

# Standards of Accreditation for Residency Programs in Anesthesiology

The *Standards of Accreditation for Residency Programs in Anesthesiology* are a national set of standards maintained by the Royal College for the evaluation and accreditation of *Anesthesiology* residency programs. The standards aim to ensure the quality of residency education provided across Canada and ensure *Anesthesiology* residency programs adequately prepare residents to meet the health care needs of their patient population(s), during and upon completion of training.

The standards include expectations specific to the discipline, as well as the expectations set out in the *General Standards of Accreditation for Residency Programs*, which are applicable to all residency programs. In instances where the indicators reflected in the *General Standards of Accreditation for Residency Programs* have been modified within this document to reflect a discipline-specific expectation, the indicator as reflected in this document takes precedence. The standards are intended to be read in conjunction with the national discipline-specific documents for *Anesthesiology*.

## **Domain: Program Organization**

**Standard 1:** There is an appropriate organizational structure, with leadership and administrative personnel to support the residency program, teachers, and residents effectively.

Element 1.1: The program director leads the residency program effectively.

**Requirement 1.1.1:** The program director is available to oversee and advance the residency program.

**Indicator 1.1.1.1**: The program director has adequate protected time to oversee and advance the residency program consistent with the postgraduate office guidelines and in consideration of the size and complexity of the program.

**Indicator 1.1.1.2**: The program director is accessible and responsive to the input, needs, and concerns of residents.

**Indicator 1.1.1.3**: The program director is accessible and responsive to the input, needs, and concerns of teachers and members of the residency program committee.

**Requirement 1.1.2:** The program director has appropriate support to oversee and advance the residency program.

**Indicator 1.1.2.1**: The faculty of medicine, postgraduate office, and academic lead of the discipline provide the program director with sufficient support, autonomy, and resources for the effective operation of the residency program.

**Indicator 1.1.2.2**: Administrative support is organized and adequate to support the program director, the residency program, and residents.

**Requirement 1.1.3:** The program director provides effective leadership for the residency program.

**Indicator 1.1.3.1**: The program director fosters an environment that empowers members of the residency program committee, residents, teachers, and others as required to identify needs and implement changes.

**Indicator 1.1.3.2**: The program director advocates for equitable, appropriate, and effective educational experiences.

**Indicator 1.1.3.3**: The program director communicates with residency program stakeholders effectively.

Indicator 1.1.3.4: The program director anticipates and manages conflict effectively.

**Indicator 1.1.3.5**: The program director respects the diversity and protects the rights and confidentiality of residents and teachers.

**Indicator 1.1.3.6**: The program director demonstrates active participation in professional development in medical education.

*Indicator 1.1.3.7 [Exemplary]*: The program director demonstrates a commitment to and facilitates educational scholarship and innovation to advance the residency program.

Indicator 1.1.3.8 [Royal College Requirement]: The program director or delegate attends at least one specialty committee meeting per year in person or remotely.

**Element 1.2:** There is an effective and functional residency program committee structure to support the program director in planning, organizing, evaluating, and advancing the residency program.

**Requirement 1.2.1:** The residency program committee structure is composed of appropriate key residency program stakeholders.

**Indicator 1.2.1.1**: Major academic and clinical components and relevant learning sites are represented on the residency program committee.

**Indicator 1.2.1.2**: There is an effective, fair, and transparent process for residents to select their representatives on the residency program committee.

**Indicator 1.2.1.3**: There is an effective process for individuals involved in resident wellness and safety program/plans to provide input to the residency program committee.

*Indicator 1.2.1.4 [Exemplary]*: There is an effective process for individuals responsible for the quality of care and patient safety at learning sites to provide input to the residency program committee.

**Requirement 1.2.2:** The residency program committee has a clear mandate to manage and evaluate the key functions of the residency program.

**Indicator 1.2.2.1**: There are clearly written terms of reference that address the composition, mandate, roles, and responsibilities of each member; accountability structures; decision-making processes; lines of communication; and meeting procedures.

**Indicator 1.2.2.2**: The terms of reference for the residency program committee are reviewed on a regular basis and are refined as appropriate.

**Indicator 1.2.2.3**: The mandate of the residency program committee includes planning and organizing the residency program, including selection of residents, educational design, policy and process development, safety, resident wellness, assessment of resident progress, and continuous improvement.

