ACGME Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education in Diagnostic Radiology

ACGME-approved: February 13, 2007: effective: July 1, 2008
ACGME approved focused and minor revision: February 7, 2009: effective: July 1, 2010
Revised Common Program Requirements effective: July 1, 2011
ACGME approved focused revision: September 30, 2012: effective: July 1, 2013
Revised Common Program Requirements effective: July 1, 2015
Revised Common Program Requirements effective: July 1, 2016
Revised Common Program Requirements effective: July 1, 2017
ACGME Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education
in Diagnostic Radiology

Common Program Requirements are in BOLD

Where applicable, text in italics describes the underlying philosophy of the requirements in that section. These philosophic statements are not program requirements and are therefore not citable.

Introduction

Int.A. Residency is an essential dimension of the transformation of the medical student to the independent practitioner along the continuum of medical education. It is physically, emotionally, and intellectually demanding, and requires longitudinally-concentrated effort on the part of the resident.

The specialty education of physicians to practice independently is experiential, and necessarily occurs within the context of the health care delivery system. Developing the skills, knowledge, and attitudes leading to proficiency in all the domains of clinical competency requires the resident physician to assume personal responsibility for the care of individual patients. For the resident, the essential learning activity is interaction with patients under the guidance and supervision of faculty members who give value, context, and meaning to those interactions. As residents gain experience and demonstrate growth in their ability to care for patients, they assume roles that permit them to exercise those skills with greater independence. This concept—graded and progressive responsibility—is one of the core tenets of American graduate medical education. Supervision in the setting of graduate medical education has the goals of assuring the provision of safe and effective care to the individual patient; assuring each resident’s development of the skills, knowledge, and attitudes required to enter the unsupervised practice of medicine; and establishing a foundation for continued professional growth.

Int.B. Definition and Scope of the Specialty

Diagnostic radiology encompasses a variety of diagnostic and image guided therapeutic techniques, including all aspects of image-based diagnosis, (radiography, nuclear radiology, diagnostic ultrasound, magnetic resonance, computed tomography, interventional procedures, and molecular imaging). The residency program in diagnostic radiology shall offer a quality graduate medical educational experience in all of these associated disciplines.

Int.C. Duration and Scope of Education

Int.C.1. Resident education in diagnostic radiology must include five years of clinically oriented graduate medical education, of which four years must be in diagnostic radiology. *(Core)*

Int.C.2. Diagnostic Radiology Residency
The residency program is four years of graduate medical education (including vacation and meeting time) in diagnostic radiology. Full time participation by the residents in clinical and didactic activities must occur at all levels of training, including the final year of residency. In the four years, the maximum period of training in any one of the nine subspecialty areas shall be 16 months. The nine subspecialty areas of diagnostic radiology are neuroradiology, musculoskeletal radiology, vascular and interventional radiology, cardiothoracic radiology, breast radiology, abdominal radiology, pediatric radiology, ultrasonography (including obstetrical and vascular ultrasound), and nuclear radiology (including PET and nuclear cardiology). (Core)

Int.C.3. Residents entering diagnostic radiology training on July 1, 2010 or thereafter must be provided appropriate clinical rotations and formal instruction in all subspecialties of diagnostic radiology and in the core subjects pertaining to diagnostic radiology (e.g. medical physics, physiology of contrast media, etc.) before taking the American Board of Radiology (ABR) Core Examination (given after 36 months of diagnostic radiology training at the end of PGY-4). During the final year of diagnostic radiology training (PGY-5), these residents should be allowed, within program resources, to select and participate in rotations, including “general radiology,” that will reflect their desired areas of concentration as they enter practice. (Detail)

Int.C.4. Participation in on-call activities is essential for the development of radiologists, who are expected to practice independently upon completion of training, and should occur throughout the second, third and final years of diagnostic radiology residency. (Core)

Int.C.4.a) Program directors may exercise discretion in granting relief from call responsibilities for short periods before the oral board exam for residents entering diagnostic radiology training before July 1, 2010 and before the “Core” board exam for residents entering diagnostic radiology training on July 1, 2010 or thereafter. (Detail)

Int.C.5. The education in diagnostic radiology must occur in an environment that encourages the interchange of knowledge and experience among residents in the program and among residents in other major clinical specialties located in those institutions participating in the program. (Detail)

I. Institutions

I.A. Sponsoring Institution

One sponsoring institution must assume ultimate responsibility for the program, as described in the Institutional Requirements, and this responsibility extends to resident assignments at all participating sites. (Core)

The sponsoring institution and the program must ensure that the program director has sufficient protected time and financial support for his or her
educational and administrative responsibilities to the program. (Core)

I.B. Participating Sites

I.B.1. There must be a program letter of agreement (PLA) between the program and each participating site providing a required assignment. The PLA must be renewed at least every five years. (Core)

The PLA should:

I.B.1.a) identify the faculty who will assume both educational and supervisory responsibilities for residents; (Detail)

I.B.1.b) specify their responsibilities for teaching, supervision, and formal evaluation of residents, as specified later in this document; (Detail)

I.B.1.c) specify the duration and content of the educational experience; and, (Detail)

I.B.1.d) state the policies and procedures that will govern resident education during the assignment. (Detail)

I.B.2. The program director must submit any additions or deletions of participating sites routinely providing an educational experience, required for all residents, of one month full time equivalent (FTE) or more through the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Accreditation Data System (ADS). (Core)

I.B.3. The program should be based at a primary hospital. A program using multiple sites must ensure the provision of a unified educational experience for the residents. Each participating site must offer significant educational opportunities to the overall program. Service responsibility alone at a participating site is not a suitable educational experience. (Core)

I.B.4. Programs should avoid affiliations with sites at such distances from the primary hospital as to make resident attendance at rounds and conferences impractical, unless there is a comparable educational experience at the site. (Detail)

II. Program Personnel and Resources

II.A. Program Director

II.A.1. There must be a single program director with authority and accountability for the operation of the program. The sponsoring institution’s GMEC must approve a change in program director. (Core)

II.A.1.a) The program director must submit this change to the ACGME via the ADS. (Core)
II.A.1.b) The program director should be a full-time faculty member.  

II.A.1.c) The program director must be provided the equivalent of at least one day a week protected time in order to fulfill the responsibilities inherent in meeting the educational goals of the program.  

II.A.2. The program director should continue in his or her position for a length of time adequate to maintain continuity of leadership and program stability.  

II.A.3. Qualifications of the program director must include:  

II.A.3.a) requisite specialty expertise and documented educational and administrative experience acceptable to the Review Committee;  

II.A.3.b) current certification in the specialty by the American Board of Radiology, or specialty qualifications that are acceptable to the Review Committee; and,  

II.A.3.c) current medical licensure and appropriate medical staff appointment.  

II.A.4. The program director must administer and maintain an educational environment conducive to educating the residents in each of the ACGME competency areas.  

The program director must:  

II.A.4.a) oversee and ensure the quality of didactic and clinical education in all sites that participate in the program;  

II.A.4.b) approve a local director at each participating site who is accountable for resident education;  

II.A.4.c) approve the selection of program faculty as appropriate;  

II.A.4.d) evaluate program faculty;  

II.A.4.e) approve the continued participation of program faculty based on evaluation;  

II.A.4.f) monitor resident supervision at all participating sites;  

II.A.4.g) prepare and submit all information required and requested by the ACGME.  

