

# Updates from the Review Committee for Internal Medicine

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Vice Dean, Designated Institutional Official, University of Arizona College of Medicine-Phoenix Chair, Review Committee for Internal Medicine

#### Jerry Vasilias, PhD

Executive Director, Review Committee for Internal Medicine

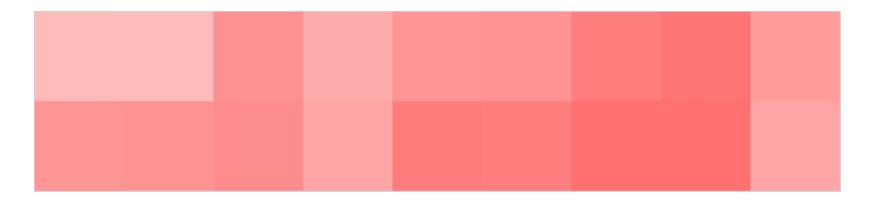
#### Conflict of Interest Disclosure

 None of the speakers for this educational activity have relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.



### Clarity







#### The ACGME's Mission

The mission of the ACGME is to improve health care and population health by assessing and enhancing the quality of resident and fellow physicians' education through advancements in accreditation and education.

https://www.acgme.org/about/overview/mission-vision-and-values/



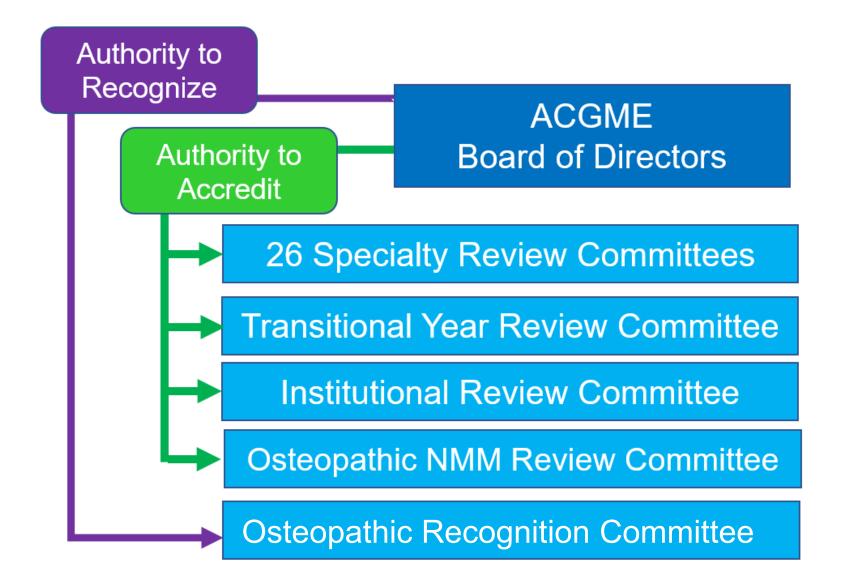
- Who is the Review Committee?
- What does the Review Committee do?
- Overview of Current Accreditation Model
- Citations and Areas for Improvement
- FAQs
- Who can I call if I have a question?





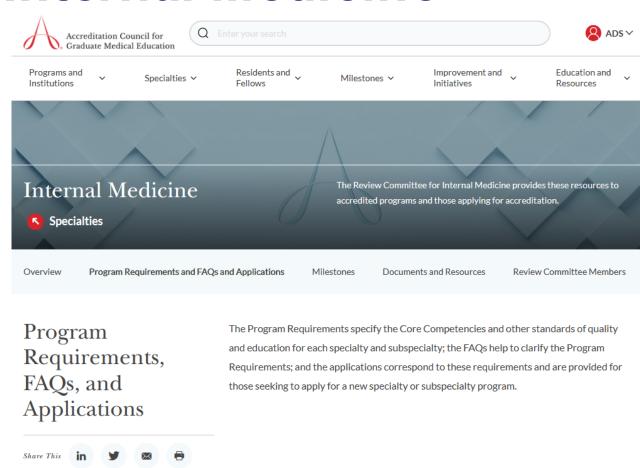


### ACGME + Review Committees



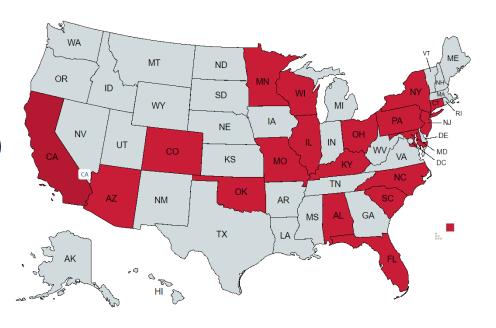


- Accredits one quarter of all programs
  - 600+ residency programs
  - 2,500+ subspecialty programs
- 25 Program Requirement documents
  - Internal medicine + 24
     subspecialty documents





- 24 members
- All are volunteers
- 21 physician members are nominated by:
  - American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM)
  - American College of Physicians (ACP)
  - American Medical Association (AMA)
  - American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
- Two resident physician members
- Non-physician public member with vote
- Each nominating organization appoints an ex-officio member without vote























ACGME/RC-IM Staff



ex officio, non-voting (ABIM, ACP, AOA)







**ABIM-nominated** 



**ACP-nominated** 



AMA-nominated



**AOA-nominated** 



resident members



public member







**Program Director** 

































#### **Voting Members**

Sarkis Arabian, DO GIM

Rendell Ashton, MD PCCM

Stefanie Brown, MD GIM

Ruth Campbell, MD Nephrology

Jaclyn Cox, DO GIM

Helen Fernandez, MD Geriatrics

Ann Finke, MD Resident Member

Nancy Finnigan, DO Nephrology

Christine Gerula, MD CVD

Sapna Kuehl, MD GIM

Jeannette Lin, MD ACHD

Alice Ma, MD Hematology-Oncology

Bernadette Miller, MD GIM

Cheryl O'Malley, MD Med-Peds Chair

Amy Oxentenko, MD GI Vice Chair

Michael Pillinger, MD Rheumatology

Nancy Reau, MD Transplant Hep

Rabbi Seymour Rosenbloom Public Member

Abby Spencer, MD GIM

John Stewart, MD Med-Peds

Stephanie Strohbeen, MD Resident Member

Sheila Tsai, MD Sleep Medicine

Brooks Vaughan, MD Endocrinology

#### Non-Voting (Ex-Officio) Members

Karen Caruth, MBA AOA

Davoren Chick, MD ACP

Erica Johnson, MD ABIM







#### What Does the Review Committee Do?

- Creates and proposes revisions to Program Requirements
- Reviews programs to determine compliance with minimums in Common and specialty-/subspecialty-specific Program Requirements
- Discusses matters of policy, issues relevant to the specialty
- Recommends changes in ACGME Policies and Procedures and Program Requirements to the ACGME Council of Review Committee Chairs

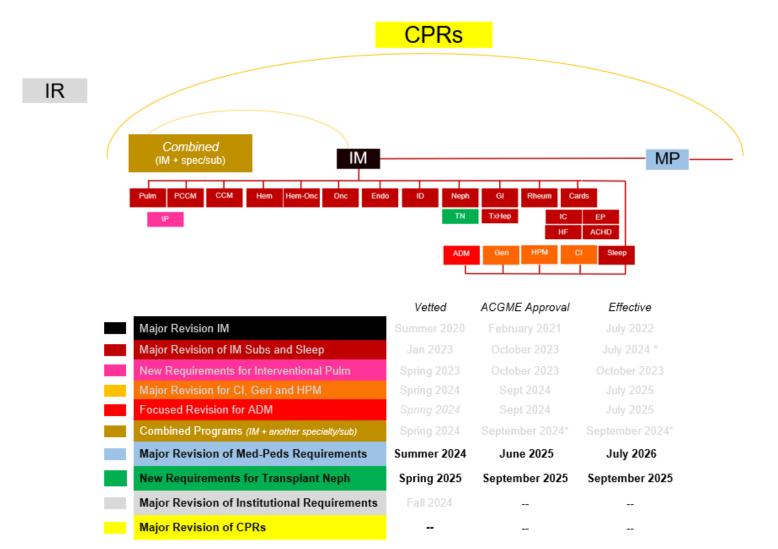


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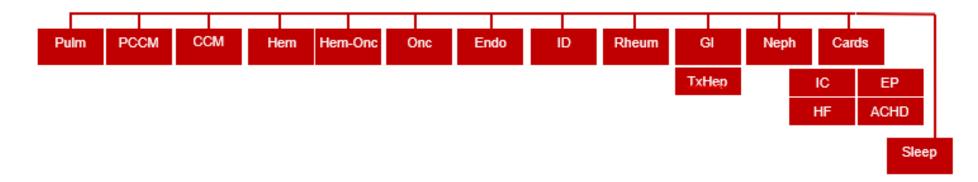


# Program Requirement Revisions! Past, Present, and Future





### Subspecialty Program Requirements Approved in Fall 2023



- Program Requirements for subspecialties were approved at the fall 2023 ACGME Board of Directors meeting
  - Effective date of July 1, 2024
  - New FTE requirements for core faculty and associate program directors will not be citable until July 1, 2025
  - Requirements for program director and coordinator are citable



# Background and Intent with Summary Table of Total Minimum FTE

Subspecialty-Specific Background and Intent: The Review Committee created the table below to summarize the total minimum FTE for program director, APD, and core faculty members needed based on approved complement. The table also clarifies the minimum number of core faculty members necessary based on program size. Two examples are provided.

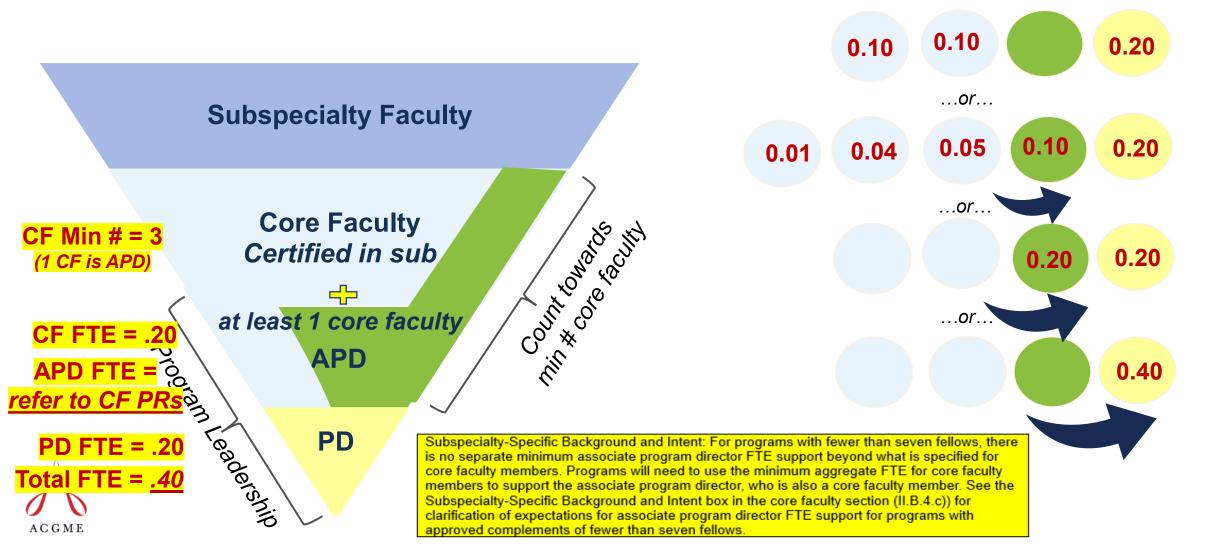
- A 3-fellow program needs a program director and a minimum of three ABIM- or AOBIMsubspecialty certified core faculty members (at least one being the APD) and a total minimum FTE of 35 percent. The total minimum FTE is a sum of the minimum of 20 percent for the program director and aggregate of 15 percent for the APD and the other core faculty members.
- A 9-fellow program needs a program director and a minimum of four ABIM or AOBIM-subspecialty certified core faculty members (at least one being the APD) and a total minimum FTE of 58 percent. The total minimum FTE is a sum of the minimum of 25 percent/FTE for the program director, an aggregate of 13 percent/FTE for the APD(s), and an aggregate of 20 percent/FTE for the remaining core faculty members.