**Indicator 1.2.2.4**: Meeting frequency of the residency program committee is sufficient to fulfil its mandate.

**Indicator 1.2.2.5 [Modified]**: The residency program committee structure includes a competence committee responsible for reviewing and making recommendations regarding residents' readiness for increasing professional responsibility, progress in achieving the national standards of Anesthesiology, promotion, and transition to independent practice.

**Indicator 1.2.2.6**: The frequency of competence committee meetings is sufficient for the committee to fulfil its mandate (at least twice a year).

**Requirement 1.2.3:** There is an effective and transparent decision-making process that includes input from residents and other residency program stakeholders.

**Indicator 1.2.3.1**: Members of the residency program committee are actively involved in a collaborative decision-making process, including regular attendance at and active participation in committee meetings.

**Indicator 1.2.3.2**: The residency program committee actively seeks feedback from residency program stakeholders, discusses issues, develops action plans and follows up on identified issues.

**Indicator 1.2.3.3**: There is a culture of respect for residents' opinions by the residency program committee.

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**Indicator 1.2.3.4**: Actions and decisions are communicated in a timely manner to the residency program's residents, teachers, and administrative personnel, and to the academic lead of the discipline and others responsible for the delivery of the residency program, as appropriate.

**Standard 2:** All aspects of the residency program are collaboratively overseen by the program director and the residency program committee.

**Element 2.1:** Effective policies and processes to manage residency education are developed and maintained.

**Requirement 2.1.1:** The residency program committee has well-defined, transparent, and functional policies and processes to manage residency education.

**Indicator 2.1.1.1**: There is an effective mechanism to review and adopt applicable postgraduate office and learning site policies and processes.

**Indicator 2.1.1.2**: There is an effective, transparent mechanism to collaboratively develop and adopt required program- and discipline-specific policies and processes.

**Indicator 2.1.1.3**: There is an effective mechanism to disseminate the residency program's policies and processes to residents, teachers, and administrative personnel.

**Indicator 2.1.1.4**: All individuals with responsibility in the residency program follow the central policies and procedures regarding ensuring appropriate identification and management of conflicts of interest.

**Element 2.2:** The program director and residency program committee communicate and collaborate with residency program stakeholders.

**Requirement 2.2.1:** There are effective mechanisms to collaborate with the division/department, other programs, and the postgraduate office.

**Indicator 2.2.1.1**: There is effective communication between the residency program and the postgraduate office.

**Indicator 2.2.1.2**: There are effective mechanisms for the residency program to share information and collaborate with the division/department, as appropriate, particularly with respect to resources and capacity.

**Indicator 2.2.1.3**: There is collaboration with the faculty of medicine's undergraduate medical education program and with continuing professional development programs, including faculty development, as appropriate.

*Indicator 2.2.1.4 [Exemplary]*: There is collaboration with other health professions to provide shared educational experiences for learners across the spectrum of health professions.

**Element 2.3:** Resources and learning sites are organized to meet the requirements of the discipline.

**Requirement 2.3.1:** There is a well-defined and effective process to select the residency program's learning sites.

**Indicator 2.3.1.1**: There is an effective process to select, organize, and review the residency program's learning sites based on the required educational experiences, and in accordance with the central policy(ies) for learning site agreements.

**Indicator 2.3.1.2**: Where the faculty of medicine's learning sites are unable to provide all educational requirements, the residency program committee, in collaboration with the postgraduate office, recommends and helps establish interinstitution affiliation (IIA) agreement(s) to ensure residents acquire the necessary competencies.

**Requirement 2.3.2:** Each learning site has an effective organizational structure to facilitate education and communication.

**Indicator 2.3.2.1**: Each learning site has a site coordinator/supervisor responsible to the residency program committee.

**Indicator 2.3.2.2**: There is effective communication and collaboration between the residency program committee and the site coordinators/supervisors for each learning site to ensure program policies and procedures are followed.

**Requirement 2.3.3:** The residency program committee engages in operational and resource planning to support residency education.

**Indicator 2.3.3.1**: There is an effective process to identify, advocate for, and plan for resources needed by the residency program.

## **Domain: Education Program**

Standard 3: Residents are prepared for independent practice.

**Element 3.1:** The residency program's educational design is based on outcomes-based competencies and/or objectives that prepare residents to meet the needs of the population(s) they will serve in independent practice.

