

Graduate Medical Education Programs Report

Under accreditation rules and regulations, we are required to submit to the Board of Trustees a yearly report concerning the state of the Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs. The following is a summary of the report prepared by the Associate Dean for GME.

The University sponsors 116 programs throughout its affiliated institutions. Two new programs were added this year, Cardiac Electrophysiology and Cytopathology. One program, Cardiothoracic Surgery was withdrawn for lack of patient volume necessary to provide sufficient education. In addition to programs conducted by institutions affiliated with the University (including the Veterans' Administration Hospital), we have major affiliated programs at Advocate Christ Hospital, Advocate Masonic Hospital, and Mount Sinai Hospital. All programs are fully accredited by the Accrediting Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The approval process includes on-sight visits every three to five years, with reports issued by the ACGME that identify deficiencies. Nineteen programs were reviewed in 2010 and 2011. All areas of concern expressed by the ACGME from these visits have been addressed.

There were some general comments that have been recognized and are being addressed:

- Seven programs lack sufficient number of index cases to assure adequate clinical exposure.
- Six programs are seen to have excessive service requirements.
- Evidence of resident scholarship is lacking in four of the programs.
- Some of the programs do not link their goals to the ACGME core competencies.
- In selected programs there is a lack of subspecialty coverage.
- Some programs need more teaching and conference participation by faculty.
- Some fellowship programs are threatened by a lack of sufficient patient volume to assure adequate education.

These issues are being addressed with the appropriate department heads.

The Institutional Review by the ACGME is scheduled for January, 2012. This will include a review of the overall educational structure and oversight of the programs. Such reviews are conducted every ten years.

Future emphases for our programs will include:

- Focusing on patient volume in selected programs.
- Emphasizing resident participation in safety and quality programs.
- Improving the evaluation process for residents and faculty in selected programs.