

Policy on Education Resources for Pain Medicine Program

Policy

A program in pain medicine must be multidisciplinary. Therefore, the ACGME mandates that institutional policies be established to cover the educational resources committed to pain medicine training programs and to ensure cooperation of all involved disciplines. There may be only one ACGME- accredited pain medicine program within a sponsoring institution.

Procedure

Pain medicine training programs can be accessed after primary training in several medical disciplines. Some of these include anesthesiology, physical medicine and rehabilitation, psychiatry and neurology.

Pain medicine training and experience are modified to meet the needs of each trainee based on his or her background and experience and on his or her career goals. Each discipline in this multidisciplinary program must provide the resources necessary to provide comprehensive pain medicine training to assure the needs of each trainee can be achieved.

The pain medicine program director is assigned primary responsibility for organizing the educational program for each pain medicine trainee and to assure cooperation among all involved disciplines. A single multidisciplinary fellowship committee must meet semiannually to review the program's resources and its attainment of its stated goals and objectives. One of these reviews should serve as the required annual program evaluation.

The Designated Institutional Official (DIO) and the GMEC will monitor educational resources committed to the pain training program through the Annual Program Review, the Internal Review process, and the annual ACGME Survey of Residents as applicable.

If difficulties in the distribution of resources committed to pain medicine training are identified, the DIO will meet with the program director to assess the distribution and to recommend corrective action. The DIO will report these findings through Compliance Subcommittee to the GMEC and other hospital/institutional officials as indicated. The GMEC possesses final authority in assuring cooperation among the disciplines if the conflict is not resolved through the previously described mechanisms.