As long as the program meets the requirements for the minimum FTE for the program director, the minimum number of ABIM- or AOBIM core faculty members, and the aggregate FTE for core faculty and APD(s), how the aggregate FTE for core faculty and APD(s) is distributed is flexible. For instance, in the 3-fellow program example, the program can allocate the aggregate 15 percent/FTE as 10 percent/FTE for the APD/core faculty member and two and a half percent for the remaining two core faculty members, but it can also provide five percent to the APD/core faculty member and five percent to the two core faculty members, or it can distribute it in whatever manner the program and institutional leadership feel works best.

	Minimuum	Minimum			
Nissasia a a a f	Minimum	Minimum	N 41 1	N 4::	T-4-1 N4::
Number of	Number of ABIM or	Support	Minimum	Minimum	Total Minimum
Approved	AOBIM Subspecialty	Required	Aggregate	Aggregate	FTE for PD, APD
Fellow	Certified Core	(FTE)	FTE	FTE for	and Core Faculty
Positions	Faculty	for Program	for APD(s)	Core	
	(one being the APD)	Director		Faculty	
1-3	3	.20	.15		.35
4-6	3	.20	.20		.40
7-9	4	.25	.13	.20	.58
10-12	6	.30	.14	.20	.64
13-15	8	.35	.15	.20	.70
16-18	10	.40	.16	.20	.76
19-21	12	.45	.17	.25	.87
22-24	14	.50	.18	.25	.93
25-27	16	.50	.24	.25	.99
28-30	18	.50	.30	.25	1.05
31-33	20	.50	.36	.25	1.11
34-36	22	.50	.42	.30	1.22
37-39	24	.50	.48	.30	1.28



#### Six-fellow cardiovascular disease medicine program Total minimum FTE = 40%



# Other Requirement Revisions Common Program Requirements

- Major revision starts this year
- Last major revisions in 2017 (revised work hours) and 2019 (all other parts of section VI – patient safety, professionalism, and well-being)
- Proposed three-year process staggered and overlapping efforts
  - Literature reviews and commissioned papers
  - Broad input from GME community
  - Call for position statements
  - Congresses to present position papers
  - Consensus, drafting proposed language and vetting it



### Other Requirement Revisions Common Program Requirements Task Force

- Common Program Requirements Task Force: 25 members
- Comprised of members of Board (9), Council of Review Committee Chairs [CRCC] (9), Council of Review Committee Residents [CRCR] (4), Council of Public Members (1)
- Co-chaired by chair of Review Committee for Obstetrics and Gynecology and Board of Directors member (family medicine)
- Specialties represented...
  - Board of Directors (n=9)
    - Internal medicine (2), pediatrics, anesthesiology (2), emergency medicine, surgery (2), vascular surgery
  - CRCC (n=9)
    - Internal medicine, family medicine, pediatrics, anesthesiology, preventive medicine, radiology, colon and rectal surgery, neurological surgery, Institutional Review Committee
  - CRCR (n=4)
    - Internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, orthopaedic surgery, surgery



### Other Requirement Revisions Institutional Requirements

- Started in 2023
- Proposed changes vetted in July 2024
- Received much feedback from designated institutional officials (DIOs)
- Special communications
  - Timeline for revisions extended to align with the Common Program Requirement revision process



### Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

OCTOBER 30, 2024

Dear Members of the Graduate Medical Education Community,

In August, the ACGME's Institutional Review Committee (IRC) introduced a proposed major revision to the Institutional Requirements for review and comment. This step is part of the ACGME's ongoing commitment to align the Requirements with the evolving roles of Sponsoring Institutions, their programs, and their relationship to clinical learning environments. We are grateful for the thoughtful response from the graduate medical education (GME) community and appreciate your engagement.

Based on the robust response and to synchronize this effort with the upcoming revision of the Common Program Requirements, the ACGME and the IRC have decided to extend the original timeline for approval and implementation of the revisions to the Institutional Requirements. The IRC continues to review the comments it received and will use this feedback to make changes to the proposed Requirements. The committee will also collaborate with the Common Program Requirements Task Force that will convene in January 2025. In this way, each group can inform the other as it undertakes its major revision effort. Once revisions are made, there will be a second review and comment period, as promised, to allow time for the community to provide feedback.

We recognize the impact of the Institutional Requirements not only on the institutions themselves, but on all GME programs, and believe that harmonizing the review of the Institutional Requirements with the scheduled review of the Common Program Requirements will better support improvements in accreditation and the needs of the GME community.



