



## **CoPS UPDATE June 2014**

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

### **CLINICAL COMPETENCY COMMITTEES AND MILESTONES**

Fellowships are reminded that [milestones for 21 competencies](#) will need to be reported to the ACGME this November/December. As per ACGME requirements, programs should have already created their Clinical Competency Committees (CCCs). CoPS has posted a list of [abbreviated milestones](#) on its website that may be used for developing evaluation tools. Also available are resources that may be utilized to help teach faculty about the milestones. For those Fellowship Program Directors that are unclear about milestones and CCCs, CoPS strongly recommends viewing the webinar "[CCCs and Milestones](#)" and slides of a presentation given by Dr. Lieh-Lai of ACGME entitled "[ACGME Update on Milestones and CCCs](#)," both of which are on the CoPS website.

### **COMMON FELLOWSHIP MATCH DATE**

CoPS continues to work toward a common match date for the pediatric subspecialties. Five subspecialties currently have their match in the spring, the remainder are in the fall. In collaboration with CoPS, the AAP Section on Medical Students, Residents and Fellow Trainees (SOMSRFT) has just distributed a survey to residents and fellows soliciting their opinion about this issue. In addition, CoPS worked with the Association of Pediatric Program Directors (APPD) to clarify the effect that a common match date would have on patient responsibilities if residents needed to interview during the same time period. At the request of CoPS, the APPD has issued a [statement](#) addressing this topic.

### **FELLOWSHIP START DATE**

Graduating pediatric residents entering pediatric fellowships are expected to start their subspecialty training on July 1. Since residency does not officially end until June 30, this creates a conflict for those who must relocate and/or attend a mandatory orientation prior to July 1. In many residency programs, trainees often utilize vacation to allow time to move but this is not always possible. Last year, CoPS formed an Action Team to examine the current start date for fellowship training, involving residency and fellowship program directors from Pediatrics, Surgery and Internal Medicine as well as Designated Institutional Officials. Recently, Surgery has committed to delaying the start of surgical fellowships until August 1. This was due, at least in part, to the fact that Orthopedic Surgery fellowships have had a start date of August 1 for over 15 years without apparent issues. In order to acquire more data about this topic, CoPS and the APPD are currently surveying graduating pediatric residents and are planning to survey pediatric fellowship program directors very shortly.

### **ENTRUSTABLE PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (EPA) RESEARCH PROJECT**

In collaboration with the ABP, APPD Fellowship Committee and APPD LEARN, CoPS is helping to lead an educational research project designed to investigate the value of milestones in making entrustment decisions related to 6 of the 7 Common EPAs. The specific objectives of this study are 1) to determine if there is a specific milestone level at which a fellow is deemed entrustable, 2) to compare the milestone level at which fellows are deemed entrustable across the pediatric subspecialties and to determine if any specific competencies are more influential in the entrustment decision than others and 3) to compare the initial overall impression of fellow level of entrustment made by the Fellowship Program Director with that determined by the Clinical Competency Committee after the milestone levels are assigned. To date, 10 subspecialties have agreed to participate. Another one of the goals of this project is to develop a Pediatric

Subspecialty Educational Research Network that can support future investigations. For more information, contact [rmink@labiomed.org](mailto:rmink@labiomed.org).

#### ABP SUBSPECIALTY CERTIFYING EXAMS

The ABP Board of Directors has voted to keep the fees for initial certification unchanged from 2014. Although the ABP notes that the fee structure will have to be reviewed every year, the Board is acutely aware of the impact of educational debt and will do everything possible to restrain the rate of rise of fees for future years.

#### CoPS NEW OFFICERS

CoPS is pleased to announce its new officers. Rob Spicer, MD is the new Chair of CoPS while Richard Mink, MD, MACM assumes the position of Immediate Past-Chair. Mel Heyman, MD and Patrick Leavey, MD are the newly elected Vice-Chair and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively. Also elected to the Executive Committee will be Debra Boyer, MD and Linda Van Marter, MD. CoPS sincerely thanks James Bale, Jr. MD and Chris Kennedy, MD for their many years of service on the Executive Committee!