

**Minutes of the
Pediatrics Critical Care Fellowship Directors Meeting
Orlando 2007
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A. PCCSDP-K-12 Update

1. What is the PCCSDP? The Pediatric Critical Care Scientist Development Program (PCCSDP) is a national faculty training program that develops successful pediatric critical care physician scientists. The goal of the PCCSDP is to increase the number of highly trained, successfully funded, and sustainable pediatric critical care physician scientists who will do research to enhance the scientific understanding, clinical management, and rehabilitation of critical illness in children. The PCCSDP is funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development (NICHD).
2. Eleven Scholars have been admitted to the program since its inception, which is ahead of schedule and this reflects the high caliber of the candidates.
3. Mike Dean has hired a consultant, Bautista Consulting, who will be systematically contacting Departments around the country to try to identify candidates, and to help us try to let younger people know about the program prior to them becoming faculty.
4. National Advisory Committee: Jeffrey Blumer, Ph.D., M.D. , Jeffrey Burns, M.D. , Jeffrey Fineman, M.D., Thomas Green, M.D., Patrick Kochanek, M.D., Mary Leih-Lai, M.D., George Lister, M.D., M. Michele Mariscalco, *M.D.*, Carol Nicholson, M.D., Daniel Notterman, M.D.
5. Contact: <http://www.pccsdp.org/> or
Program Director:
J. Michael Dean, M.D., M.B.A
Department of Pediatrics
University of Utah School of Medicine
Email: mike.dean@hsc.utah.edu

B. Match Update

1. We had a spirited discussion about the MATCH again this year. The strong consensus remains that we should continue with the MATCH. However, there was also wide agreement that the most egregious offense is for a program to claim to be in the MATCH and yet to be offering applicants positions outside of the MATCH. After a prolonged and constructive discussion it was decided that the chair of the Fellowship Directors committee, i.e. me, would contact all programs once again to ask them if they are participating in the match. A list of those programs participating and not participating in the MATCH would be published. In addition, the Chair will directly contact the program directors of programs reported to have offered positions outside the match, and yet claiming to be in the match, to confirm the MATCH violation allegation and to discuss immutable adherence to the MATCH rules.
2. Match Candidates. We also reached consensus on which fellow applicants must enter the MATCH, and which fellow applicants are exempt from the MATCH.

- a. Fellow applicants who **must enter** the MATCH:
 - i. Anyone who seeks three years of fellowship training, whether for ABP eligibility or an international applicant who does not seek ABP certification but seeks three years of training.
 - ii. Candidates pursuing two fellowships in series. Fellows seeking a second fellowship after completing a first over three years, though the ABP pathway at least, need only complete two years in the second fellowship, regardless of where they train. These fellow applicants **ARE NOT** exempt from the MATCH if they are seeking to do a second fellowship, as the second fellowship can occur at any institution. Thus, as they have no prospectively approved program for integrated training at one institution by the appropriate board granting agency, these candidates must go through the MATCH for both the first and second fellowship.
- b. Fellow applicants who **are exempt** from the MATCH:
 - i. Fellows with prospective approval to integrate two fellowships (i.e. shorten the duration of training). Combined fellowship proposals (where the candidate seeks prospective approval by the ABP to reduce the total years of training by merging two fellowships at one institution) **ARE** exempt from the Match. For example, a fellow seeks to do a Cardiology-Pediatric Critical Care Fellowship at one institution for a total of 4 years instead of the usual 5. The ABP prospectively approves this proposal, but only if it occurs under the circumstances prospectively planned by two program directors at the same institution. With that letter of approval from the ABP in hand, the fellow applicant couldn't possibly go into the MATCH until all programs have a common MATCH deadline (let alone the logistical burden on the applicant to arrange prospective letters from multiple program directors at all institutions they might apply to that would all have to be prospectively approved by the ABP to make the MATCH sorting among different programs feasible).
 - ii. Spouses (often, not always). If the applicant's spouse must live in a certain city, and as long as there is only one ACGME certified pediatric critical care fellowship training program within reasonable commuting distance, the applicant is exempt from the MATCH.
 - iii. Military scholarships. The U.S. Military presently awards scholarships for fellowship training in December of the year prior to the July start of fellowship training (i.e. well after the MATCH cycle). Thus, those applicants already awarded a military scholarship are exempt from the MATCH.

3. NRMP Update

- a. No decision has yet been made about a combined Pediatrics fellowship match. To quote the Director of the NRMP in a recent email exchange with me, "If we move forward, however, there likely will be two matches, one that runs roughly January-June and a second that runs July-December. I am hoping the new Council of Pediatric Subspecialties will take the lead on this issue."
- b. For 2007-2008 all programs should plan on Quota change deadline late September 2007, Rank order list deadline early October 2007, and Match day early November 2007.

C. Fellowship Survey Data

1. Wynne Morrison, the Associate Director Fellowship Director at CHOP presented here findings from a survey of our program directors over the past year. One encouraging finding that I recall is that both large and small programs are preserving the necessary research time for fellows.
2. For further details please contact Wynne at morrisonw@email.chop.edu.

