



CoPS UPDATE January 2014

Please forward to your subspecialty society/section or allied organization as appropriate.

MILESTONES OF COMPETENCIES TO BE REPORTED TO ACGME BY THE PEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALTIES

The ACGME has just released the final list of subcompetencies (referred to as “competencies” by some) for which milestones are to be reported to the ACGME in December 2014. To view the list, click [here](#). To report milestones, fellowship programs should have a Clinical Competency Committee (CCC) in place. ***To learn more about CCCs and reporting of milestones, attend the CoPS “CCC and Milestones” webinar to be held on February 18, 2014 at noon EASTERN.*** Information about registering for this webinar will be distributed shortly. Even if you miss it, the webinar will be recorded and posted on the [CoPS website](#).

FELLOWSHIP READINESS

This Action Team, charged with determining the specific qualifications or characteristics that make a resident better prepared to enter a pediatric fellowship and suggesting a career-focused curriculum for residency program directors, has issued its final recommendations. As a part of the process, the group solicited input from residency and fellowship program directors, current fellows and recent fellowship graduates. Thanks to Mel Heyman and Debra Boyer and the other members of this joint CoPS/APPD project, including Christine Barron, Micheal Brook, Adam Rosenberg and Suzanne Lavoie, for their hard work on this effort. The recommendations are available [here](#) and the Action Team plans to submit the data for publication.

ENTRUSTABLE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALTIES

Both the [Common and Subspecialty Specific EPAs](#) are posted on the CoPS website. Since the original posting, two subspecialties have revised their EPAs. CoPS held a webinar in October entitled “[Understanding EPAs](#)” that is available on the CoPS website. CoPS has also posted (and will continue to do so) other resources and links to presentations that may be helpful in teaching faculty about EPAs and milestones. If you have something that would be of benefit to the pediatric subspecialty community and would like to share it, please send it to info@pedsubs.org.

FELLOWSHIP START DATE

Graduating residents are under contract until June 30 and may be assigned patient care responsibilities up until this date. Yet, those pursuing subspecialty training are often expected to begin their fellowship on July 1 and for graduating residents that must relocate to another geographical region, this poses a significant hardship. Many are also required to attend fellowship orientation while they are still residents. To address these issues, CoPS has formed an Action Team to examine the current start date for fellowship training, make specific recommendations as to how this transition could be improved and propose a strategy to accomplish this. This is a truly collaborative effort involving residency and fellowship program directors from Pediatrics, Surgery and Internal Medicine as well as Designated Institutional Officials. The hope is to develop a common solution for all those who pursue fellowships across graduate medical education.

COMMON FELLOWSHIP MATCH DATE

The simplification of the match process for trainees was, and continues to be, an important focus of CoPS. The remaining challenges focus on the timing of the match and the coordination of dates. Based upon data from the NRMP

website, 6 subspecialties have their match in the second year of training on two different dates. The remaining programs have their match in the third year of training but on different dates. These numerous dates challenge both pediatric residency program directors and applicants to keep track of these various times. There are substantial benefits of having a single match day for all subspecialties, including the ability to use a couples match. However, the NRMP couples match can only be used if the match is held on the same date. A single date in the third year of training is also in line with resident preference.

CoPS highly supports a single match date in the Fall for all pediatric subspecialties. In the past, resistance to moving to a fall match date was related to some subspecialties needing more time to review applications for training grants and for international students to acquire visas. CoPS requests that these subspecialties determine whether these reasons are still applicable and encourages them to discuss moving to the Fall Match date. Note that the subspecialties in internal medicine have overcome these challenges and have a single match date in the fall. CoPS applauds the recent efforts of cardiology to review their practice.

CoPS SIGNS LETTER SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR PEDIATRIC SUBSPECIALTY LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

The Pediatric Subspecialty Loan Repayment program was included in the Affordable Care Act but funds for the program have never been appropriated. In a [letter](#) to the Labor HHS Education Subcommittee, CoPS joined several other organizations in advocating funding for this important program.