II.A.4.g).(1) This includes but is not limited to the program application forms and annual program updates to the ADS, and ensure that the information submitted is accurate and complete.
II.A.4.h) ensure compliance with grievance and due process procedures as set forth in the Institutional Requirements and implemented by the sponsoring institution; (Detail)

II.A.4.i) provide verification of residency education for all residents, including those who leave the program prior to completion; (Detail)

II.A.4.j) implement policies and procedures consistent with the institutional and program requirements for resident duty hours and the working environment, including moonlighting, (Core)

and, to that end, must:

II.A.4.j).(1) distribute these policies and procedures to the residents and faculty; (Detail)

II.A.4.j).(2) monitor resident duty hours, according to sponsoring institutional policies, with a frequency sufficient to ensure compliance with ACGME requirements; (Core)

II.A.4.j).(3) adjust schedules as necessary to mitigate excessive service demands and/or fatigue; and, (Detail)

II.A.4.j).(4) if applicable, monitor the demands of at-home call and adjust schedules as necessary to mitigate excessive service demands and/or fatigue. (Detail)

II.A.4.k) monitor the need for and ensure the provision of back up support systems when patient care responsibilities are unusually difficult or prolonged; (Detail)

II.A.4.l) comply with the sponsoring institution’s written policies and procedures, including those specified in the Institutional Requirements, for selection, evaluation and promotion of residents, disciplinary action, and supervision of residents; (Detail)

II.A.4.m) be familiar with and comply with ACGME and Review Committee policies and procedures as outlined in the ACGME Manual of Policies and Procedures; (Detail)

II.A.4.n) obtain review and approval of the sponsoring institution’s GMEC/DIO before submitting information or requests to the ACGME, including: (Core)

II.A.4.n).(1) all applications for ACGME accreditation of new programs; (Detail)
II.A.4.n).(2) changes in resident complement; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(3) major changes in program structure or length of training; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(4) progress reports requested by the Review Committee; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(5) requests for increases or any change to resident duty hours; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(6) voluntary withdrawals of ACGME-accredited programs; (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(7) requests for appeal of an adverse action; and, (Detail)

II.A.4.n).(8) appeal presentations to a Board of Appeal or the ACGME. (Detail)

II.A.4.o) obtain DIO review and co-signature on all program application forms, as well as any correspondence or document submitted to the ACGME that addresses; (Detail)

II.A.4.o).(1) program citations, and/or, (Detail)

II.A.4.o).(2) request for changes in the program that would have significant impact, including financial, on the program or institution. (Detail)

II.A.4.p) participate in the ACGME case log system; (Core)

II.A.4.p).(1) The logs must be submitted annually to the Review Committee office in accordance with the format and the due date specified by the Review Committee. The record must be reviewed by the program director at least annually; for residents beginning training in diagnostic radiology on July 1, 2010 or thereafter, data must be submitted for each resident only for the years of training preceding the ABR Core Examination (at end of PGY-4); (Core)

II.A.4.q) be responsible for ensuring that the general content is integrated into the conference schedule; (Detail)

II.A.4.r) ensure that programs have a minimum of five hours per week of conferences/lectures; (Detail)

II.A.4.s) ensure that residents have protected time to attend all scheduled lectures and conferences; (Core)

II.A.4.s).(1) Resident attendance at conferences/lectures must be
II.A.4.t) ensure that there are interactive conferences in addition to the core didactic series; and, (Detail)

II.A.4.u) ensure that there are interdepartmental conferences in which both residents and faculty participate on a regular basis. (Detail)

II.B. Faculty

II.B.1. At each participating site, there must be a sufficient number of faculty with documented qualifications to instruct and supervise all residents at that location. (Core)

The faculty must:

II.B.1.a) devote sufficient time to the educational program to fulfill their supervisory and teaching responsibilities; and to demonstrate a strong interest in the education of residents, and (Core)

II.B.1.b) administer and maintain an educational environment conducive to educating residents in each of the ACGME competency areas. (Core)

II.B.1.b).(1) The faculty must directly supervise all percutaneous invasive procedures, excluding intravenous injection of contrast, diagnostic lumbar puncture, thoracentesis, paracentesis and PICC line placement. (Core)

II.B.1.b).(2) The faculty must always be available for backup when residents are on night, weekend or holiday call. (Core)

II.B.1.b).(3) The faculty must review all radiologic images and sign all resident reports within 24 hours. (Core)

II.B.2. The physician faculty must have current certification in the specialty by the American Board of Radiology, or possess qualifications judged acceptable to the Review Committee. (Core)

II.B.2.a) In programs affiliated with a medical school, all members of the faculty must have their academic appointment in the department of radiology. For programs not affiliated with a medical school, all physician faculty must be members of the medical staff of at least one of the participating sites. (Detail)

II.B.2.b) There must be at least one FTE physician faculty in each of the nine subspecialty areas. The nine subspecialty areas are neuroradiology, musculoskeletal radiology, vascular and interventional radiology, cardiothoracic radiology, breast radiology, abdominal radiology, pediatric radiology, ultrasonography, and
II.B.2.c) The program must designate one physician faculty member to be responsible for the educational content of each of the nine subspecialty areas. This individual must practice at least 50 percent of his or her time in the subspecialty area, and must demonstrate a commitment to the subspecialty.

Such commitment may be demonstrated by any of the following:

II.B.2.c).(1) subspecialty certification (CAQ), fellowship training or three years of subspecialty practice;

II.B.2.c).(2) membership in a subspecialty society;

II.B.2.c).(3) publications and presentations in the subspecialty;

II.B.2.c).(4) annual CME credits in the subspecialty; or,

II.B.2.c).(5) participation in maintenance of certification with emphasis on the subspecialty area.

II.B.2.d) No faculty member may have primary responsibility for the educational content of more than one subspecialty area, although faculty may have clinical responsibility and/or teaching responsibilities in several subspecialty areas.

II.B.2.d).(1) A pediatric radiologist may have a primary appointment at another site and still be the designated faculty member supervising pediatric radiologic education.

II.B.3. The physician faculty must possess current medical licensure and appropriate medical staff appointment.

II.B.4. The nonphysician faculty must have appropriate qualifications in their field and hold appropriate institutional appointments.

II.B.5. The faculty must establish and maintain an environment of inquiry and scholarship with an active research component.

II.B.5.a) The faculty must regularly participate in organized clinical discussions, rounds, journal clubs, and conferences.

II.B.5.b) Some members of the faculty should also demonstrate scholarship by one or more of the following:

II.B.5.b).(1) peer-reviewed funding;

II.B.5.b).(2) publication of original research or review articles in peer reviewed journals, or chapters in textbooks;
II.B.5.b).(3) publication or presentation of case reports or clinical series at local, regional, or national professional and scientific society meetings; or, (Detail)

II.B.5.b).(4) participation in national committees or educational organizations. (Detail)

II.B.5.c) Faculty should encourage and support residents in scholarly activities. (Core)

II.C. Other Program Personnel

The institution and the program must jointly ensure the availability of all necessary professional, technical, and clerical personnel for the effective administration of the program. (Core)

II.C.1. Programs must have a dedicated radiology residency program coordinator. This person must have sufficient time to fulfill the responsibilities essential in meeting the educational goals and administrative requirements of the program. (Core)

II.D. Resources

The institution and the program must jointly ensure the availability of adequate resources for resident education, as defined in the specialty program requirements. (Core)

II.D.1. The program must provide adequate space, equipment, and other pertinent facilities to ensure an effective educational experience for residents in diagnostic radiology. The program must also provide the modern facilities and equipment required in all of the subspecialty rotations. (Core)

II.D.2. There must be secure on-site call facilities for residents at locations where in-house call is required. (Core)

II.D.3. The ACR teaching file or its equivalent must be available to residents. (Detail)

II.D.4. The program must provide a sufficient volume and variety of patients to ensure that residents gain experience in the full range of radiologic examinations, procedures, and interpretations. The number and variety of examinations and the length of rotations in each subspecialty area must be sufficient to ensure an adequate training experience. (Core)

II.D.4.a) The program’s volume must be no fewer than 7,000 radiologic examinations per year per resident. The number of examinations in each of the nine subspecialty areas must be of sufficient volume to ensure adequate training experience. (Detail)
II.E.  Medical Information Access

Residents must have ready access to specialty-specific and other appropriate reference material in print or electronic format. Electronic medical literature databases with search capabilities should be available.