D. PALS/ACLS/ATLS Survey Data

1. Denise Goodman, Fellowship Director from Northwestern, asked for a straw poll from the approximately 40 program representatives at the meeting on:
Does your program require PALS for the fellows? Nearly all present reported yes.
Does your program require ACLS for the fellows? Large majority reported yes.
Are the faculty required to be certified in PALS? Nearly all present reported yes.
Are the faculty required to be certified in ACLS? Just less than half reported yes.
Are the faculty required to be certified in ATLS? About 3 or 4 programs reported yes.

E. Program on Professionalism at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

1. Niurka Rivero, Fellowship Director at CHLA, gave a presentation of an interesting program on professionalism that they have developed for their fellows.
2. The purpose of their course is to increase professional effectiveness by focusing on leadership and professionalism.
3. consider the idea that our influence in our medical context comes from our credibility, our ability to effectively lead and develop alignment with others.
4. look at dimensions of leadership including character, emotional intelligence, community, culture, and organizational context, uses of power, as well as effective styles of leadership.
5. topics will focus upon the person as leader and the organizational structure that supports his/her leadership.
6. building leadership competence and professional maturity through personal change and leading our organizational structures to patient and organizational health.
7. training in professional networking and development of a career plan.
8. Contact Niurka at JJMNRMD@aol.com or Randall Wetzel at rwetzel@chla.usc.edu for further details.
9. Note: **2nd Annual Leadership Training Seminar, Sponsored by Childrens Hospital Los Angeles Department of Anesthesiology on Professionalism, Interpersonal & Communication Skills, and Systems-Based Practice, Teaching ACGME Core Competencies to Residents and Fellows. March 11-12, 2007, Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort, Phoenix, AZ, (Post-SPA Winter Meeting) Email Randall or Niurka or Call (323) 669-2557.**

F. Web-based video lectures project

Over the next several years I propose that our committee should try to move or field forward by focusing our efforts on the creation of a web based resource that would enhance the education and training of pediatric critical care fellows across the United States. By harnessing the Internet, we can create web-based video curricula featuring some of the most effective of teachers from across the United States explaining foundational concepts essential for any practitioner of pediatric care medicine. This project would be a significant and lasting step in raising the standard of training for our field. The objectives of this program are:

1. To enhance pediatric critical care fellowship education across the nation by identifying outstanding teachers and placing their video taped lectures on the internet.
2. To advance the field of pediatric critical care medicine by identifying core educational concepts and providing a venue to master these concepts.
3. To encourage ongoing collaboration among pediatric critical care fellowship programs.
4. To recognize educational scholarship by providing a forum for innovative formats for teaching.

The methods to design and develop and implement this program would be the following:

1. Similar to the principles of the American Association of Medical College's MedEdPORTAL project, this project will be structured as a traditional print journal having an editor and 5 member editorial board, maintaining a peer review policy, following a rigorous process and using an invited expert reviewers.
2. Original copyrights are not transferred but remain with authors of the video lecture.
3. The project will follow a three phase process: establish core competencies; articulate template for each video presentation; identify expert teachers for each competency; invite peer-reviewed outline of the proposed presentation; record and publish video presentation on the web; each presentation will be updated every three years

Are they are obstacles and limitations to this proposal?

1. Video-based lectures are inherently limited by the inability to the teacher to interact with students.
 - True. First, this will still be a useful resource. Second, programs can supplement the video-based lecture with the views on each topic of local faculty and allow for the give-and take between teacher and students not possible with video-taped presentations alone.
2. Is the core curriculum intended to replace individual fellowship program priorities and objectives?
 - No. This program is intended as a supplement to enhance all programs. Moreover, it is not intended to be a mandatory requirement for pediatric critical care fellows.

Where will we get the support to develop and sustain such a program?

1. I will make a five year commitment of 10K per year from the Division of Critical Care Medicine at Children's Hospital Boston, if we are unable to obtain other funds.
2. Please note, funding support from one institution is not to interfere in anyway with web location, editorial independence, or the promotion of institutional or individual objectives.

Where do we go next?

1. I will draft a more detailed protocol for the development of this project and e-mail it to you all. By April 1. I appreciate the enthusiasm of the number of people who volunteered at the end of the meeting in Orlando, I intend to call on each of you in the future.

G. Nominations for next Chair of Fellowship Director's Committee

Next year's meeting will mark the end of my second term as Chair of the Pediatric Critical Care Medicine Fellowship Director's committee. I have enjoyed this position but look forward to fresh leadership of this important committee. We are a small subspecialty, and one of the most significant measures of our cohesiveness is the work of the Fellowship Directors. I hope many of you will consider succeeding me. I know one person is interested. However, in speaking with Ed Conley, current Chair of the Pediatric Critical Care Executive Committee, we agreed that it was best to solicit nominations from you all for the next Chair of the Fellowship Director's committee, to begin his or her duties at the end of next year's meeting. If you are interested, or would like to nominate someone else, please e-mail me ASAP. My email:

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