How we do it in Neurosurgery

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No disclosures

Residency Training Requirements

• 84 months in neurosurgical residency training
  – 54 months of core clinical neurosurgery
    • 12 months as chief resident (PGY-6 or PGY-7)
    • 3 months basic neuroscience
    • 3 months critical care
  – 30 months of electives
    • Neurosurgery, research, neuropathology, neuroradiology
Residency Training Case Volume Requirements

- Our residents graduate with roughly 1,200-1,400 cases.

In-training Assessments

- Formal written exam (American Board of Neurological Surgeons primary examination) must be passed to graduate. This exam tests knowledge in various disciplines (critical care, neuroscience, neurosurgery, neuropathology, neuroradiology, neurology)
  - At our program:
    - PGY-3 self-assessment
    - PGY-4 credit (national passing rate roughly 87-92%)
- Formal semiannual PD meetings
  - Updates from CCC and Advisor
  - Quarterly hands-on skills assessment (cadaver sessions, virtual reality stations, etc)

Residency Review Committee

- Annual committee members
  - Chair, Vice-Chair, 5 Neurosurgeon Members, Resident Member, and Public Member
- Review each program annually
- Review case logs
- Review citations
- Review scholarly production
- Review requests for changes in complement
- Annual meeting for Chairs/Program Directors in May
Board Certification

- Oral examination is the last event of the initial certification process (completed application must be received by December 31 of the calendar year three years after graduation)
  - Explores knowledge and judgment in clinical practice after becoming an independent practitioner
  - Face-to-face examination involving the applicant and two examiners (current/former board directors and guest examiners)
  - Three sessions, each 45 minutes in length
    - General neurosurgery cases
    - Area of focus in pre-identified area (spine, tumor, vascular, functional, trauma/critical care, pediatrics, or general)
    - Applicant Cases (From the 125 cases submitted as part of credentials review, 10 are chosen for use at oral exam and 5 are selected by the examiners)
  - Passing rate roughly 83%

Maintenance of Certification

- Annual mini-cycle with annual dues
  - Part I: Professionalism and Standing
    - Chief of staff questionnaire
  - Part II: Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment
    - 20 Category 1 CME Credits
  - Part III: Assessment of Knowledge, Judgment, & Skills
    - Adaptive learning tool and modules to teach new evidenced-based information
    - Multiple choice exam
    - Additional modules in Pediatrics, Neuro-critical Care, and Endovascular
  - Part IV: Improvement in Medical Practice
    - Active participation in local M&M conference at least quarterly

Categories of Certification

- 1. Currently Certified – Participating in Continuous Certification
- 2. Currently Certified – Not Participating in Continuous Certification
- 3. Certified – Inactive (clinically or surgically)
- 4. Certified – Retired
- 5. Not Certified