III.  Resident Appointments

III.A.  Eligibility Criteria

The program director must comply with the criteria for resident eligibility as specified in the Institutional Requirements.

III.A.1.  Eligibility Requirements – Residency Programs

III.A.1.a) All prerequisite post-graduate clinical education required for initial entry or transfer into ACGME-accredited residency programs must be completed in ACGME-accredited residency programs, or in Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC)-accredited or College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)-accredited residency programs located in Canada. Residency programs must receive verification of each applicant’s level of competency in the required clinical field using ACGME or CanMEDS Milestones assessments from the prior training program.

III.A.1.a).(1) Clinical Year

To be eligible for appointment to the program, residents must have successfully completed a clinical year consisting of training accredited by the ACGME, RCPSC, or CFPC in emergency medicine, family medicine, internal medicine, neurology, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, surgery or surgical specialties, or any combination of these. The clinical year may also comprise a transitional year accredited by the ACGME or RCPSC.

III.A.1.a).(1).(a) During the clinical year, elective rotations in diagnostic radiology must occur only in radiology departments with an ACGME-accredited diagnostic radiology residency program or an RCPSC-accredited diagnostic radiology residency program located in Canada and cannot exceed two months.

III.A.1.a).(1).(b) If the clinical year is offered by the institution of the core residency, and is not a standalone ACGME- or RCPSC-accredited year, the program director will be responsible for ensuring the quality of the year.
III.A.1.a).(1).(c) The program director is responsible for verifying that the resident accepted into the diagnostic radiology program has successfully completed the clinical year.

III.A.1.b) A physician who has completed a residency program that was not accredited by ACGME, RCPSC, or CFPC may enter an ACGME-accredited residency program in the same specialty at the PGY-1 level and, at the discretion of the program director at the ACGME-accredited program may be advanced to the PGY-2 level based on ACGME Milestones assessments at the ACGME-accredited program. This provision applies only to entry into residency in those specialties for which an initial clinical year is not required for entry.

III.A.1.c) A Review Committee may grant the exception to the eligibility requirements specified in Section III.A.2.b) for residency programs that require completion of a prerequisite residency program prior to admission.

III.A.1.d) Review Committees will grant no other exceptions to these eligibility requirements for residency education.

III.A.2. Eligibility Requirements – Fellowship Programs

All required clinical education for entry into ACGME-accredited fellowship programs must be completed in an ACGME-accredited residency program, or in an RCPSC-accredited or CFPC-accredited residency program located in Canada.

III.A.2.a) Fellowship programs must receive verification of each entering fellow’s level of competency in the required field using ACGME or CanMEDS Milestones assessments from the core residency program.

III.A.2.b) Fellow Eligibility Exception

A Review Committee may grant the following exception to the fellowship eligibility requirements:

An ACGME-accredited fellowship program may accept an exceptionally qualified applicant**, who does not satisfy the eligibility requirements listed in Sections III.A.2. and III.A.2.a), but who does meet all of the following additional qualifications and conditions:

III.A.2.b).(1) Assessment by the program director and fellowship selection committee of the applicant’s suitability to enter the program, based on prior training and review
of the summative evaluations of training in the core specialty; and (Core)

III.A.2.b).(2) Review and approval of the applicant’s exceptional qualifications by the GMEC or a subcommittee of the GMEC; and (Core)

III.A.2.b).(3) Satisfactory completion of the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) Steps 1, 2, and, if the applicant is eligible, 3, and; (Core)

III.A.2.b).(4) For an international graduate, verification of Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) certification; and, (Core)

III.A.2.b).(5) Applicants accepted by this exception must complete fellowship Milestones evaluation (for the purposes of establishment of baseline performance by the Clinical Competency Committee), conducted by the receiving fellowship program within six weeks of matriculation. This evaluation may be waived for an applicant who has completed an ACGME International-accredited residency based on the applicant’s Milestones evaluation conducted at the conclusion of the residency program. (Core)

III.A.2.b).(5).(a) If the trainee does not meet the expected level of Milestones competency following entry into the fellowship program, the trainee must undergo a period of remediation, overseen by the Clinical Competency Committee and monitored by the GMEC or a subcommittee of the GMEC. This period of remediation must not count toward time in fellowship training. (Core)

** An exceptionally qualified applicant has (1) completed a non-ACGME-accredited residency program in the core specialty, and (2) demonstrated clinical excellence, in comparison to peers, throughout training. Additional evidence of exceptional qualifications is required, which may include one of the following: (a) participation in additional clinical or research training in the specialty or subspecialty; (b) demonstrated scholarship in the specialty or subspecialty; (c) demonstrated leadership during or after residency training; (d) completion of an ACGME-International-accredited residency program.

III.B. Number of Residents

The program’s educational resources must be adequate to support the number of residents appointed to the program. (Core)
III.B.1. The program director may not appoint more residents than approved by the Review Committee, unless otherwise stated in the specialty-specific requirements. (Core)

III.B.2. The program must have a minimum of eight residents. (Core)

III.B.3. Prior approval by the Review Committee is required for a change in the approved resident complement. (Core)

III.C. Resident Transfers

III.C.1. Before accepting a resident who is transferring from another program, the program director must obtain written or electronic verification of previous educational experiences and a summative competency-based performance evaluation of the transferring resident. (Detail)

III.C.2. A program director must provide timely verification of residency education and summative performance evaluations for residents who may leave the program prior to completion. (Detail)

III.D. Appointment of Fellows and Other Learners

The presence of other learners (including, but not limited to, residents from other specialties, subspecialty fellows, PhD students, and nurse practitioners) in the program must not interfere with the appointed residents’ education. (Core)

III.D.1. The program director must report the presence of other learners to the DIO and GMEC in accordance with sponsoring institution guidelines. (Detail)

IV. Educational Program

IV.A. The curriculum must contain the following educational components:

IV.A.1. Overall educational goals for the program, which the program must make available to residents and faculty; (Core)

IV.A.2. Competency-based goals and objectives for each assignment at each educational level, which the program must distribute to residents and faculty at least annually, in either written or electronic form; (Core)

IV.A.3. Regularly scheduled didactic sessions; (Core)

IV.A.3.a) The program must repeat, at least every two years, the core didactic curriculum. (Core)

IV.A.3.b) This curriculum must be documented, and should consist of
subspecialty clinical content and general content. *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1)