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### Different Types of Reviews

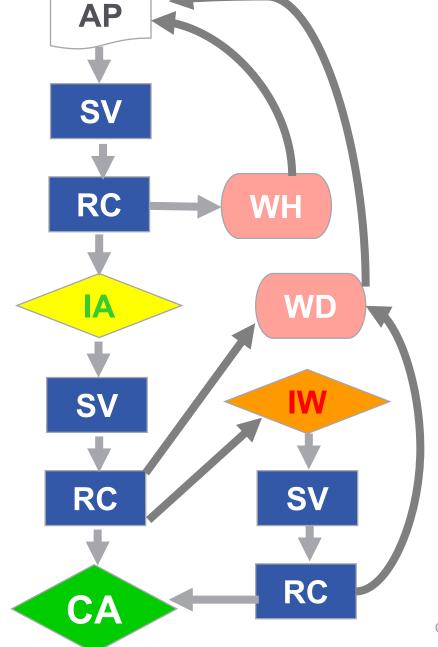
- Review of applications/new programs
- Review of established programs



# Applying for a *New*Internal Medicine Residency Program



= Withdrawal of Accreditation

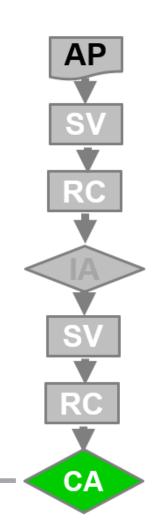




### After Achieving Continued Accreditation

- Continuous accreditation = NAS
- Since 2013, continuous accreditation has been the process that the Review Committee uses to review every established program annually
- Identify programs with potential compliance issues earlier
- Use screening tools to identify outliers
  - Programs flagged as outliers undergo further review
  - Considerations...
    - Which data element was flagged?
    - Was data element flagged multiple years?
    - Are multiple data elements flagged?
    - Does program describe improvement plans?





Continuous

#### Data Elements/Indicators

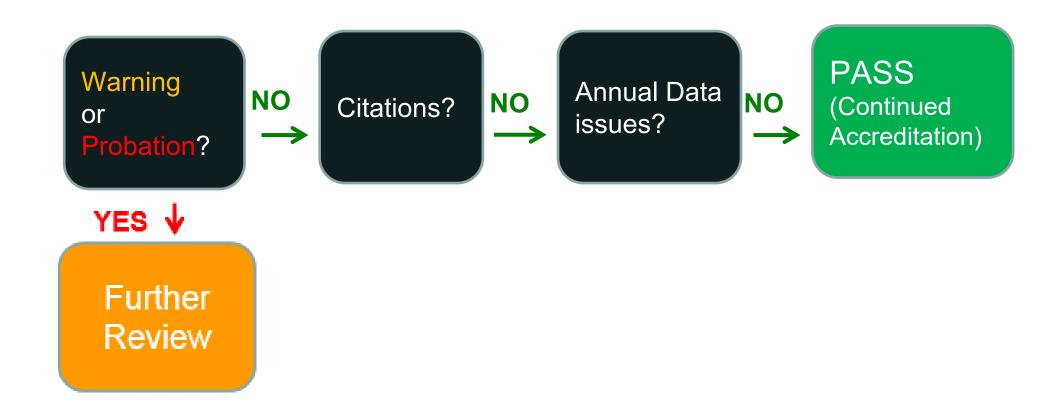


- Resident/Fellow Survey
- Clinical Experience
- ABIM/AOBIM Pass Rate
- Faculty Survey
- Scholarly Activity
- Attrition/Changes/Ratio
- Omission of Data





### Annual Review: Big picture...





- · Who is the Review Committee?
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### "Noncompliance" with Requirements

Review Committee is looking for *substantial*, not *absolute* compliance with requirements

#### **Citations**

- Require response in ADS
- Identify areas of non-compliance linked to specific program requirements

Program Requirement N.1.

The program must do this. (Core)

The program is not doing this.

#### Areas for Improvement (AFIs)

- Can represent "general concerns" (but are usually tied to program requirements)
- Do not require response in ADS

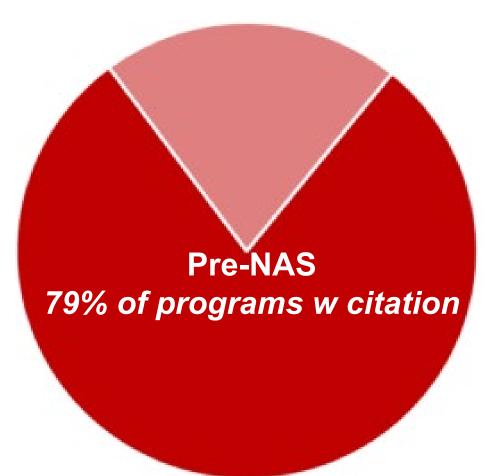
Program Requirement N.1.a.

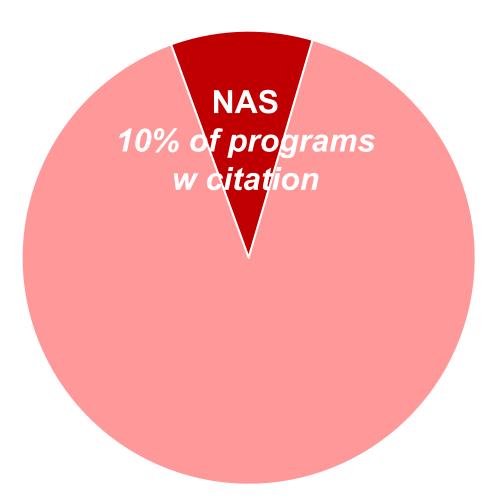
The program should do this. (Detail)

This area could be improved by doing this.



