



ACGME International

**Advanced Specialty Program Requirements for
Graduate Medical Education
in Allergy and Immunology
(Internal Medicine or Pediatrics)**

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I. Introduction

I.A. Definition and Scope of Specialty

Allergy and immunology specialists provide expert medical care for patients with allergic and immunologic disorders. These specialists may serve as consultants, educators, and physician scientists in asthma, allergic disorders, immunologic disorders, and immunodeficiency diseases.

I.B. Duration of Education

I.B.1. The education in allergy and immunology must be 24 or 36 months in length.

II. Institutions

II.A. Sponsoring Institution

See International Subspecialty Foundational Requirements, Section I.A.

II.B. Participating Sites

II.B.1. Fellow education at a participating site that is a private practitioner's office must be limited to the offices of program faculty members and must have defined goals and objectives.

III. Program Personnel and Resources

III.A. Program Director

See International Subspecialty Foundational Requirements, Section II.A.

III.B. Faculty

III.B.1. At least one core faculty member should be a qualified allergist and immunologist who has completed an ACGME International (ACGME-I)-accredited residency in pediatrics, or who has specialty qualifications that are deemed equivalent or acceptable to the Review Committee-International.

III.B.2. At least one core faculty member should be a qualified allergist and immunologist who has completed an ACGME-I-accredited residency in internal medicine, or who has specialty qualifications that are deemed equivalent or acceptable to the Review Committee-International.

III.C. Other Program Personnel

See International Subspecialty Foundational Requirements, Section II.C.

III.D. Resources

III.D.1. The program must treat a sufficient number of adult and pediatric patients throughout the program to provide fellows with comprehensive education in allergic disorders, asthma, immunodeficiency diseases, and immunologic disorders.

IV. Fellow Appointment

IV.A. Eligibility Criteria

IV.A.1. Prior to appointment in the program, fellows must have successfully completed an ACGME-I-accredited residency program in internal medicine or pediatrics.

IV.B. Number of Fellows

See International Subspecialty Foundational Requirements, Section III.B.

V. Specialty-Specific Educational Program

V.A. Regularly Scheduled Didactic Sessions

V.A.1. There must be a structured curriculum in the core didactic topics, including:

V.A.1.a) pathophysiology;

V.A.1.b) diagnosis;

V.A.1.c) differential diagnosis; and,

V.A.1.d) complications and treatment of disorders of innate and adaptive immunity, to include:

V.A.1.d).(1) hypersensitivity (IgE and non-IgE-dependent);

V.A.1.d).(2) immunodeficiency and autoimmunity;

V.A.1.d).(3) disorders of mast cells, basophils, eosinophils; and,

V.A.1.d).(4) contact system-related angioedema.

V.B. Clinical Experiences

V.B.1. The program format must be as follows:

- V.B.1.a) 50 percent of the program must be devoted to direct patient care activities, clinical case conferences, and medical record reviews;
- V.B.1.a).(1) At least 20 percent of the required minimum direct patient care activity must focus on patients from birth to 18 years.
- V.B.1.a).(2) At least 20 percent of the required minimum direct patient care activity must focus on patients over the age of 18 years.
- V.B.1.b) 25 percent of the program must be devoted to scholarly activity and research; and,
- V.B.1.c) 25 percent of the program must be devoted to other educational activities.
- V.B.2. Fellow experiences in direct patient care must include:
 - V.B.2.a) continuing care of pediatric and adult patients with allergic disorders, asthma, immunologic disorders and immunodeficiency diseases; and,
 - V.B.2.b) direct contact with pediatric and adult patients with the following diagnoses:
 - V.B.2.b).(1) anaphylaxis;
 - V.B.2.b).(2) asthma;
 - V.B.2.b).(3) atopic dermatitis;
 - V.B.2.b).(4) contact dermatitis;
 - V.B.2.b).(5) drug, vaccine, or immunomodulator allergy, or adverse or allergic reactions to drugs, vaccines, immunomodulator therapies, or other biological agents;
 - V.B.2.b).(6) food allergy;
 - V.B.2.b).(7) ocular allergies;
 - V.B.2.b).(8) primary and acquired immunodeficiency;
 - V.B.2.b).(9) rhinitis;
 - V.B.2.b).(10) sinusitis;
 - V.B.2.b).(11) stinging or biting insect and arthropod allergy; and,
 - V.B.2.b).(12) urticaria and angioedema.

V.C. Fellows' Scholarly Activities

- V.C.1. The program must provide fellows with a research experience that results in an understanding of the basic principles of study design, performance (including data collection), data analysis (including statistics and epidemiology), and reporting research results.
- V.C.2. Under faculty member supervision, each fellow must design and conduct allergy and/or immunology research that is either laboratory-based, epidemiologic, continuous quality improvement, or clinical investigation-based.
 - V.C.2.a) Fellows must present their research findings orally and in writing.
- V.C.3. Fellows should be instructed on how to read and critique the relevant medical literature.

V.D. Duty Hour and Work Limitations

See International Subspecialty Foundational Requirements, Section VI.

VI. ACGME-I Competencies

VI.A. Patient Care

Fellows must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of allergic and immunologic health problems and the promotion of health. Fellows must demonstrate proficiency in:

- VI.A.1. assessing the risks and benefits of allergic and immunologic disorder therapies, including allergen immunotherapy, drug therapy, and immunomodulatory therapy;
- VI.A.2. conducting comprehensive and detailed medical interviews with children and adults who present suspected allergic and/or immunologic disorders;
- VI.A.3. performing a physical examination appropriate to the specialty;
- VI.A.4. selecting, performing, and interpreting the results of diagnostic tests and studies; and,
- VI.A.5. performing and evaluating results in at least five of the following procedures:
 - VI.A.5.a) allergen immunotherapy preparation and administration;
 - VI.A.5.b) contact or delayed hypersensitivity testing;
 - VI.A.5.c) drug hypersensitivity diagnosis and treatment;

- VI.A.5.d) food hypersensitivity diagnosis and treatment;
- VI.A.5.e) immediate hypersensitivity skin testing;
- VI.A.5.f) immunoglobulin treatment and/or other immunomodulator therapies; and,
- VI.A.5.g) pulmonary function testing.

VI.B. Medical Knowledge

Fellows must demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care. Fellows must demonstrate proficiency in their knowledge of:

- VI.B.1. required core didactic topics through performance in objective examinations and application to patient care.

VI.C. Practice-based Learning and Improvement

Fellows must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning. Fellows are expected to develop skills and habits to be able to meet the following goals:

- VI.C.1. conduct comprehensive literature searches and critiques.

VI.D. Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Fellows must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and other health professionals. Fellows must:

- VI.D.1. counsel and educate patients about their diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment.

VI.E. Professionalism

Fellows must demonstrate a commitment to fulfilling their professional responsibilities and to adhering to ethical principles.

VI.F. Systems-based Practice

Fellows must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care.