

Important Changes Regarding use of the ACGME Case Log System to Evaluate Procedural Dermatology Fellowship Programs

The Review Committee for Dermatology has responded to concerns voiced by procedural dermatology program directors regarding the need for flexibility in how programs comply with requirements to provide cosmetic and laser training to fellows. Currently the Review Committee cites fellowship programs if it determines they are not providing either sufficient “experience performing” or “exposure to” the list of procedures in the Program Requirements. These procedures are included in the list of index procedures tracked by the ACGME Case Log System. Citations based on non-compliance in a limited number of procedures for which “competency” is not required has been determined to be inappropriate and leads to an over emphasis on minor aspects of the fellowship curriculum.

Beginning January 1, 2012 the Review Committee will implement a process that involves evaluation of the index procedure *totals* of a program’s graduating fellow(s) (refer to Table 1 below). Index procedures for fellows have now been grouped by category and reports will roll up totals for each procedure type within each category. Programs will be cited for non-compliance if, in any two out of three years, the number of category totals for more than any two Level 1b index procedure categories or any six Level 2 index procedure categories falls below two standard deviations of the national mean.

Programs will still be required to teach fellows to competence in destruction techniques, excision, Mohs surgery and reconstruction techniques (Procedural Dermatology PR’s IV.A.2.a).(2).(a)-(c)).

Programs must still include cosmetic and/or laser training in the fellowship curriculum but, by evaluating programs using this approach, it is the hope of the Review Committee that program directors will be afforded more flexibility when developing their curricula.

With this change in the program review process, it is critically important that accurate data is routinely entered into the online ACGME Case Log System. The Review Committee expects fellows to enter all procedures performed during their educational programs into the Case Log System. Program Directors are expected to ensure that all fellows understand how to use the Case Log System, and that entries are complete and accurate.

Table 1: Index procedures for Procedural Dermatology fellows grouped by Category and divided into three levels of educational experience

	Fellow Case Log Index Procedures	Index Procedure Categories for Fellows
Fellow Level 1a: Perform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fellow must perform minimum 200 Mohs cases as Fellow Surgeon Goal: >200 cases as Fellow Surgeon and >2 SD below national mean for Assistant 	Mohs Micrographic Surgery	Mohs Micrographic Surgery
Fellow Level 1b: Perform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fellow must perform and assist with these procedures Goal: instruction in all; <2 Procedure Categories with <2 SD below national mean for Fellow Surgeon and Assistant 	Excision – Benign Lesion	Excisions
	Excision – Malignant Lesion	
	Repair (Closure) – Simple/Intermediate/Complex	Repair (Closure) – Simple/Intermediate/Complex
	Advancement Flaps	Flaps
	Rotation Flaps	
	Transposition Flaps	
	Grafts (Split or Full)	Grafts (Split or Full)
	Second Intention Healing	Second Intention Healing
Referred For Repair	Referred For Repair	
Fellow Level 2: Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fellow must have instruction and/or experience in these procedures Goal: didactics in all; <6 Procedure Categories with <2 SD below national mean for Fellow Surgeon and Assistant 	Chemical Peels: Superficial - Epi	Chemical Peels
	Chemical Peels: Deep - Dermal	
	Hair Transplantation	Hair Transplantation
	Dermabrasion	Dermabrasion
	Scar Revision (Acne Scar)	
	Rhinophyma Correction	
	Nail Procedures	
	Sclerotherapy	Sclerotherapy
	Lip Excision/Wedge/Vermilnectomy	Lip Excision/Wedge/Vermilnectomy
	Soft Tissue Augmentation/Skin fillers	Soft Tissue Augmentation/Skin fillers
	Botulinum Toxin Chemodeinnervation	Botulinum Toxin Chemodeinnervation
	Tumescent Liposuction	Tumescent Liposuction
	Hair Removal Laser	Cosmetic Lasers
	Vascular Lesion Laser	
	Pigmented Lesion Laser	
	Tattoo Removal Laser	
	Laser (Ablation, Resurfacing)	
	Non-ablative Rejuvenation	Non-Laser Energy Cosmetic Procedures
	Intense pulsed light	
	Ambulatory Phlebectomy/Vein Surgery	Ambulatory Phlebectomy/Vein Surgery