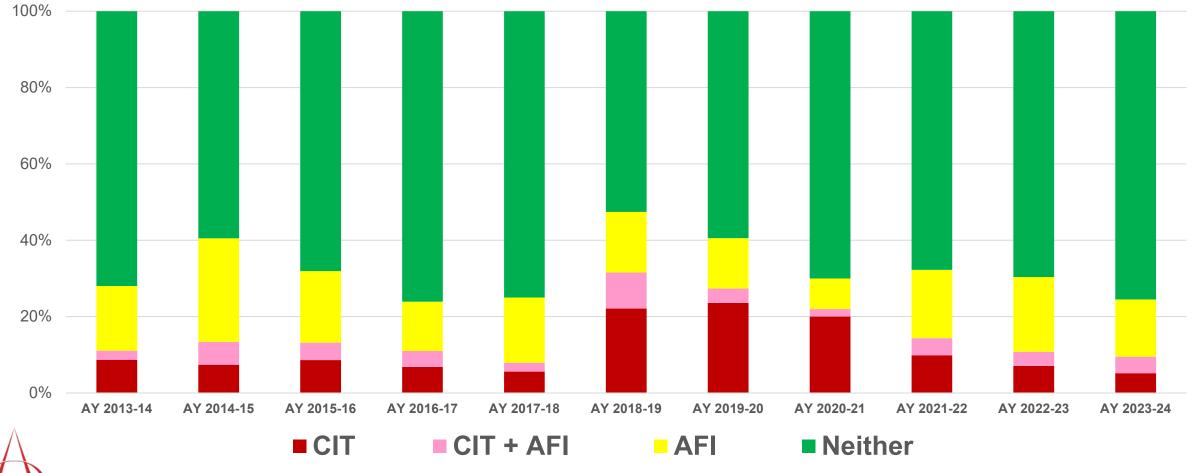
## Pre-NAS vs. NAS – annual continuous accreditation Fewer citations in NAS





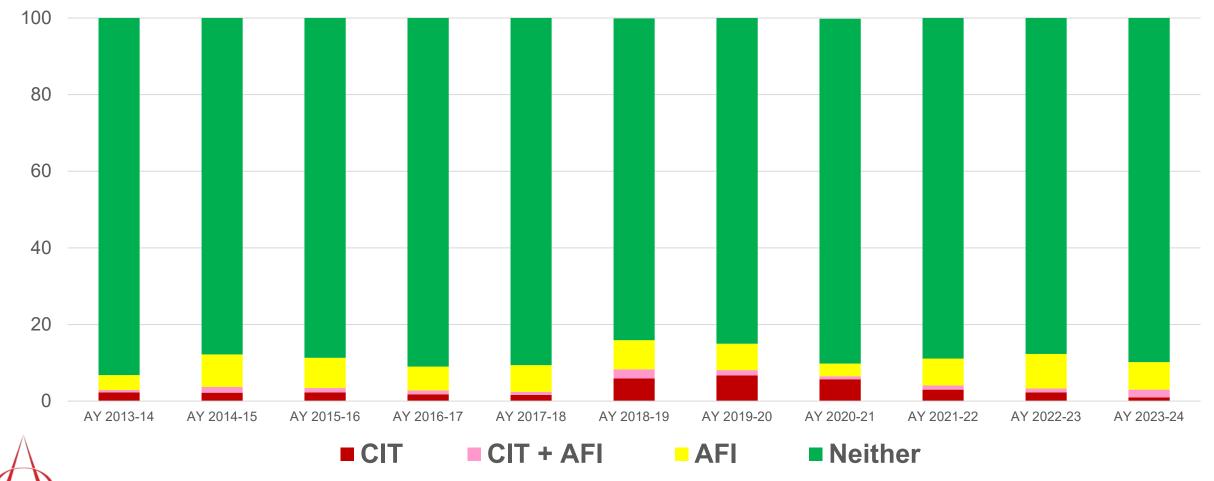


# Citations and AFIs for CORE programs 11 years of NAS





# Citations and AFIs for CORE + SUBS programs 11 years of NAS

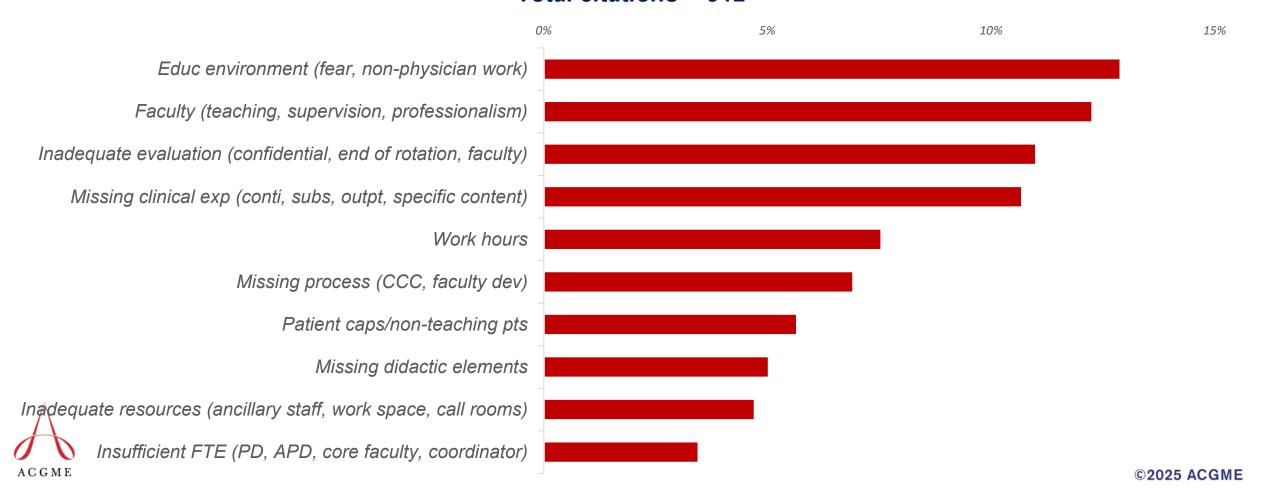


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### Citations for *ESTABLISHED* programs in NAS *AY 2023-24*