**Subspecialty Didactic Content**

IV.A.3.b).(1).(a) There must be a didactic component for each of the nine subspecialty areas, including the heart and coronary arteries. The content should include the following in all age groups: anatomy, physiology, disease processes, and imaging. *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(b) Each of the nine designated subspecialty chiefs must organize a series of intradepartmental lectures that cover these topics in their respective subspecialty area. *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(b).(i) These lectures may be supplemented with other educational materials. *(Detail)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(c) Didactic training must include the following subjects as they relate to nuclear medicine: *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(c).(i) diagnostic radiologic physics, instrumentation, and radiation biology; *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(c).(ii) patient and medical personnel safety (i.e., radiation protection); *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(c).(iii) the chemistry of by-product material for medical use; *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(c).(iv) biologic and pharmacologic actions of materials administered in diagnostic and therapeutic procedures; and, *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(c).(v) topics in safe handling, administration, and quality control of radionuclide doses used in clinical medicine. *(Core)*

IV.A.3.b).(1).(d) The didactic instruction (or work experience) must include ordering, receiving, and unpacking radioactive material safely, and performing the related radiation surveys; the safe elution and quality control (QC) of radionuclide generator systems; calculating, measuring, and safely preparing patient dosages; calibration and QC of survey meters and dose calibrators; safe handling and administration of therapeutic doses of unsealed radionuclide sources (i.e., I-131); written directives; response to radiation spills and accidents (containment and decontamination procedures); radiation signage and related materials; using
administrative controls to prevent medical events involving the use of unsealed byproduct material. Observation alone is not sufficient.  

IV.A.3.b).(2) General Didactic Content

There must be didactic components that address the following subjects: (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(a) diagnostic radiologic physics and radiation biology; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(b) patient and medical personnel safety (i.e., radiation protection, MRI safety); (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(c) appropriate imaging utilization (proper sequencing; cost-benefit analysis); (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(d) radiologic/pathologic correlation; (This requirement may be satisfied by resident participation in a formal course on radiologic-pathologic correlation.) (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(e) fundamentals of molecular imaging; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(f) biologic and pharmacologic actions of materials administered in diagnostic or therapeutic procedures; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(g) use of needles, catheters, and other devices employed in invasive image-based diagnostic and therapeutic procedures; (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(h) socioeconomics of radiologic practice; and, (Core)

IV.A.3.b).(2).(i) professionalism and ethics. (Core)

IV.A.4. Delineation of resident responsibilities for patient care, progressive responsibility for patient management, and supervision of residents over the continuum of the program; and, (Core)

IV.A.5. ACGME Competencies

The program must integrate the following ACGME competencies into the curriculum: (Core)

IV.A.5.a) Patient Care and Procedural Skills

IV.A.5.a).(1) Residents must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of
Residents: (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(1).(a) should provide patient care through safe, efficient, appropriately utilized, quality-controlled diagnostic and/or interventional radiology techniques. The resident must communicate effectively and in a timely manner the results of procedures, studies, and examinations to the referring physician and/or other appropriate individuals; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2) Residents must be able to competently perform all medical, diagnostic, and surgical procedures considered essential for the area of practice. Residents: (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(a) must perform under preceptor supervision at least three therapies involving oral administration of I-131 in quantities less than or equal to 33 millicuries (mCi) and at least three therapies in quantities greater than 33mCi. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(a).(i) Residents must participate in patient selection, informed consent, understanding and calculating the administered dose, counseling of patients and their families on radiation safety issues and patient follow up. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(b) must perform interpretation/multi-reading of at least 240 mammograms within a six-month period during their last two years of the residency program; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(c) must perform interventional procedures including image-guided biopsies, drainage procedures, angioplasty, embolization and infusion procedures, and other percutaneous interventional procedures under preceptor supervision; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(c).(i) must perform and interpret vascular, interventional, and invasive procedures; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(d) must acquire and interpret conventional radiography, computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging, angiography, and nuclear radiology examinations of the cardiovascular system (heart and great vessels) including studies performed on both adults and children; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(e) must maintain current basic life-support (BLS)
IV.A.5.a).(2).(f) must competently perform a minimum of 12 months of training in diagnostic radiology prior to independent in-house on-call responsibilities; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.a).(2).(g) must demonstrate hands-on work experience when they perform the supervised work experience requirements. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b) Medical Knowledge

Residents must demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care. Residents: (Outcome)

IV.A.5.b).(1) must demonstrate competence in their knowledge of the subspecialty clinical didactic content and general didactic content. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c) Practice-based Learning and Improvement

Residents must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning. (Outcome)

Residents are expected to develop skills and habits to be able to meet the following goals:

IV.A.5.c).(1) identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in one’s knowledge and expertise; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(2) set learning and improvement goals; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(3) identify and perform appropriate learning activities; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(4) systematically analyze practice using quality improvement methods, and implement changes with the goal of practice improvement; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(5) incorporate formative evaluation feedback into daily practice; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(6) locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients’ health.
problems; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(7) use information technology to optimize learning; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(8) participate in the education of patients, families, students, residents and other health professionals; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(9) evaluate their personal practice, utilizing scientific evidence, “best practices”, and self-assessment programs with the intent of practice improvement; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(10) demonstrate a skill set that allows them to access, interpret, and apply best scientific evidence to the care of patients (evidence based medicine); and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.c).(11) demonstrate on an ongoing basis an awareness of radiation exposure, protection, and safety, as well as the application of these principles in imaging. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d) Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Residents must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals. (Outcome)

Residents are expected to:

IV.A.5.d).(1) communicate effectively with patients, families, and the public, as appropriate, across a broad range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(2) communicate effectively with physicians, other health professionals, and health related agencies; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(3) work effectively as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional group; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(4) act in a consultative role to other physicians and health professionals; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(5) maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records, if applicable; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.d).(6) communicate effectively with patients, colleagues, referring physicians, and other members of the health care team concerning imaging appropriateness, informed consent, safety issues, and the results of imaging tests or procedures.; and, (Outcome)
IV.A.5.d).(7) when they are senior residents, supervise or act as consultants to and teach medical students and residents. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e) Professionalism

Residents must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles. (Outcome)

Residents are expected to demonstrate:

IV.A.5.e).(1) compassion, integrity, and respect for others; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(2) responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(3) respect for patient privacy and autonomy; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(4) accountability to patients, society and the profession; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.e).(5) sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in gender, age, culture, race, religion, disabilities, and sexual orientation. (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f) Systems-based Practice

Residents must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care. (Outcome)

Residents are expected to:

IV.A.5.f).(1) work effectively in various health care delivery settings and systems relevant to their clinical specialty; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f).(2) coordinate patient care within the health care system relevant to their clinical specialty; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f).(3) incorporate considerations of cost awareness and risk-benefit analysis in patient and/or population-based care as appropriate; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f).(4) advocate for quality patient care and optimal patient care systems; (Outcome)
IV.A.5.f).(5) work in interprofessional teams to enhance patient safety and improve patient care quality; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f).(6) participate in identifying system errors and implementing potential systems solutions; (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f).(7) demonstrate an understanding of how the components of the local and national healthcare system function interdependently, and how changes to improve the system involve group and individual The residents must function as consultants for other health care professionals, and act as a resource for information regarding the most appropriate use of imaging resources, and efforts.; and, (Outcome)

IV.A.5.f).(8) identify existing systems problems that compromise their ability to provide the most efficient and effective patient care. Analyze systematically the problems, develop solutions, implement solutions, and evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention at the departmental, institutional, local or national level. (Outcome)

IV.A.6. Curriculum Organization and Resident Experiences

IV.A.6.a) The resident must have a minimum of 12 months of training in diagnostic radiology prior to independent in-house on-call responsibilities. (Core)

