

Society of Critical Care Medicine  
PEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR'S COMMITTEE  
NEWSLETTER

I would first like to thank everyone for their participation in what I hope was an informative and productive committee meeting! Special thanks to Renee Overton (ERAS representative), Ann Thompson, Rich Mink, Katherine Biagas, and Wynne Morrison for their individual contributions. I have appended the minutes of the meeting below as well as attached several items including:

1. ERAS Pediatric Critical Care newsletter
2. ERAS PCCM endorsement letter
3. PDF version of Renee Overton's Power Point presentation

### **Call for Chair-Elect**

There was a formal announcement for a chair-elect for the fellowship director's committee. The chair-elect term will be immediately upon election and end at the conclusion of the 2010 meeting, followed by a two year term as chair (2010-12). The chair and chair-elect will have a position in the SCCM Pediatric Steering Committee. The timeline is as follows:

Nominations due: **February 27, 2009**

Vote by members (one vote per institution) opens: **March 13, 2009** closes **March 27, 2009**

The vote will be approved by the Steering Committee and announced shortly thereafter.

The only entry criterion is that the nominee be a Fellowship Director in an ACGME accredited program. Each nominee must submit a 250 word (maximum) statement as to why he/she should assume a leadership role and cite relevant qualifications. Please forward all nominations to me and I will contact them to determine interest. Self-nominees can simply forward the statement.

*This is a valuable role and a chance to serve your peers in the Society, so don't be bashful about nominating yourself or someone you feel is amply qualified!*

### **Survey of Match Results**

There has been disappointing response to the match survey (19 of 47 responses). Here is the link for those who have not responded.

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=q2WcqNp2DxMrYeAbaWKqCQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=q2WcqNp2DxMrYeAbaWKqCQ_3d_3d)

### **Family-Based Evaluation Tool**

At the recent Fellowship Directors meeting, several of you mentioned that you have an evaluation tool for use by families. If you forward them to me I will distribute to those voicing interest, or better yet, you can send to the group as whole.

## **Pediatric Critical Care Fellowship Director's Meeting Minutes** Sunday, February 1, 2009

**Attendees:** Robert Clark, Pittsburgh; Nan Garber, University of Maryland; Michele Mariscalco, Baylor College of Medicine; Tracy Koogler (for Rachel Wolfson), University of Chicago; Jeff Burns, Boston; Matthew Goldsmith, Washington University; Steve Kernie, UTSW, Dallas; Lewis Singer, Montefiore/Einstein, Bronx NY; Heidi Dalton (for Jen Schuette), Children's National Medical Center; Joy Howser, NYPH Cornell; Jessie Moreland, University of Iowa; Mona McPherson, Baylor; Shamel Abd-Allah, Loma Linda Children's; Yong Han (For Tom Shanley), University of Michigan; Ann Marie Levine, University of Florida; Jana Stockwell (for Toni Petrillo), Emory University Ira Cheifetz, Duke; Denise Goodman, Children's Memorial/Northwestern Chicago; Mark Hall, Nationwide Children's Hospital (Columbus); Katherine Potter, University of Louisville; Leslie Doughty, Cincinnati Children's; Richard Fiser, University of Arkansas; Margaret Winkler, University of Alabama Birmingham; Tom Rice, Medical College of Wisconsin; Balagangadhar Totapally, Miami Children's; Sandeep Kramer (for Brad Peterson), San Diego Children's Hospital; Hossein Tchamchi, Baylor College of Medicine; Katri Typpo, Baylor; Gokul Bysani, Indiana Univ School of Medicine; Wynne Morrison, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Heidi Smith, Vanderbilt; Niurka Rivero, Children's Los Angeles; Christopher Mastropietro, Children's Hospital of Michigan; Katherine Biagas, Columbia University; Richard Mink, Harbor-Villa Medical Center; Lorry Frankel, Packard Children's Stanford

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(See above for more detail)

### **Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS)**

As everyone is (hopefully) now aware, we are using ERAS for applications for the 2010 match. This is the same process that medical students use for residency applications, so they are familiar with it. Renee Overton, Director, ERAS, Association of American Medical Colleges, provided a nice introduction and overview of the process. Important dates are included in the attached newsletter and Renee's presentation. It is encouraged to set up your Program and Program Information pages as soon as possible, certainly before MyERAS opens to applicants July 1, 2009. (Please see the attached presentation for more detail)

### **Fellowship (Re)accreditation: Important Changes and Common Citations**

Ann Thompson, Member of the Residency Review Committee for Pediatrics of the ACGME, gave an informative presentation. Highpoints "going forward" (i.e. those of us with nearing reaccreditation dates):

