ACGME Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education in Neurotology
Summary and Impact of Focused Requirement Revisions

Requirement #: IV.A.6.a).(1)

Fellow experiences must include:

graduated responsibility for adult and pediatric patients in both inpatient and outpatient environments; (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee’s rationale for this revision:

   Neurotology fellowship training requires a two-year concentrated otologic and neurotologic training in medical and surgical aspects of ear disease of patients of all ages. Current ACGME Neurotology Fellowship Milestones guidelines include the ability to diagnose and treat "pediatric and adult" complex causes of hearing loss. Also included are demonstration of understanding and treatment of "auditory neuropathy/dyssynchrony, ossicular malformations, congenital/genetic hearing loss and aural atresias". These conditions are most often diagnosed in pediatric patients. Thus, this additional wording, while more clearly spelling out what training encompasses, will not change the overall scope of training or practice; the current neurotology case log requirements will not change.

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

   The proposal would allow for documentation of current training practices to demonstrate compliance with program requirements. The current neurotology case log system already permits the selection of patient age. The case log reports will be enhanced by the addition of pediatric/adult patient numbers to enable fellows to track this information.

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

   This proposed requirement will not impact continuity of patient care. At present, patients with complex ear disease may be treated by a fellowship-trained neurotologist throughout his or her lifetime.

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

   The current neurotology case log system already includes selection of patient age. This will be changed to be a required field. While there will be no specific required minimums for each patient type, the Committee will expect to see each fellow reporting some experiences with both patient types. This may result in some institutions responding by seeking additional patient resources (e.g., pediatric patients) to comply with the requirement.

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

   No impact is anticipated.