IV.A.6.b) Residents must have a minimum of 700 hours (approximately four months) of training and experience in clinical nuclear medicine, which may include the required 80 hours of classroom and laboratory instruction (Section IV.A.5.b.1.a.iii); (Core)

IV.A.6.c) Residents must have a minimum of 12 weeks of clinical rotations in breast imaging. (Core)

IV.A.6.d) There must be at least 80 hours of didactic (classroom and laboratory training) training under the direction of an authorized user (AU). (Core)

IV.B. Residents’ Scholarly Activities

IV.B.1. The curriculum must advance residents’ knowledge of the basic principles of research, including how research is conducted, evaluated, explained to patients, and applied to patient care. (Core)

IV.B.2. Residents should participate in scholarly activity. (Core)

IV.B.2.a) Residents must have training in critical thinking skills and research design (e.g., lectures, journal club, etc.). (Core)
IV.B.2.b) During their training, all residents must engage in a scholarly project under faculty supervision. (Core)

IV.B.2.b).(1) This may take the form of laboratory research, or clinical research, or the analysis of disease processes, imaging techniques, or practice management issues. (Detail)

IV.B.2.b).(2) The results of such projects must be published or presented at institutional, local, regional, or national meetings, and included in the resident’s learning portfolio. (Outcome)

IV.B.2.b).(3) The program must specify how each project will be evaluated. (Detail)

IV.B.3. The sponsoring institution and program should allocate adequate educational resources to facilitate resident involvement in scholarly activities. (Detail)

V. Evaluation

V.A. Resident Evaluation

V.A.1. The program director must appoint the Clinical Competency Committee. (Core)

V.A.1.a) At a minimum the Clinical Competency Committee must be composed of three members of the program faculty. (Core)

V.A.1.a).(1) The program director may appoint additional members of the Clinical Competency Committee.

V.A.1.a).(1).(a) These additional members must be physician faculty members from the same program or other programs, or other health professionals who have extensive contact and experience with the program’s residents in patient care and other health care settings. (Core)

V.A.1.a).(1).(b) Chief residents who have completed core residency programs in their specialty and are eligible for specialty board certification may be members of the Clinical Competency Committee. (Core)

V.A.1.b) There must be a written description of the responsibilities of the Clinical Competency Committee. (Core)

V.A.1.b).(1) The Clinical Competency Committee should:
V.A.1.b).(1).(a) review all resident evaluations semi-annually; \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.1.b).(1).(b) prepare and ensure the reporting of Milestones evaluations of each resident semi-annually to ACGME; and, \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.1.b).(1).(c) advise the program director regarding resident progress, including promotion, remediation, and dismissal. \(\text{(Detail)}\)

V.A.2. Formative Evaluation

V.A.2.a) The faculty must evaluate resident performance in a timely manner during each rotation or similar educational assignment, and document this evaluation at completion of the assignment. \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.2.b) The program must:

V.A.2.b).(1) provide objective assessments of competence in patient care and procedural skills, medical knowledge, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, and systems-based practice based on the specialty-specific Milestones; \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.2.b).(2) use multiple evaluators (e.g., faculty, peers, patients, self, and other professional staff); \(\text{(Detail)}\)

V.A.2.b).(3) document progressive resident performance improvement appropriate to educational level; \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.2.b).(4) provide each resident with documented semiannual evaluation of performance with feedback; \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.2.b).(5) ensure that assessment for resident responsibility or independence is based upon knowledge, manual skills and experience; and, \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.2.b).(6) ensure that assessment includes the following: \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.2.b).(6).(a) Global faculty evaluation (all competencies) \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.2.b).(6).(b) 360 Evaluation (for interpersonal skills/communication and professionalism) \(\text{(Core)}\)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c) Resident Learning Portfolio: This portfolio, maintained by each resident, must include, at a minimum, documentation of the following: \(\text{(Core)}\)
V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(i) Patient Care

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(i).(a) Case/procedure log;

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(i).(a).(i) the resident’s participation in therapies involving oral administration of I-131 must include the date, diagnosis, and dose of each I-131 therapy; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(i).(a).(ii) the interpretation/multi-reading of at least 240 mammograms within a six-month period during their last two years of the residency program; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(i).(a).(iii) supervised experience in interventional procedures; This includes image-guided biopsies, drainage procedures, angioplasty, embolization and infusion procedures, and other percutaneous interventional procedures; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(i).(a).(iv) the performance, interpretation, and complications of vascular, interventional, and invasive procedures; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(i).(b) 12 months of training in diagnostic radiology prior to independent in-house on-call responsibilities; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(ii) Medical Knowledge

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(iii).(a) conferences attended, courses/meetings attended, self-assessment modules completed, etc.; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(iii).(b) compliance with regulatory-based training requirements in nuclear medicine and breast imaging; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(iii).(c) performance on yearly objective examination; (Core)
V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(iii) Practice-based Learning and Improvement
evidence of a reflective process must result in the annual documentation of an individual learning plan and self-assessment; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(iv) Interpersonal and Communication Skills
formal assessment of oral and written communication; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(iv).(a) Competence in oral communication must be judged through direct observation. Competence in written communication must be judged on the basis of the quality and timeliness of dictated reports. (Detail)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(v) Professionalism

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(v).(a) compliance with institutional and departmental policies (e.g., HIPAA, JCAHO, patient safety, infection control, dress code, etc.); (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(v).(b) status of medical license, if appropriate; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(vi) Systems-Based Practice
a learning activity that involves deriving a solution to a system problem at the departmental, institutional, local or national level; (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(vii) Scholarly Activities
scholarly activity, such as publications, announcement of presentations, etc.; and, (Core)

V.A.2.b).(6).(c).(viii) Other
any materials pertinent to the educational experience of residency education. (Detail)

V.A.2.c) The evaluations of resident performance must be accessible for review by the resident, in accordance with institutional
V.A.2.d) Residents should be advanced to positions of higher responsibility only on the basis of their satisfactory progressive professional growth and scholarship. (Core)

V.A.2.d).(1) More frequent reviews of performance for residents experiencing difficulties or receiving unfavorable evaluations are required. When a resident fails to progress satisfactorily, a written plan identifying the problems and addressing how they can be corrected must be discussed with and signed by the resident and placed in his or her individual file. (Detail)

V.A.3. Summative Evaluation

V.A.3.a) The specialty-specific Milestones must be used as one of the tools to ensure residents are able to practice core professional activities without supervision upon completion of the program. (Core)

V.A.3.b) The program director must provide a summative evaluation for each resident upon completion of the program. (Core)

This evaluation must:

V.A.3.b).(1) become part of the resident’s permanent record maintained by the institution, and must be accessible for review by the resident in accordance with institutional policy; (Detail)

V.A.3.b).(2) document the resident’s performance during the final period of education; and, (Detail)

V.A.3.b).(3) verify that the resident has demonstrated sufficient competence to enter practice without direct supervision. (Detail)

V.B. Faculty Evaluation

V.B.1. At least annually, the program must evaluate faculty performance as it relates to the educational program. (Core)

V.B.2. These evaluations should include a review of the faculty’s clinical teaching abilities, commitment to the educational program, clinical knowledge, professionalism, and scholarly activities. (Detail)

V.B.3. This evaluation must include at least annual written confidential evaluations by the residents. (Detail)

V.B.4. The Chair should ensure that confidential faculty evaluations by residents
occur annually. Faculty must receive annual feedback from these resident evaluations. (Core)