#### Avoiding common pitfalls

- Including qualifications of faculty including most recent certification
- Goals and objectives should be rotation specific, level of training specific, and structured around core competencies
- Practice based learning and improvement requires demonstration of fellows participation\
- Providing evidence that a "full curriculum" is offered, i.e. multiple methods of training in addition to the traditional apprentice-based approach
- Individualized learning plans should be level of training specific and structured around core competencies
- Evaluation of fellows should provide a "global assessment" and include objective evaluation such as 360 degree evaluations from ancillary staff and families, inservice exams, direct observation of procedural and practice skills, in addition to standard evaluations and subjective assessment.

#### Fatal flaws

- Inadequate patient load/mix for specialty
- Inadequate scholarly environment (certified faculty, learning environment)

- Lack of demonstration of fellow scholarship
- High board failure rate by graduating fellows

### **Report from the Council of Pediatric Subspecialties (CoPS)**

Richard Mink (Pediatric Critical Care Representative) presented a brief update of CoPS ([www.pedsubs.org](http://www.pedsubs.org)) beginning with a summary of its mission, vision and organizational structure. There are two Pediatric Critical Care representatives; Christie Corriveau is the other one from pediatric critical care medicine. CoPS' activities of direct relevance to fellowship program directors include:

Fellowship Match and ERAS: CoPS has been very successful in encouraging subspecialties to use the match, coordinate match dates and utilize ERAS. Most programs using the match are using one of two dates and there has been a 100% increase in the number of subspecialties now using ERAS.

Newsletter: CoPS distributed its first newsletter in January of this year. All subspecialty program directors should have received it. Newsletters are planned for twice per year.

IOM report: CoPS supported a response to the recent IOM Duty Hours report that was developed by the neonatology group. This response is to be published in the *Journal of Pediatrics*.

Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum Conference: CoPS is joining with the APA, APPD and COMSEP to hold the first Pediatric Educational Excellence Across the Continuum Conference (<http://www.peeac.org>). This is an educational conference designed to improve skills in learning new teaching strategies, developing curricula, learning how to assess performance and how to give feedback. The conference will be held on September 11 and 12 in Arlington, VA.

Discussion Boards: CoPS maintains subspecialty specific and general discussion boards. These are public sites that can be accessed via the CoPS website.

### **Fellow Intraining Exams**

Wynne Morrison discussed the existing two pediatric critical care intraining exams.

1) SITE exam, put out by the American Board of Pediatrics, occurring this year March 9-14, 2009. This exam is given via computer at a Prometrics learning center & the deadline has passed for scheduling for the year.

2) MCCKAP exam, put out by an SCCM committee, unfortunately scheduled for the same week this year, although case-by-case exceptions may be made for programs who wish to do both exams and can't handle clinical schedules for both in the same week to be able to delay a week or so. Contact Christine Diedrich ([cdiedrich@sccm.org](mailto:cdiedrich@sccm.org) for more information).

She advocated to have the MCCKAP schedule not conflict with the SITE exam in future years, and this issue will be raised with Council.

SCCM is exploring moving the MCCKAP to an online version which would improve the security of the exam and potentially improve ease of scheduling.

Is the MCCKAP necessary now that the ABP has an exam? Program directors' thoughts:

- many program directors had their fellows take both exams to better prepare for the boards
- a large group used only the SITE exam, as they felt the exam put out by the ABP would be better preparation for the real boards, and they valued the "likely pass/fail" data that will be

available over time. Some also felt the quality control of the SITE questions was better, although there may be a problem with only "retired" questions being used.

- a small group used only the MCKAP because they thought it was more challenging, & because the MCKAP also provides more detailed subject content of questions missed to each fellow
- there was significant concern about the cost differential between the two exams with the MCKAP being more expensive, so this concern will also be passed on to the SCCM administration

### **Alleged New IOM Duty Hour Recommendations**

Katherine Biagas reviewed the scientific basis for the current and proposed IOM duty hour recommendations. Importantly, there was a motion to draft a Consensus Statement specific to Pediatric Critical Care Medicine Fellowship training, to be signed off on by as many program directors as want to support it, and sanctioned by SCCM. Pat Kochanek (Editor-in-Chief of PCCM) is interested in publishing such a document. Katherine Biagas volunteered to spearhead this document. Anyone interested in helping her in a meaningful way please contact her ([kb316@columbia.edu](mailto:kb316@columbia.edu)).

**Meeting adjourned....Steelers win!**