with an obstetric anesthesiology fellowship are specialized critical care nurses, labor and delivery room nurses, pre-operative and Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) nurses, licensed practical nurses, respiratory therapists or respiratory technicians, life support and airway technicians, blood gas technicians, diagnostic sonographers or ultrasound technicians, laboratory technicians, surgical technicians, phlebotomists, and medical assistants.</p>
<p>Must fellows' critical care experience take place in an intensive care unit (ICU)?</p> <p>[Program Requirement II.D.1]</p>	<p>No. Care may be rendered in a critical care unit or in a similar high acuity unit in the labor and delivery area itself.</p>
Fellow Appointments	
<p>Why must a fellow have successfully completed an ACGME-accredited program in anesthesiology prior to enrollment in the program?</p> <p>[Program Requirement III.A.1]</p>	<p>While the obstetrical anesthesiology competencies are distinct from those of the core residency program, the obstetrical anesthesiology program requirements assume competencies already acquired during the core residency. Programs may accept candidates who have not completed an ACGME-accredited core residency into <u>non-accredited</u> fellowship positions, but these candidates may not detract from the educational experience of fellows in the accredited program. A certificate issued to fellows upon completion of a non-accredited program cannot state that the program was ACGME-accredited.</p>

Educational Program	
<p>What type of experience should residents have to meet the requirement for achieving competence in managing general anesthetics for Cesarean or vaginal delivery?</p> <p>[Program Requirement IV.A.2.a).(1).(d)]</p>	<p>It is desirable that fellows gain experience in general anesthesia for delivery by assisting and supervising residents under the direction of an obstetric anesthesiologist rather than personally performing the anesthetic.</p>
<p>Must the required three months or more of research/scholarly activity be scheduled as a block?</p> <p>[Program Requirement IV.A.3.a).(5)]</p>	<p>No. This experience does not need to be three contiguous months, but should be an equivalent amount of time, and may be offered as a longitudinal experience. Increments should not be less than one day. (20 days is equivalent to one month.)</p>
<p>Must the presentation or publication of fellowship scholarly activity occur before completion of the fellowship?</p> <p>[Program Requirement IV.B.1]</p>	<p>No. The fellow's involvement in the project must begin or continue during the fellowship, but the presentation or publication can occur after the fellowship has been completed.</p>

10/01/2011