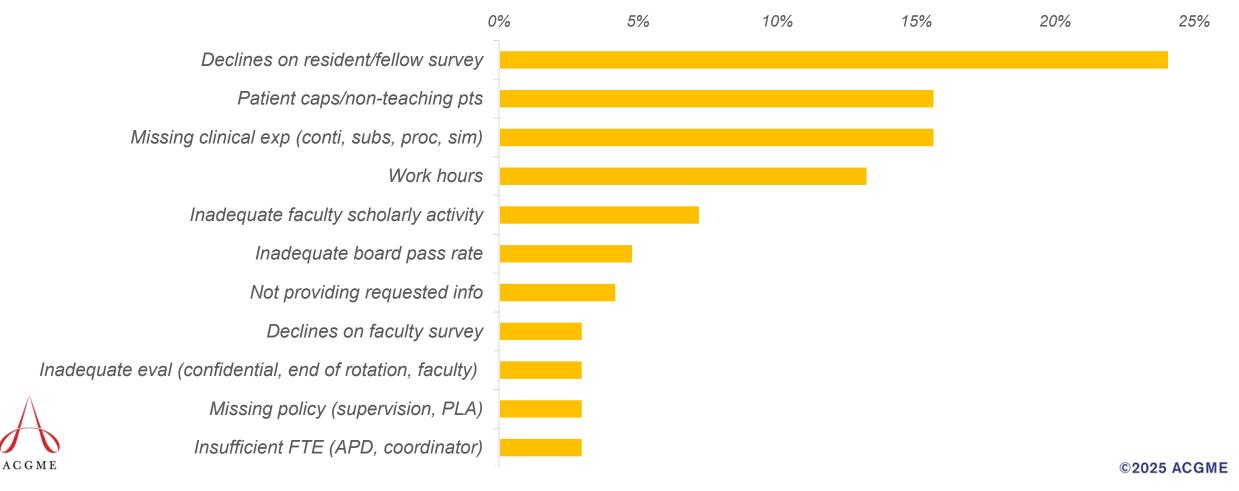
Total programs receiving citations = 104

Total citations = 342



### AFIs for *ESTABLISHED* Programs in NAS *AY 2023-24*



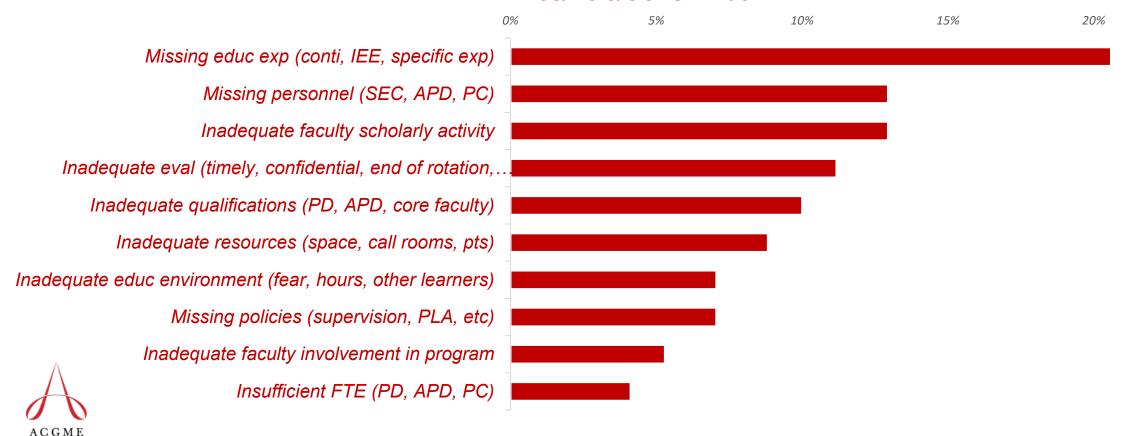


## Citations for *NEW* Programs/Applications *AY 2023-24*

Total new programs/applications reviewed = 222

Total new programs/applications receiving citations = 84

Total citations = 203



25%

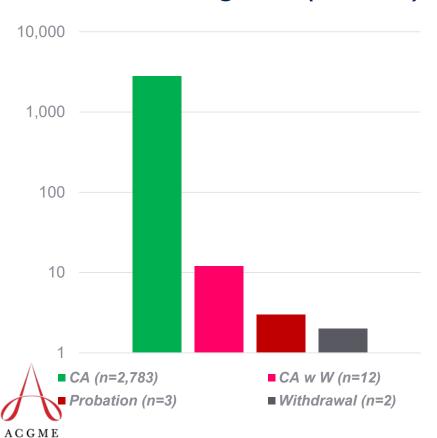
# AFIs for *NEW* Programs/Applications *AY 2023-24*

Total new programs/applications reviewed = 222
Total new programs/applications receiving AFIs = 123
Total AFIs = 255

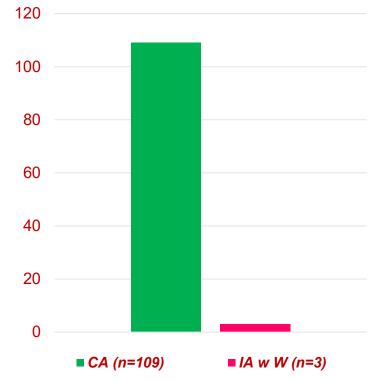


# Accreditation Actions for ALL Programs Reviewed in AY 2023-24

#### Established Programs (n=2,800)



#### New Programs at IA (n=112)



#### *New Applications (n=110)*



#### Frequently Asked Questions







### FAQ #1: Who should be listed on faculty roster in ADS?

At a minimum, include the following...