**Requirement 3.1.1:** Educational competencies and/or objectives are in place that ensure residents progressively meet all required standards for the discipline and address societal needs.

**Indicator 3.1.1.1 [Modified]**: The competencies and/or objectives meet the specialty-specific requirements for Anesthesiology, as outlined in the *Anesthesiology Competencies* and the *Anesthesiology Training Experiences*.

**Indicator 3.1.1.2**: The competencies and/or objectives address each of the Roles in the CanMEDS/CanMEDS-FM Framework specific to the discipline.

**Indicator 3.1.1.3**: The competencies and/or objectives articulate different expectations for residents by stage and/or level of training.

**Indicator 3.1.1.4**: Community and societal needs are considered in the design of the residency program's competencies and/or objectives.

**Element 3.2:** The residency program provides educational experiences designed to facilitate residents' attainment of the outcomes-based competencies and/or objectives.

**Requirement 3.2.1:** Educational experiences are guided by competencies and/or objectives and provide residents with opportunities for increasing professional responsibility at each stage or level of training.

**Indicator 3.2.1.1**: The educational experiences are defined specifically for and/or are mapped to the competencies and/or objectives.

**Indicator 3.2.1.2 [Modified]**: Educational experiences meet the specialty-specific requirements for Anesthesiology, as outlined in the *Anesthesiology Competencies* and the *Anesthesiology Training Experiences*.

**Indicator 3.2.1.3 [Modified]**: The educational experiences and supervision are appropriate for residents' stage or level of training, and support residents' achievement of increasing professional responsibility to the level of independent practice.

**Indicator 3.2.1.4**: The educational experiences include a rural or community-based hospital anesthesiology learning experience outside the core academic learning centres.

**Requirement 3.2.2:** The residency program uses a comprehensive curriculum plan, which is specific to the discipline, and addresses all the CanMEDS/CanMEDS-FM Roles.

**Indicator 3.2.2.1**: There is a clear curriculum plan that describes the educational experiences for residents.

**Indicator 3.2.2.2**: The curriculum plan incorporates all required educational objectives or key and enabling competencies of the discipline.

**Indicator 3.2.2.3**: The curriculum plan addresses expert instruction and experiential learning opportunities for each of the CanMEDS/CanMEDS-FM Roles with a variety of suitable learning activities.

**Indicator 3.2.2.4**: The curriculum plan includes training in continuous improvement, with emphasis on improving systems of patient care, including patient safety, with opportunities for residents to apply their training in a project or clinical setting.

**Indicator 3.2.2.5**: The curriculum plan includes fatigue risk management, specifically, education addressing the risks posed by fatigue to the practice setting, and the individual and team-based strategies available to manage the risk.

Indicator 3.2.2.6: The curriculum plan includes teaching and/or experience in:

- basic sciences as applicable to Anesthesiology, including anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, biochemistry, and physics;
- physics and mechanics of anesthetic and ventilatory equipment as well as its care and maintenance;
- internal medicine, with particular reference to the cardiovascular, respiratory, renal, hepatic, endocrine, hematologic, and neurologic systems;
- preoperative evaluation of patients for anesthesia and surgery;

- local, regional, and general anesthesia for all surgeries and procedures;
- postoperative management of surgical patients, including the control of acute post-operative pain;
- obstetrical anesthesia;
- chronic pain; and
- critical care medicine and cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

**Indicator 3.2.2.7**: The curriculum plan includes the opportunity for residents to develop skills in leadership as applied to Anesthesiology, such as operating room management, efficient practice and record management, and the ethical use of health care resources.

*Indicator 3.2.2.8 [Exemplary]: The residency program incorporates the* Anesthesiology Pathway to Competence *in its curriculum plan.* 

**Requirement 3.2.3:** The educational design allows residents to identify and address individual learning objectives.

**Indicator 3.2.3.1**: Individual residents' educational experiences are tailored to accommodate their learning needs and future career aspirations, while meeting the national standards and societal needs for their discipline.

**Indicator 3.2.3.2**: The residency program fosters a culture of reflective practice and lifelong learning among its residents.

**Requirement 3.2.4:** Residents' clinical responsibilities are assigned in a way that supports the progressive acquisition of competencies and/or objectives, as outlined in the CanMEDS/CanMEDS-FM Roles.

**Indicator 3.2.4.1**: Residents' clinical responsibilities are assigned based on level or stage of training and their individual level of competence.

