Introduction

- There are 7 Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) common to all pediatric subspecialties (table).
- These provide an opportunity to assess fellow performance and set standards.
- The Subspecialty Pediatrics Investigator Network (SPIN) previously developed 5 point level of supervision scales for each EPA.
- Still unknown are the minimum supervision levels required for graduation from fellowship and the relative importance of each EPA in making the graduation decision.

Objectives

For each of the 7 EPAs, to determine the opinion of fellowship program directors (FPD) about
1. the minimum level of supervision a fellow must achieve to complete fellowship and
2. whether a fellow should be allowed to graduate if this level is not met.

Methods

- An anonymous survey was sent through APPD’s Longitudinal Educational Assessment Research Network (LEARN) to all FPDs of ACGME-accredited fellowships for subspecialities with American Board of Pediatrics certification.
- For each EPA, the survey asked FPDs
  1) to identify the MINIMUM level of supervision a fellow must achieve to successfully complete fellowship
  2) if a fellow did not achieve at least this minimal level, would he/she still be allowed to graduate

Results

- The goal was to have 75% of all FPDs in each subspecialty participate.
- The 10th percentile was set as the minimum level meaning that 90% of FPDs believed a fellow must achieve that level or higher to graduate.
- An answer of “no” to question #2 was used to indicate the importance of the EPA in the graduation decision
- Statistical analysis used Friedman rank sum test and Spearman’s rho.
- Analyses were corrected for multiple comparisons.

Conclusions

- There are differing expectations for the minimum level of supervision required for graduating fellows across the common pediatric subspecialty EPAs with several requiring direct supervision and coaching.
- The relative “importance” of the EPAs in making the graduation decision are also different.
- Further study is required to determine if fellows are meeting these expected levels and to understand the differences in importance of the EPAs among the subspecialties.

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