- Program director
- Associate program director(s)
- Minimum required # of core faculty members
  - Based on complement
- Other faculty members
  - At your discretion!
- Review roster instructions



# FAQ #2a: What role can a family medicine physician have in an internal medicine program?

Expectation is that most faculty members in internal medicine program are internal medicine physicians

#### On inpatient rotations:

• An ABFM- or AOBFP-certified physician with extensive experience caring for inpatient adults can teach and supervise internal medicine residents, provided they are approved by the site director and the program director. Working as an adult hospitalist for at least three years would be one way to demonstrate such extensive experience.

#### On outpatient rotations:

• A non-internist with documented expertise (e.g., a family medicine physician with extensive outpatient/ambulatory experience or procedural proficiency) can teach and supervise internal medicine residents provided the non-internist is approved by the site director and the program director.

# FAQ #2b: What role can a nurse practitioner/physician assistant have in an internal medicine program?

#### On inpatient rotations:

- Although important for residents to acquire experience leading/participating in health care teams
  with non-physicians (e.g., nurse practitioners or PAs), overall supervision of all clinical care by
  residents is the responsibility of the physician faculty/attending physician of record.
- Non-physicians can not independently supervise residents on inpatient rotations. The attending
  physician may delegate an appropriately qualified non-physician to assist a resident in performing
  a procedure.

#### On outpatient rotations:

- Supervision by non-physicians is allowed in specialized outpatient settings for specific experiences (e.g., GYN clinic, STD clinic, wound care clinic, home visits, nursing homes), where the non-physician has appropriate qualifications to perform and supervise the clinical activity.
- If a non-physician is acting as a supervisor of the care provided, the program must ensure they are authorized to do so by applicable institutional policies and state regulations.
- This exception does not apply to the continuity clinic, other general medicine clinics, or medicine sub clinics (e.g., pulmonary clinic, general infectious disease clinic, hem-onc clinic).

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### FAQ #3: What are expectations for internal medicine subspecialties and non-internal medicine?

#### IM Subs + Geriatrics

HPM, Addiction, Neuro, EM

- Curriculum: goals + objectives, teaching methods, and assessment tools
- Sufficient clinical exposure
- No minimum time on these experiences defined
- ABIM/AOBIM Sub certified SEC
- SEC must be accountable to the PD for coordination of education in sub area



# FAQ #4: How do I document "individualized educational experience?"

PGY1													
Block	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Rotation Name	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-N	ICU-D	Emergency	Cardio	ICU-N/ Clinic	Clinic	Clinic	GI/Pulm
Site	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	2	2	3/4
% Outpatient	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%/92%	92%	92%	50%/70%
% Research/Didactics	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	5%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	0.2
PGY2													
Block	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
							ICU-N/						
Rotation Name	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-N	ICU-D	Clinic	Clinic	Clinic	Neuro/ GI	IC	IC	IC
Site	1	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	2	2	1/2			
% Outpatient	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%/92%	92%	92%	92%			
% Research	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%			
PGY3													
Block	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					Inpatient	ICU-N/							
Rotation Name	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	Inpatient-D	ICU-D	Sub-specialty	Clinic	Clinic	Clinic	H & PC/ Addic	Geri	IC	IC	IC
Site	1	1	1	1	1	1/2	2	2	1/2	2			
% Outpatient	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%/92%	92%	92%	92%	80%			
% Research	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	10%			



### FAQ #5: What are expectations for patient caps on wards?

	new patients	in-house transfers	ongoing care (total includes new patients and in-house transfers)
Intern	<b>5</b> (max 8 in 48hrs)	2	10
PGY2 or PGY3 supervising 0 interns	Not specified in PRs	Not specified in PRs	Not specified in PRs
PGY2 or PGY3 supervising 1 intern	Not specified in PRs	Not specified in PRs	14
PGY2 or PGY3 supervising >1 intern	10 (total includes interns' new patients; max 16 in 48hrs)	4	20

Specialty-Specific Background and Intent: The Review Committee cannot prescriptively and explicitly assign patient census limits for every possible educational scenario or circumstance given the variability in these settings and the complexity and acuity of the patients. Instead, it asks program and institutional leadership teams to proactively and regularly monitor the census, complexity, and acuity of patients assigned to resident-comprised health care teams, and the structure and composition of the team, particularly the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the team members, to determine the appropriate patient team size for the situation. Although the Review Committee limits the number of new patients PGY-2 and PGY3 residents can be assigned per admitting day (Program Requirements IV.C.4. j)-l)), programs can exercise flexibility and deviate from these limits for PGY-3 residents who have significant experience in the inpatient setting and are interested in hospitalist medicine careers in the future....

# FAQ #6: What is FTE for one person involved with multiple programs?

- FTE is cumulative
  - Example minimum required FTE for coordinator support...
    - Cardiology (n=6 fellows) and gastroenterology (n=6 fellows) is...
      - Cardiology FTE (.50) + gastroenterology FTE (.50) = 1.00
    - Cardiology (n=6 fellows) and gastroenterology (n=6 fellows) and rheumatology (n=4) is ...
      - Cardiology FTE (.50) + gastroenterology FTE (.50) the rheumatology (.50) = 1.50

II.C.2.a)

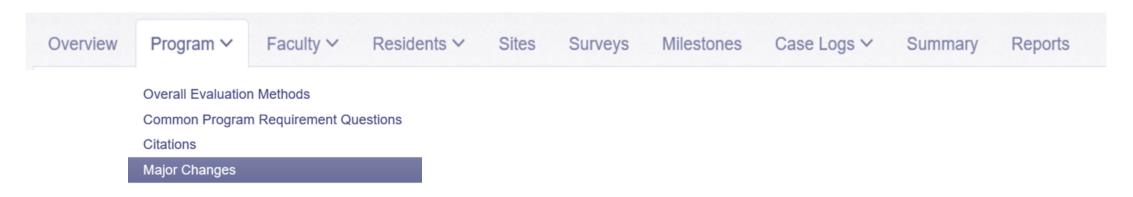
At a minimum, the program coordinator must be provided with the dedicated time and support specified below for administration of the program. Additional administrative support must be provided based on the program size as follows: (Core)

