Important Changes to ABU Policies Affecting Urology Training

Message from the President

At their recent meeting, the Trustees of the American Board of Urology made two important policy changes affecting urology residency training. It is critical that department Chairs and Program Directors understand these policies and communicate these changes to residents. The former leave of absence policy stated that time away from clinical residency could not exceed fifteen percent (15%) of the clinical residency training period and not more than twenty percent (20%) of the chief resident year. The former resident transfer policy stated that a resident must petition the Board in advance for approval of a transfer and submit letters of acknowledgment and approval from both program directors. The new policies are outlined below:

NEW Leave of Absence Policy

Each program may provide sick leave and vacation leave for the resident in accordance with institutional policy. However, a resident must work forty-six (46) weeks each year of residency; that is, one year of credit must include at least forty-six weeks of full-time urologic education. Vacation or leave time may not be accumulated to reduce the total training requirement. If a circumstance occurs in which a resident does not work the required forty-six weeks, the program director must submit a plan to the ABU for approval on how the training will be made up, which may require an extension of the residency.

NEW Residency Transfer Policy

A resident may only transfer once during the urology portion of training and the last two years of residency training must be spent in the same institution. A resident who wishes to transfer must notify the ABU in writing six months in advance of the transfer and copy the current Program Director and DIO. The Program Director from the recipient program must send a letter to the ABU verifying there is an appropriate residency slot in the program for the resident to fill.

ACGME Pediatric Urology Operative Experience Minimums