**Indicator 3.2.4.2**: Residents' clinical responsibilities, including on-call duties, provide opportunities for progressive experiential learning, in accordance with all CanMEDS/CanMEDS-FM Roles.

**Indicator 3.2.4.3**: Residents are assigned to particular educational experiences in an equitable manner, such that all residents have opportunities to meet their educational needs and to achieve the expected competencies of the residency program.

**Indicator 3.2.4.4**: Residents' clinical responsibilities do not interfere with their ability to participate in mandatory academic activities.

**Requirement 3.2.5:** The educational environment supports and promotes resident learning in an atmosphere of scholarly inquiry.

**Indicator 3.2.5.1**: Residents have access to, and mentorship for, a variety of scholarly opportunities, including research as appropriate.

**Indicator 3.2.5.2**: Residents have protected time to participate in scholarly activities, including research as appropriate.

**Indicator 3.2.5.3**: Residents have protected time to participate in professional development to augment their learning and/or to present their scholarly work.

Element 3.3: Teachers facilitate residents' attainment of competencies and/or objectives.

**Requirement 3.3.1:** Resident learning needs, stage or level of training, and other relevant factors are used to guide all teaching, supporting resident attainment of competencies and/or objectives.

**Indicator 3.3.1.1**: Teachers use experience-specific competencies and/or objectives to guide educational interactions with residents.

**Indicator 3.3.1.2**: Teachers align their teaching appropriately with residents' stage or level of training, and individual learning needs and objectives.

**Indicator 3.3.1.3**: Teachers contribute to the promotion and maintenance of a positive learning environment.

**Indicator 3.3.1.4**: Residents' feedback to teachers facilitates the adjustment of teaching approaches and learner assignment, as appropriate, to maximize the educational experiences.

**Element 3.4:** There is an effective, organized system of resident assessment.

**Requirement 3.4.1:** The residency program has a planned, defined, and implemented system of assessment.

**Indicator 3.4.1.1**: The system of assessment is based on residents' attainment of experience-specific competencies and/or objectives.

**Indicator 3.4.1.2**: The system of assessment clearly identifies the methods by which residents are assessed for each educational experience.

**Indicator 3.4.1.3**: The system of assessment clearly identifies the level of performance expected of residents based on level or stage of training.

**Indicator 3.4.1.4**: The system of assessment includes identification and use of appropriate assessment tools tailored to the residency program's educational experiences, with an emphasis on direct observation where appropriate.

**Indicator 3.4.1.5**: The system of assessment meets the requirements within the specific standards for the discipline, including the achievement of competencies in all CanMEDS roles or CFPC evaluation objectives, as applicable.

**Indicator 3.4.1.6**: The system of assessment is based on multiple assessments of residents' competencies during the various educational experiences and over time, by multiple assessors, in multiple contexts.

**Indicator 3.4.1.7**: Teachers are aware of the expectations for resident performance based on level or stage of training and use these expectations in their assessments of residents.

**Indicator 3.4.1.8**: The system of assessment meets the requirements of the Anesthesiology Portfolio.

**Indicator 3.4.1.9**: Programs that provide integrated training with a subspecialty share the resident's assessment data with the subspecialty.

*Indicator 3.4.1.10 [Exemplary]*: The system of assessment includes an analysis of a resident logbook as well as other tools to assess resident competencies.

**Requirement 3.4.2:** There is a mechanism in place to engage residents in regular discussions for review of their performance and progression.

**Indicator 3.4.2.1**: Residents receive regular, timely, meaningful, in-person feedback on their performance.

**Indicator 3.4.2.2**: The program director and/or an appropriate delegate meet(s) regularly with residents to discuss and review their performance and progress.

**Indicator 3.4.2.3**: There is appropriate documentation of residents' progress toward the attainment of competencies, which is available to the residents in a timely manner.

**Indicator 3.4.2.4**: Residents are aware of the processes for assessment and decisions around promotion and completion of training.

**Indicator 3.4.2.5**: The residency program fosters an environment where formative feedback is actively used by residents to guide their learning.

**Indicator 3.4.2.6**: Residents and teachers have shared responsibility for recording residents' learning and achievement of competencies and/or objectives for their discipline at each level or stage of training.

**Requirement 3.4.3:** There is a well-articulated process for decision-making regarding resident progression, including the decision on satisfactory completion of training.