Number of Approved Fellow Positions		Minimum FTE Required for Coordinator Support	Additional Aggregate FTE Required for Administration of the Program		
1-3	}	0.30	0		
4-6	3	0.30	0.20		
7-9	)	0.30	0.38		
10-12		0.30	0.44		
13-15		0.30	0.50		
16-1	18	0.30	0.56		



Subspecialty-Specific Background and Intent: As an example, a program with an approved complement of 12 fellows is required to have at least 74 percent/FTE administrative support: 30 percent/FTE for the program coordinator; and an additional 44 percent/FTE aggregate support. This additional support may be for the program coordinator only or divided among the program coordinator and one or more other administrative personnel. The Review Committee has not specified how the FTE should be distributed to allow programs, in partnership with their Sponsoring Institution, to allocate the FTE as they see fit.

#### FAQ #7: Is "Major Changes and Other Updates" important?



#### **Major Changes and Other Updates**

Provide a brief update explaining any major changes and any other updates to the educational program in the last year, e.g., changes in program leadership and faculty, rotational changes, curricular challenges, efforts to address issues identified in the annual ACGME surveys, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on your resident/fellow education.

[Enter text here]



### FAQ #8: When do I contact the ACGME? When do I contact the certification boards?



Develops and maintains accreditation standards for *programs* and evaluates programs against those standards.





Develop and maintain certification standards for *individuals* and evaluate individuals against those standards.



### FAQ #9: How are increases in complement handled?

- Requests for temporary increases in complement for less than three months do not need to be submitted in ADS
- Turnaround to receive a decision is 30 days (often less)



#### FAQ #10: Where can I get more info?



Resources for

### FAQ #11: What happened to the 10-year compliance visits?

- 10-year compliance site visits for programs were discontinued in 2023
- Replaced with random site visits for programs without a site visit in 10+ years

#### In 2024...

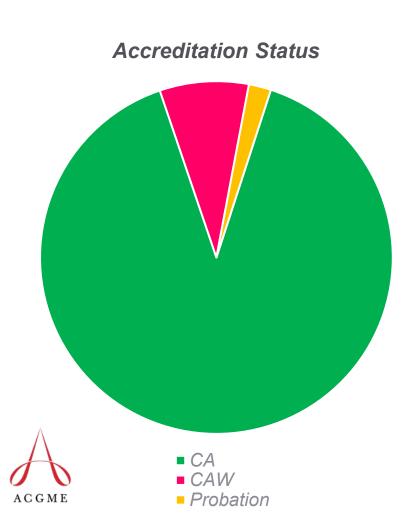
- 2% of programs randomly selected annually
  - Total = 150 programs across all specialties/subspecialties
- 25% of all accredited programs are internal medicine → 25% of site visits are internal medicine programs
  - Total internal medicine = 34, 3 = core, 28 = subspecialties, 3 = internal medicinepediatrics

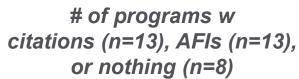
#### In 2025...

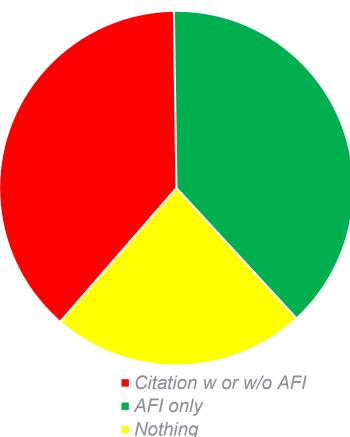
- More programs to undergo random site visits
  - Total = 200
  - Total internal medicine = 47



### FAQ #10b: What happened to the programs randomly selected to undergo a site visit?

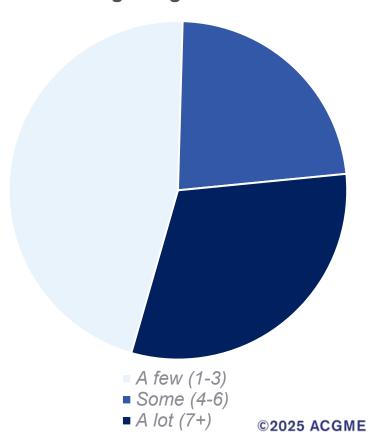






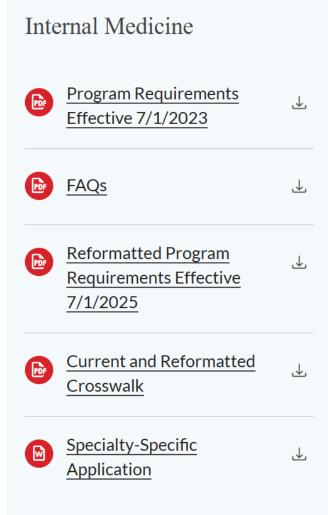


Of programs getting citations (n=13), most are getting a few citations



## FAQ #12: Is there an FAQ document on the Review Committee's webpage?

- Most were "baked" into the Program Requirements document as Background and Intent boxes
- However, FAQ document has been re-posted!





# FAQ #13: Is a newly accredited program required to undergo a site visit after receiving Initial Accreditation even if it doesn't have fellows?

- All newly accredited programs are required to undergo a site visit within two years of receiving Initial Accreditation
- If there are no learners in the program, contact Field Activities and request the site visit be delayed by a year



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#### Review Committee for Internal Medicine Staff

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Executive Director 312.755.7477





### Clarity



# ACGME





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### Thank You!



Questions?