V.C. Program Evaluation and Improvement

V.C.1. The program director must appoint the Program Evaluation Committee (PEC). (Core)

V.C.1.a) The Program Evaluation Committee:

V.C.1.a).(1) must be composed of at least two program faculty members and should include at least one resident; (Core)

V.C.1.a).(2) must have a written description of its responsibilities; and, (Core)

V.C.1.a).(3) should participate actively in:

V.C.1.a).(3).(a) planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating educational activities of the program; (Detail)

V.C.1.a).(3).(b) reviewing and making recommendations for revision of competency-based curriculum goals and objectives; (Detail)

V.C.1.a).(3).(c) addressing areas of non-compliance with ACGME standards; and, (Detail)

V.C.1.a).(3).(d) reviewing the program annually using evaluations of faculty, residents, and others, as specified below. (Detail)

V.C.2. The program, through the PEC, must document formal, systematic evaluation of the curriculum at least annually, and is responsible for rendering a written, annual program evaluation. (Core)

The program must monitor and track each of the following areas:

V.C.2.a) resident performance; (Core)

V.C.2.b) faculty development; (Core)

V.C.2.c) graduate performance, including performance of program graduates on the certification examination; (Core)

V.C.2.d) program quality; and, (Core)

V.C.2.d).(1) Residents and faculty must have the opportunity to evaluate the program confidentially and in writing at
least annually, and (Detail)

V.C.2.d).(2) The program must use the results of residents’ and faculty members’ assessments of the program together with other program evaluation results to improve the program. (Detail)

V.C.2.e) progress on the previous year’s action plan(s). (Core)

V.C.3. The PEC must prepare a written plan of action to document initiatives to improve performance in one or more of the areas listed in section V.C.2., as well as delineate how they will be measured and monitored. (Core)

V.C.3.a) The action plan should be reviewed and approved by the teaching faculty and documented in meeting minutes. (Detail)

V.C.4. For residents entering diagnostic radiology training before July 1, 2010, at least 50 percent of a program’s graduates should pass the oral examination either on the first attempt or, if only one section is failed, should pass that section at the first opportunity. For residents entering diagnostic radiology training on July 1, 2010 or thereafter, during the most recent five year period, at least 50 percent of a program’s graduates should pass the ABR Core Examination either on the first attempt, or if only one section is failed, should pass that section at the first opportunity. (Outcome)

VI. The Learning and Working Environment

Residency education must occur in the context of a learning and working environment that emphasizes the following principles:

- Excellence in the safety and quality of care rendered to patients by residents today

- Excellence in the safety and quality of care rendered to patients by today’s residents in their future practice

- Excellence in professionalism through faculty modeling of:
  - the effacement of self-interest in a humanistic environment that supports the professional development of physicians
  - the joy of curiosity, problem-solving, intellectual rigor, and discovery

- Commitment to the well-being of the students, residents, faculty members, and all members of the health care team

VI.A. Patient Safety, Quality Improvement, Supervision, and Accountability
All physicians share responsibility for promoting patient safety and enhancing quality of patient care. Graduate medical education must prepare residents to provide the highest level of clinical care with continuous focus on the safety, individual needs, and humanity of their patients. It is the right of each patient to be cared for by residents who are appropriately supervised; possess the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities; understand the limits of their knowledge and experience; and seek assistance as required to provide optimal patient care.

Residents must demonstrate the ability to analyze the care they provide, understand their roles within health care teams, and play an active role in system improvement processes. Graduating residents will apply these skills to critique their future unsupervised practice and effect quality improvement measures.

It is necessary for residents and faculty members to consistently work in a well-coordinated manner with other health care professionals to achieve organizational patient safety goals.

VI.A.1.a) Patient Safety

VI.A.1.a).(1) Culture of Safety

A culture of safety requires continuous identification of vulnerabilities and a willingness to transparently deal with them. An effective organization has formal mechanisms to assess the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of its personnel toward safety in order to identify areas for improvement.

VI.A.1.a).(1).(a) The program, its faculty, residents, and fellows must actively participate in patient safety systems and contribute to a culture of safety. (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(1).(b) The program must have a structure that promotes safe, interprofessional, team-based care. (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(2) Education on Patient Safety

Programs must provide formal educational activities that promote patient safety-related goals, tools, and techniques. (Core)

VI.A.1.a).(3) Patient Safety Events

Reporting, investigation, and follow-up of adverse
events, near misses, and unsafe conditions are pivotal mechanisms for improving patient safety, and are essential for the success of any patient safety program. Feedback and experiential learning are essential to developing true competence in the ability to identify causes and institute sustainable systems-based changes to ameliorate patient safety vulnerabilities.

VI.A.1.a).(3).(a) Residents, fellows, faculty members, and other clinical staff members must:

VI.A.1.a).(3).(a).(i) know their responsibilities in reporting patient safety events at the clinical site; *(Core)*

VI.A.1.a).(3).(a).(ii) know how to report patient safety events, including near misses, at the clinical site; and, *(Core)*

VI.A.1.a).(3).(a).(iii) be provided with summary information of their institution’s patient safety reports. *(Core)*

VI.A.1.a).(3).(b) Residents must participate as team members in real and/or simulated interprofessional clinical patient safety activities, such as root cause analyses or other activities that include analysis, as well as formulation and implementation of actions. *(Core)*

VI.A.1.a).(4) Resident Education and Experience in Disclosure of Adverse Events

*Patient-centered care requires patients, and when appropriate families, to be apprised of clinical situations that affect them, including adverse events. This is an important skill for faculty physicians to model, and for residents to develop and apply.*

VI.A.1.a).(4).(a) All residents must receive training in how to disclose adverse events to patients and families. *(Core)*

VI.A.1.a).(4).(b) Residents should have the opportunity to participate in the disclosure of patient safety events, real or simulated. *(Detail)*

VI.A.1.b) Quality Improvement

VI.A.1.b).(1) Education in Quality Improvement
A cohesive model of health care includes quality-related goals, tools, and techniques that are necessary in order for health care professionals to achieve quality improvement goals.

VI.A.1.b).(1).(a) Residents must receive training and experience in quality improvement processes, including an understanding of health care disparities. (Core)

VI.A.1.b).(2) Quality Metrics

Access to data is essential to prioritizing activities for care improvement and evaluating success of improvement efforts.

VI.A.1.b).(2).(a) Residents and faculty members must receive data on quality metrics and benchmarks related to their patient populations. (Core)

VI.A.1.b).(3) Engagement in Quality Improvement Activities

Experiential learning is essential to developing the ability to identify and institute sustainable systems-based changes to improve patient care.

VI.A.1.b).(3).(a) Residents must have the opportunity to participate in interprofessional quality improvement activities. (Core)

VI.A.1.b).(3).(a).(i) This should include activities aimed at reducing health care disparities. (Detail)

VI.A.2. Supervision and Accountability

VI.A.2.a) Although the attending physician is ultimately responsible for the care of the patient, every physician shares in the responsibility and accountability for their efforts in the provision of care. Effective programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, define, widely communicate, and monitor a structured chain of responsibility and accountability as it relates to the supervision of all patient care.

Supervision in the setting of graduate medical education provides safe and effective care to patients; ensures each resident’s development of the skills, knowledge, and attitudes required to enter the unsupervised practice of medicine; and establishes a foundation for continued professional growth.

