

NOTE: This information is accurate as of **April 27, 2020**. The ACGME continues to evaluate the COVID-19 pandemic situation on an ongoing basis, and updates will be issued as the situation changes and more information emerges. Please review the latest updates on the ACGME website at www.acgme.org and www.acgme.org/COVID-19.

From the Review Committee for Nuclear Medicine

The members of the Review Committee for Nuclear Medicine would like to express their empathy to the nuclear medicine community in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The unprecedented pressures on our health care delivery systems have resulted in effects on our graduate medical education (GME) environments across the country. Each of you has undoubtedly experienced a reorganization of your medical services and roles in addressing the novel coronavirus. As a result of these circumstances, many nuclear medicine residents may face an altered path forward in their educational and professional development. We wish to clarify here the roles of the ACGME and the American Board of Nuclear Medicine (ABNM). Together, these bodies support the development of future nuclear medicine and molecular imaging specialists.

The ACGME supports and reviews the overall environment and structure of residency programs, ensuring the provision of access to high-quality, necessary resources to facilitate their learning and development for resident physicians, and providing oversight of the institutions sponsoring GME and the programs educating and training physician learners.

The ABNM sets standards for achievement of knowledge and skills for individual residents and certification examination requirements. The ABNM recently disseminated communications regarding clarifications and changes in required training experiences for residency completion, and eligibility for referral by program directors to the ABNM Certification Examination. In the context of the present pandemic, we recommend you review the education and training experiences of your graduating residents with the ABNM.

To the extent that the changes in the current clinical environment may impact some of the reported metrics in your ACGME Accreditation Data System (ADS) Annual Update and subsequent program review, we would like to reassure you that our foremost concern is the maintenance of excellence in your program and educational environment. The Review Committee recognizes that some of the metrics in the Program Requirements may be transiently affected by the present circumstances, including as relates to completion of the Case Logs. If your program has encountered difficulties in meeting any of the Program Requirements, we encourage you to address this with the ABNM. You can inform the Review

Committee of any such issues in the Major Changes section in ADS at the time of the next Annual Update.

We are all together in medical care delivery and medical education in these difficult circumstances. We hope these effects are short-term and limited, but are prepared to address the possibility of longer-term changes in our programs and systems. Each nuclear medicine program is encouraged to proactively evaluate the potential impact of the changing environment on resident education, to make plans to mitigate any limitations, and to innovate in the learning environment and pathways for its residents.