



## Development of an Anesthesiology Residency Program at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center - El Paso

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All practicing physicians have completed a residency program. Having a residency program is one of the measures of the academic success of any clinical department. But is it easy to open a new residency program?

After years without an anesthesiology residency program at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center-El Paso, the faculty and staff of the Department of Anesthesiology submitted a New Program Application in February 2010 to the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The entire faculty under the leadership of a team of five professionals worked for almost three months to complete the Program Information Form (PIF) which details precise answers to specific questions from the ACGME.

A blank PIF for a New Application for Anesthesiology is about 26 pages long. It details how a department will comply with the relevant ACGME Institutional Requirements, the ACGME Common Program Requirements, and the Anesthesiology Program Requirements. The interested reader will find all of these documents on the ACGME website in the Anesthesiology Menu under the Review Committees list at [http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/navPages/nav\\_040.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/navPages/nav_040.asp). The final version of the PIF for the new four-year Texas Tech Anesthesiology Residency was more than 180 pages long. The creation of this document required significant resources from the Department of Anesthesiology, the Graduate Medical Education Office of Texas Tech, and the Office of the Founding Dean, Dr. Manuel de la Rosa.

Once the signed and completed PIF form is received by the ACGME, a site visit is scheduled for the Department. Our site visit was completed in May 2010. Close coordination with the Site Visitor's requirements and scheduling needs is mandatory to produce a successful visit. As the "eyes and ears" of the ACGME, the Site Visitor clarifies and verifies that all the statements made by the Department in the PIF are true and complete. Substantial compliance with the standards of the ACGME is required. At the annual educational meeting of the ACGME in Nashville in March 2010, the ACGME leadership compared the site visit to a colonoscopy where the preparation is worse than the procedure itself. Their description, we can confirm, is quite accurate.

In the weeks immediately after the site visit, the Site Visitor prepares a written report for the members of the Residency

Review Committee in Anesthesiology. Two members of the committee are assigned to analyze the report and will present their conclusions to the RRC at their meeting in October 2010.

The ACGME sends good news by email and bad news by US Mail. Two working days after the Anesthesiology RRC meeting in October 2010, the Department of Anesthesiology received an email announcing our Initial Accreditation for two years. With the Program now approved, the Department will begin to advertise, seek applicants and participate in the match program.

This process requires active participation in the Fellowship and Residency Electronic Interactive Database (FREIDA), the Electronic Residency Application Service (ERAS) and the National Residency Matching Program (NRMP):

1. FREIDA is an online resource sponsored by the American Medical Association (AMA) which lists all American graduate medical education programs that are ACGME approved.
2. ERAS, another online system, is used by American medical students as well as international medical graduates in applying to US residency programs.
3. NRMP serves the role of an impartial third party which matches applicants and residency programs based on their expressed preferences. In 2010, NRMP matched 37,556 applicants to 25,520 positions in 4,176 programs.

For the new Anesthesiology Residency Program, the Anesthesiology Resident Selection Committee will review all received applications through ERAS, invite selected candidates for interviews between November 2010 and February 2011 and then submit a rank-list of those applicants to the NRMP by February 23, 2011. The results of the match will be announced on March 17, 2011. The Department of Anesthesiology anticipates interviewing ten or more candidates for each of the eight slots available. In the first academic year beginning July 1, 2011, we will admit four individuals to the Clinical Base Year-Anesthesia (CBY-A) and four residents to the Clinical Anesthesia-1 (CA-1) year. In 2012 we will accept four residents in the CBY-A year. Our inaugural class will graduate in June 2014.

The accreditation process repeats itself over the next two years with an internal review of the program after the first year by the

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(Continued)**

Graduate Medical Education Committee of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and the submission of a new PIF to the ACGME in time for our next site visit in 2012. The goal is to ensure anesthesiology teaching and learning of the highest quality. Ultimately the program's success is determined by the continued commitment of the faculty and staff of the Department of Anesthesiology, the Graduate Medical Education Committee of the University, the Dean's Office of the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine and the leadership and support of University Medical Center-El Paso. Further information about applying to the new residency program is available from the design-

ated Program Director, Dr. McIlvaine, at [william.mcilvaine@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:william.mcilvaine@ttuhsc.edu).

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**Erika Quinones, MPH, Associate Director-Academic Programs.**

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**Department of Internal Medicine**

**Weekly Medical Grand Rounds Schedule**

**September - December 2010**

**Wednesday Mornings 7:30 to 8:30 AM**

**Auditorium A, Misenheimer Auditorium**

**Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center**

**4800 Alberta Avenue**

**El Paso, Texas 79905**

Month	Date	Division	Faculty	Topic
Oct	27	Cardiology	Abbas	Peripheral Artery Disease
Nov	3	Endocrinology	Bright	Update on Grave's Disease
	10	Dept of Medical	Dale Quest	Oral anticoagulants: Past, Present, Future
	17	Nephrology	Pedro Blandon	The Aviation Checklist Approach in Medicine
Dec	1	Pulmonary	Gonzalo Diaz	Sleep Apnea
	8	Nephrol/Research	Tolouian	Are Kidneys Causing Heart Attacks?
	15	Cardiology	Omosalewa Lalude	Cardiology Update

**Accreditation:** Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) is accredited by the Accreditation Council of Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education activities for physicians. TTUHSC takes responsibility for the content, quality, and scientific integrity of this CME activity

**Credit Designation:** TTUHSC Office of CME designates these educational activities for a maximum of 1 *AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s)*<sup>TM</sup> each. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

- *Persons with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids or services must submit a written request to the TTUHSC Office of CME, so that appropriate arrangements, if any, can be made. If a written request is not received at least one week prior to the program date, individuals are responsible to hire and pay for their own auxiliary aids or services.*
- *CME information also available on web site <http://www.ttuhsc.edu/cme> or at (915) 783-6206.*