The Single Accreditation System: Moving Forward

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Guiding principles

1. Maintaining access to high-quality care for our patients is the ultimate goal

2. Osteopathic medicine was born out of an effort to improve all of medicine
Background: How did we get here?

• Three factors

1. Osteopathic graduate medical education (GME) availability
2. GME accountability
3. ACGME common program requirements
OGME availability

- Osteopathic residents in ACGME training
- OGME capacity
- Consequences of dependence on ACGME

Kelley, CS. JAOA 114(7). July 2014
GME accountability

- The Institute of Medicine report
- ACGME’s Next Accreditation System (NAS)
Common program requirements

• Limits access to ACGME training

• Consequences for residency and fellowship training

• Students want options
On July 19, 2014, the AOA House of Delegates voted to support a single accreditation system.

What happens now?
Key provisions of the agreement

- Transition to ACGME accreditation: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2020

- AOA and AACOM: member organizations of the ACGME with representation on the board of directors

- Two new Review Committees
  - Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine RC
  - Osteopathic Principles RC
Key provisions

• Preaccreditation status

• Board certification status of program director

• Issues related to board certification of residents
Moving forward: Three tiers

1. Applications

2. Osteopathic medicine in an ACGME world

3. Look ahead to undergraduate medical education
Tier 1: Applications

- Direct resources toward completion of sponsoring institution and program applications

- Clarify definition of “substantial compliance” in the ACGME standards

- Nominate strong representation to the RCs
Tier 2: Share what we do

• The value of osteopathic medicine and medical education in evolving health care world
  • Primary care physicians in underserved areas
  • Community-based training
  • Osteopathic Postgraduate Training Institution (OPTI) model: share resources in cost-effective manner

• OMT: must clarify
Tier 2 continued…

• The board certification issue
  1. Eligibility requirements during transition period
  2. Fate of AOA-only certified physicians
  3. Osteopathic board certification: shift the paradigm
     • Clarify the purpose of the certification exam
     • Consider alternative ways to achieve this purpose
Tier 3: Look to undergraduate medical education

- Show and share our strengths
  - Pipeline efforts
  - Innovation in education
  - Infuse OMT into all medical education

- COMLEX/USMLE: We must arm our students with every possible tool for future success in ACGME
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References


- [https://www.nbome.org/](https://www.nbome.org/)
