Single Accreditation System for Graduate Medical Education: The Impact on Access to Osteopathic Distinctive GME Training

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Osteopathic Medicine

Defining Characteristics

- Distinctive Philosophy
- Whole Person Approach
- Preventative Focus
- Training in the musculoskeletal system
- Application of OMT
- Commitment to Primary Care

Imperative to Training

- The type of student we matriculate
- Specialized training during osteopathic medical school
- Osteopathic graduate medical education
- Osteopathic board certification and CME
Osteopathic Training

Prior to July 2015 two types of graduate medical education (GME)

- ACGME
- AOA

After July 2015 all programs will transition to be ACGME

- Programs who wish to provide osteopathic training will apply for ‘Osteopathic Recognition’

Questions to be Answered

- What are decision making factors?
- What are barriers?
- What are supports?
- How do we maintain locations and specialties?
- What are outcomes?
Increased Access

- Preserved access to all ACGME fellowship training programs
- MD access and matriculation into osteopathic programs
  - May enhance visibility and impact of our programs
  - Demand may drive further growth
Decreased Access

AOA Survey

- Sent to 1041 Program Directors/Directors of Medical Education (463 responded)

- 283 (61%) plan to seek osteopathic recognition

- 103 (22%) unsure

- 74 (16%) programs will not seek osteopathic recognition

Survey did not address

- Decision making factors

- Barriers

- Needed resources

- Current ACGME program interest in osteopathic recognition
Decreased Access

- Unknown if there will be a net loss or gain of programs with ‘Osteopathic Recognition’
- Competition for positions from US MD’s and International Medical Graduates (IMG’s)
- Questionable access into some prior ACGME programs
- No new GME positions created by the single accreditation system
- Increasing number of medical student graduates
- Unknown variables in the new system which may slow program growth
Recommendations
Future policy surrounding GME funding must have distinct financial supports for osteopathic training in the single accreditation system.
PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATION #1

Osteopathic Coalition

- AOA, AACOM, AODME, AAO, ACOFP, other osteopathic specialty groups
- Oversight, assistance, success for EACH AOA program during the transition
  - Identify barriers and challenges
  - Opportunities and advantages
  - Strategic focus
  - Communication
  - Branding
PROFESSIONAL RECOMMENDATION #2

AODME Committee

- **Create, sustain and share resources** ‘Osteopathic Recognition’ programs will need to meet basic requirements and milestones.

- **Outreach** for current AOA or ACGME programs who wish to pursue ‘Osteopathic Recognition’

- **Research** to promote osteopathic distinction in GME
Questions?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME