



*All pediatric subspecialties working together
for optimal child health*

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CoPS UPDATE March 2014

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

CoPS HOLDS WEBINAR ABOUT CLINICAL COMPETENCY COMMITTEES AND MILESTONES

Last month, CoPS held a highly successful webinar about Clinical Competency Committees and reporting of milestones for the pediatric subspecialties. Participants included Joe Gilhooly, MD, Chair, RC for Pediatrics, ACGME; Caroline Fischer, Executive Director, RC for Pediatrics, ACGME and Carol Carraccio, MD, MA, Vice-President, Competency-based Assessment, American Board of Pediatrics. The session was moderated by Richard Mink, MD, MACM, Chair, CoPS. Following a brief presentation by Dr. Gilhooly, there was a question and answer session. The [slides of the presentation](#) as well as a [recording of the webinar](#) are now posted on the [CoPS website](#).

COMMON FELLOWSHIP MATCH DATE

CoPS continues to work toward a single match date in the Fall for all pediatric subspecialties, something desired by the pediatric residents. With encouragement from CoPS, the 8 subspecialties in the Pediatric Specialty Fall Match (Child Abuse, Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics, Pediatric Critical Care, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Pediatric Nephrology and Pediatric Rheumatology) recently agreed to delay their fall match until mid-December. This will have several beneficial effects including allowing residents additional time in their third year to better experience a particular subspecialty before committing to that subspecialty, minimizing the potential effect on patient care services by providing more time for residency programs to schedule leave for residents needing to interview for fellowship positions and providing additional time for programs to interview fellowship applicants (now more than 4 months). CoPS continues to ask those pediatrics subspecialties with a spring match to review their practice and consider moving their match to the fall.

FELLOWSHIP READINESS

This Action Team was 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. The Action Team issued its [final recommendations](#) a few months ago and the group will be leading a workshop about this topic at APPD and presenting their findings in oral format at PAS. Thanks to Mel Heyman and Debra Boyer and the other members of this joint CoPS/APPD project, including Christine Barron, Michael Brook, Adam Rosenberg and Suzanne Lavoie, for their hard work on this effort.

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 group has been having monthly conference calls and is making progress in developing a proposal. More information will be forthcoming soon.