

AMA GRANT UPDATE – NOVEMBER 10, 2019

Upon learning in June that APGO received a planning grant to further explore the feasibility of its *Transforming the UME to GME Transition for Obstetrics and Gynecology “Right Resident, Right Program, Ready Day One”* project, the grant team, led by principal investigator Maya Hammoud, MD, MBA, hit the ground running.

Much of the work to date has centered on the goal of Implementing Changes to the Residency Application and Match Processes (SOAIP), with a focus on engaging stakeholders. Specific accomplishments include:

- Program Directors: Dr. Hammoud and Dr. Mark Woodland presented the proposal to the CREOG Council and Program Directors at the CREOG Education retreat in July 2019. These meetings combined with previously collected data from the 2018 program director survey and other available information resulted in the development of new standards for the Ob-Gyn application and interview process, which were distributed to program directors in late August. The standards called for the following changes to be implemented for the 2019-202 application and interview process:
 1. Setting a final Ob-Gyn application deadline to October 1
 2. Limiting interview invitations to the number of interview slots available within a program and allowing applicants a minimum of 72 hours after an interview invitation email to respond
 3. Informing applicants of their final status by November 22 (such as invited for interview; wait-listed; or rejected, if the applicant has not been offered an interview)
 4. In addition, the programs are encouraged to follow a common release of interview dates on October 8 and October 15.

A companion email was sent to Clerkship Directors for use in supporting Program Directors and advising students and a Match Feedback email address was created so that people could ask questions and share impressions of the revised process.

- Students: An FAQ on the new standards was created specifically for students and distributed
- AMA and Consortium Members: Dr. Hammoud presented a poster titled: [*Transforming the UME to GME Transition for Obstetrics and Gynecology: “Right Resident, Right Program, Ready Day One”*](#) at the ChangeMedEd conference September 19-21.
- National Resident Matching Program: Dr. Hammoud presented a poster titled [*Residency Selection: Can the Process Be Improved?*](#) and an oral presentation titled, [*Transforming the UME to GME Transition for Obstetrics and Gynecology: “Right Resident, Right Program, Ready Day One”*](#) at the NRMP meeting October 3-5, 2019. The poster and presentation generated a great deal of interest and additional support for the changes.
- AAMC: Dr. Hammoud and members of the grant team met with representatives from the AAMC Group on Student Affairs (GSA) and the Council on Student Affairs (COSA) and AAMC staff November 10 during the AAMC meeting to discuss impressions of this year’s process and to determine ways to collaborate moving forward.

While data has yet to be formally collected, the project has seen significant program engagement, as well as a positive response from students, primarily expressed through social

media. Social media has proven to be a useful vehicle for communication and has ignited interest from other specialties including Psychiatry, Dermatology and others. Additional feedback will be collected through surveys and a full analysis will be provided following the conclusion of the Match process.

Next Steps

Work Groups are being formed and will meet at the conclusion of the CREOG & APGO Annual Meeting on March 1, in Orlando, Florida to continue or begin work in the following areas:

- Common calendar for application deadlines and interview release dates
- Additional metrics for applicant screening and evaluation
- Matchhelper App to develop Applicant Compatibility Index
- Early result match program option
- Ready for Intern-year Curriculum and Assessment
- Creation of learning communities with coaches

For additional information, please visit the [Transforming to UME to GME Transition](#) web page.

The grant team is excited about the project to date and grateful for the support from the AMA as well as from the APGO membership, which has been instrumental in achieving the success realized to date.