VI.A.2.a).(1) Each patient must have an identifiable and
appropriately-credentialed and privileged attending physician (or licensed independent practitioner as specified by the applicable Review Committee) who is responsible and accountable for the patient’s care.

VI.A.2.a).(1).(a) This information must be available to residents, faculty members, other members of the health care team, and patients. (Core)

VI.A.2.a).(1).(b) Residents and faculty members must inform each patient of their respective roles in that patient’s care when providing direct patient care. (Core)

VI.A.2.b) Supervision may be exercised through a variety of methods. For many aspects of patient care, the supervising physician may be a more advanced resident or fellow. Other portions of care provided by the resident can be adequately supervised by the immediate availability of the supervising faculty member, fellow, or senior resident physician, either on site or by means of telephonic and/or electronic modalities. Some activities require the physical presence of the supervising faculty member. In some circumstances, supervision may include post-hoc review of resident-delivered care with feedback.

VI.A.2.b).(1) The program must demonstrate that the appropriate level of supervision in place for all residents is based on each resident’s level of training and ability, as well as patient complexity and acuity. Supervision may be exercised through a variety of methods, as appropriate to the situation. (Core)

VI.A.2.c) Levels of Supervision

To promote oversight of resident supervision while providing for graded authority and responsibility, the program must use the following classification of supervision: (Core)

VI.A.2.c).(1) Direct Supervision – the supervising physician is physically present with the resident and patient. (Core)

VI.A.2.c).(2) Indirect Supervision:

VI.A.2.c).(2).(a) with Direct Supervision immediately available – the supervising physician is physically within the hospital or other site of patient care, and is immediately available to provide Direct Supervision. (Core)
VI.A.2.c).(2).(b) with Direct Supervision available – the supervising physician is not physically present within the hospital or other site of patient care, but is immediately available by means of telephonic and/or electronic modalities, and is available to provide Direct Supervision. (Core)

VI.A.2.c).(3) Oversight – the supervising physician is available to provide review of procedures/encounters with feedback provided after care is delivered. (Core)

VI.A.2.d) The privilege of progressive authority and responsibility, conditional independence, and a supervisory role in patient care delegated to each resident must be assigned by the program director and faculty members. (Core)

VI.A.2.d).(1) The program director must evaluate each resident’s abilities based on specific criteria, guided by the Milestones. (Core)

VI.A.2.d).(2) Faculty members functioning as supervising physicians must delegate portions of care to residents based on the needs of the patient and the skills of each resident. (Core)

VI.A.2.d).(3) Senior residents or fellows should serve in a supervisory role to junior residents in recognition of their progress toward independence, based on the needs of each patient and the skills of the individual resident or fellow. (Detail)

VI.A.2.e) Programs must set guidelines for circumstances and events in which residents must communicate with the supervising faculty member(s). (Core)

VI.A.2.e).(1) Each resident must know the limits of their scope of authority, and the circumstances under which the resident is permitted to act with conditional independence. (Outcome)

VI.A.2.e).(1).(a) Initially, PGY-1 residents must be supervised either directly, or indirectly with direct supervision immediately available. (Core)

VI.A.2.f) Faculty supervision assignments must be of sufficient duration to assess the knowledge and skills of each resident and to delegate to the resident the appropriate level of patient care authority and responsibility. (Core)

VI.B. Professionalism
VI.B.1. Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, must educate residents and faculty members concerning the professional responsibilities of physicians, including their obligation to be appropriately rested and fit to provide the care required by their patients. (Core)

VI.B.2. The learning objectives of the program must:

VI.B.2.a) be accomplished through an appropriate blend of supervised patient care responsibilities, clinical teaching, and didactic educational events; (Core)

VI.B.2.b) be accomplished without excessive reliance on residents to fulfill non-physician obligations; and, (Core)

VI.B.2.c) ensure manageable patient care responsibilities. (Core)

VI.B.3. The program director, in partnership with the Sponsoring Institution, must provide a culture of professionalism that supports patient safety and personal responsibility. (Core)

VI.B.4. Residents and faculty members must demonstrate an understanding of their personal role in the:

VI.B.4.a) provision of patient- and family-centered care; (Outcome)

VI.B.4.b) safety and welfare of patients entrusted to their care, including the ability to report unsafe conditions and adverse events; (Outcome)

VI.B.4.c) assurance of their fitness for work, including:

VI.B.4.c).(1) management of their time before, during, and after clinical assignments; and, (Outcome)

VI.B.4.c).(2) recognition of impairment, including from illness, fatigue, and substance use, in themselves, their peers, and other members of the health care team. (Outcome)

VI.B.4.d) commitment to lifelong learning; (Outcome)

VI.B.4.e) monitoring of their patient care performance improvement indicators; and, (Outcome)

VI.B.4.f) accurate reporting of clinical and educational work hours, patient outcomes, and clinical experience data. (Outcome)

VI.B.5. All residents and faculty members must demonstrate responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest. This includes the recognition that under certain circumstances, the best interests of the patient may be served by transitioning that patient's
care to another qualified and rested provider. (Outcome)

VI.B.6. Programs must provide a professional, respectful, and civil environment that is free from mistreatment, abuse, or coercion of students, residents, faculty, and staff. Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, should have a process for education of residents and faculty regarding unprofessional behavior and a confidential process for reporting, investigating, and addressing such concerns. (Core)

VI.C. Well-Being

In the current health care environment, residents and faculty members are at increased risk for burnout and depression. Psychological, emotional, and physical well-being are critical in the development of the competent, caring, and resilient physician. Self-care is an important component of professionalism; it is also a skill that must be learned and nurtured in the context of other aspects of residency training. Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, have the same responsibility to address well-being as they do to evaluate other aspects of resident competence.

VI.C.1. This responsibility must include:

VI.C.1.a) efforts to enhance the meaning that each resident finds in the experience of being a physician, including protecting time with patients, minimizing non-physician obligations, providing administrative support, promoting progressive autonomy and flexibility, and enhancing professional relationships; (Core)

VI.C.1.b) attention to scheduling, work intensity, and work compression that impacts resident well-being; (Core)

VI.C.1.c) evaluating workplace safety data and addressing the safety of residents and faculty members; (Core)

VI.C.1.d) policies and programs that encourage optimal resident and faculty member well-being; and, (Core)

VI.C.1.d).(1) Residents must be given the opportunity to attend medical, mental health, and dental care appointments, including those scheduled during their working hours. (Core)

VI.C.1.e) attention to resident and faculty member burnout, depression, and substance abuse. The program, in partnership with its Sponsoring Institution, must educate faculty members and residents in identification of the symptoms of burnout, depression, and substance abuse, including means to assist those who experience these conditions. Residents and faculty members must also be
educated to recognize those symptoms in themselves and how to seek appropriate care. The program, in partnership with its Sponsoring Institution, must; (Core)

VI.C.1.e).(1) encourage residents and faculty members to alert the program director or other designated personnel or programs when they are concerned that another resident, fellow, or faculty member may be displaying signs of burnout, depression, substance abuse, suicidal ideation, or potential for violence; (Core)

VI.C.1.e).(2) provide access to appropriate tools for self-screening; and, (Core)

VI.C.1.e).(3) provide access to confidential, affordable mental health assessment, counseling, and treatment, including access to urgent and emergent care 24 hours a day, seven days a week. (Core)

VI.C.2. There are circumstances in which residents may be unable to attend work, including but not limited to fatigue, illness, and family emergencies. Each program must have policies and procedures in place that ensure coverage of patient care in the event that a resident may be unable to perform their patient care responsibilities. These policies must be implemented without fear of negative consequences for the resident who is unable to provide the clinical work. (Core)

VI.D. Fatigue Mitigation

VI.D.1. Programs must:

VI.D.1.a) educate all faculty members and residents to recognize the signs of fatigue and sleep deprivation; (Core)

VI.D.1.b) educate all faculty members and residents in alertness management and fatigue mitigation processes; and, (Core)

VI.D.1.c) encourage residents to use fatigue mitigation processes to manage the potential negative effects of fatigue on patient care and learning. (Detail)

VI.D.2. Each program must ensure continuity of patient care, consistent with the program’s policies and procedures referenced in VI.C.2, in the event that a resident may be unable to perform their patient care responsibilities due to excessive fatigue. (Core)

VI.D.3. The program, in partnership with its Sponsoring Institution, must ensure adequate sleep facilities and safe transportation options for residents who may be too fatigued to safely return home. (Core)
VI.E. Clinical Responsibilities, Teamwork, and Transitions of Care

VI.E.1. Clinical Responsibilities

The clinical responsibilities for each resident must be based on PGY level, patient safety, resident ability, severity and complexity of patient illness/condition, and available support services. \(\text{(Core)}\)

VI.E.2. Teamwork

Residents must care for patients in an environment that maximizes communication. This must include the opportunity to work as a member of effective interprofessional teams that are appropriate to the delivery of care in the specialty and larger health system. \(\text{(Core)}\)

VI.E.3. Transitions of Care

VI.E.3.a) Programs must design clinical assignments to optimize transitions in patient care, including their safety, frequency, and structure. \(\text{(Core)}\)

VI.E.3.b) Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, must ensure and monitor effective, structured hand-over processes to facilitate both continuity of care and patient safety. \(\text{(Core)}\)

VI.E.3.c) Programs must ensure that residents are competent in communicating with team members in the hand-over process. \(\text{(Outcome)}\)

VI.E.3.d) Programs and clinical sites must maintain and communicate schedules of attending physicians and residents currently responsible for care. \(\text{(Core)}\)

VI.E.3.e) Each program must ensure continuity of patient care, consistent with the program’s policies and procedures referenced in VI.C.2, in the event that a resident may be unable to perform their patient care responsibilities due to excessive fatigue or illness, or family emergency. \(\text{(Core)}\)

VI.F. Clinical Experience and Education

Programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institutions, must design an effective program structure that is configured to provide residents with educational and clinical experience opportunities, as well as reasonable opportunities for rest and personal activities.

VI.F.1. Maximum Hours of Clinical and Educational Work per Week

Clinical and educational work hours must be limited to no more than 80 hours per week, averaged over a four-week period, inclusive of all
in-house clinical and educational activities, clinical work done from home, and all moonlighting. (Core)

VI.F.2. Mandatory Time Free of Clinical Work and Education

VI.F.2.a) The program must design an effective program structure that is configured to provide residents with educational opportunities, as well as reasonable opportunities for rest and personal well-being. (Core)

VI.F.2.b) Residents should have eight hours off between scheduled clinical work and education periods. (Detail)

VI.F.2.b).(1) There may be circumstances when residents choose to stay to care for their patients or return to the hospital with fewer than eight hours free of clinical experience and education. This must occur within the context of the 80-hour and the one-day-off-in-seven requirements. (Detail)

VI.F.2.c) Residents must have at least 14 hours free of clinical work and education after 24 hours of in-house call. (Core)

VI.F.2.d) Residents must be scheduled for a minimum of one day in seven free of clinical work and required education (when averaged over four weeks). At-home call cannot be assigned on these free days. (Core)

VI.F.3. Maximum Clinical Work and Education Period Length

VI.F.3.a) Clinical and educational work periods for residents must not exceed 24 hours of continuous scheduled clinical assignments. (Core)

VI.F.3.a).(1) Up to four hours of additional time may be used for activities related to patient safety, such as providing effective transitions of care, and/or resident education. (Core)

VI.F.3.a).(1).(a) Additional patient care responsibilities must not be assigned to a resident during this time. (Core)

VI.F.4. Clinical and Educational Work Hour Exceptions

VI.F.4.a) In rare circumstances, after handing off all other responsibilities, a resident, on their own initiative, may elect to remain or return to the clinical site in the following circumstances:

VI.F.4.a).(1) to continue to provide care to a single severely ill or unstable patient; (Detail)
VI.F.4.a).(2) humanistic attention to the needs of a patient or family; or, (Detail)

VI.F.4.a).(3) to attend unique educational events. (Detail)

VI.F.4.b) These additional hours of care or education will be counted toward the 80-hour weekly limit. (Detail)

VI.F.4.c) A Review Committee may grant rotation-specific exceptions for up to 10 percent or a maximum of 88 clinical and educational work hours to individual programs based on a sound educational rationale.

The Review Committee for Diagnostic Radiology will not consider requests for exceptions to the 80-hour limit to the residents’ work week.

VI.F.4.c).(1) In preparing a request for an exception, the program director must follow the clinical and educational work hour exception policy from the ACGME Manual of Policies and Procedures. (Core)

VI.F.4.c).(2) Prior to submitting the request to the Review Committee, the program director must obtain approval from the Sponsoring Institution’s GMEC and DIO. (Core)

VI.F.5. Moonlighting

VI.F.5.a) Moonlighting must not interfere with the ability of the resident to achieve the goals and objectives of the educational program, and must not interfere with the resident’s fitness for work nor compromise patient safety. (Core)

VI.F.5.b) Time spent by residents in internal and external moonlighting (as defined in the ACGME Glossary of Terms) must be counted toward the 80-hour maximum weekly limit. (Core)

VI.F.5.c) PGY-1 residents are not permitted to moonlight. (Core)

VI.F.6. In-House Night Float

Night float must occur within the context of the 80-hour and one-day-off-in-seven requirements. (Core)

VI.F.7. Maximum In-House On-Call Frequency

Residents must be scheduled for in-house call no more frequently than every third night (when averaged over a four-week period). (Core)

VI.F.8. At-Home Call
VI.F.8.a) Time spent on patient care activities by residents on at-home call must count toward the 80-hour maximum weekly limit. The frequency of at-home call is not subject to the every-third-night limitation, but must satisfy the requirement for one day in seven free of clinical work and education, when averaged over four weeks. (Core)

VI.F.8.a).(1) At-home call must not be so frequent or taxing as to preclude rest or reasonable personal time for each resident. (Core)

VI.F.8.b) Residents are permitted to return to the hospital while on at-home call to provide direct care for new or established patients. These hours of inpatient patient care must be included in the 80-hour maximum weekly limit. (Detail)

***

*Core Requirements: Statements that define structure, resource, or process elements essential to every graduate medical educational program.

Detail Requirements: Statements that describe a specific structure, resource, or process, for achieving compliance with a Core Requirement. Programs and sponsoring institutions in substantial compliance with the Outcome Requirements may utilize alternative or innovative approaches to meet Core Requirements.

Outcome Requirements: Statements that specify expected measurable or observable attributes (knowledge, abilities, skills, or attitudes) of residents or fellows at key stages of their graduate medical education.

Osteopathic Recognition
For programs seeking Osteopathic Recognition for the entire program, or for a track within the program, the Osteopathic Recognition Requirements are also applicable.
(http://www.acgme.org/Portals/0/PFAssets/ProgramRequirements/Osteopathic_Recognition_Requirements.pdf)