Indicator 3.4.3.1 [Modified]: The competence committee regularly reviews (at least twice a year, or once per stage, whichever is more frequent) residents' readiness for increasing professional responsibility, promotion, and transition to independent practice, based on demonstrated achievement of expected competences and/or objectives for each level or stage of training.

**Indicator 3.4.3.2**: The competence committee (or equivalent) makes a summative assessment regarding residents' readiness for certification and independent practice, as appropriate.

**Indicator 3.4.3.3**: The program director provides the respective College with the required summative documents for exam eligibility and for each resident who has successfully completed the residency program.

*Indicator 3.4.3.4 [Exemplary]*: The competence committee (or equivalent) uses advanced assessment methodologies (e.g., learning analytics, narrative analysis) to inform recommendations/decisions, as appropriate, on resident progress.

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*Indicator 3.4.3.5 [Exemplary]:* The competence committee's recommendations regarding learner status are consistent with the Royal College's guidelines for Competence by Design.

**Requirement 3.4.4:** The system of assessment allows for timely identification of and support for residents who are not attaining the required competencies or objectives as expected.

**Indicator 3.4.4.1**: Residents are informed in a timely manner of any concerns regarding their performance and/or progression.

**Indicator 3.4.4.2**: Residents who are not progressing as expected are provided with the required support and opportunity to improve their performance, as appropriate.

**Indicator 3.4.4.3**: Any resident requiring formal remediation and/or additional educational experiences, is provided with:

- a documented plan detailing objectives of the formal remediation and their rationale; the educational experiences scheduled to allow the resident to achieve these objectives; the assessment methods to be employed;
- the potential outcomes and consequences;
- the methods by which a final decision will be made as to whether the resident has successfully completed a period of formal remediation; and
- the appeal process.

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## Domain: Resources

**Standard 4:** The delivery and administration of the residency program are supported by appropriate resources.

**Element 4.1:** The residency program has the clinical, physical, technological, and financial resources to provide all residents with the educational experiences needed to acquire all competencies and/or objectives.

**Requirement 4.1.1:** The patient population is adequate to ensure that residents experience the breadth of the discipline.

**Indicator 4.1.1.1**: The residency program provides access to the volume and diversity of patients appropriate to the discipline.

**Indicator 4.1.1.2**: The residency program provides access to diverse patient populations and environments, in alignment with the community and societal needs for the discipline.

**Indicator 4.1.1.3**: The volume and diversity of patients available to the residency program provides opportunities for residents to:

- acquire the knowledge, skills, and attitudes relating to population aspects of age, gender, culture, and ethnicity appropriate to Anesthesiology;
- experience the provision of anesthesiology services across all age groups and over the full range of surgical, interventional, and diagnostic services, including cardiac surgery, general surgery, multiple trauma, neurosurgery, obstetrics and gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, otolaryngology - head and neck surgery, plastic surgery, thoracic surgery, urology, and vascular surgery;
- receive training in regional anesthesia and analgesia, therapeutic nerve blocks, and the management of pain;
- receive training in the anesthetic management of patients outside the usual environment of the operating suite;
- attain broad experience in consultations on the perioperative management of patients of all ages and physical status, in both elective and emergency situations, and in the fields of cardiorespiratory support and pain relief;

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- attain experience in internal medicine, and those medical services of particular importance to the anesthesiologist, which may include cardiology, respirology, endocrinology and metabolism, hematology, infectious diseases, nephrology, neurology, and palliative care.
- manage critically ill patients of all ages in a variety of critical care settings, including patients who have sustained multiple trauma;
- receive broad training in anesthesiology for emergency surgical procedures of a major nature; and
- receive training in the anesthetic management of patients for ambulatory surgery.

**Requirement 4.1.2:** Clinical and consultative services and facilities are organized and adequate to ensure that residents experience the breadth of the discipline.

**Indicator 4.1.2.1**: The residency program has access to the diversity of learning sites and scopes of practice specific to the discipline.

**Indicator 4.1.2.2**: The residency program has access to appropriate consultative services to meet the general and specific standards for the discipline.

**Indicator 4.1.2.3 [Modified]**: The residency program has ready access to appropriate laboratory and diagnostic services, including medical imaging services, to meet both residents' competency requirements and the delivery of quality care.

**Indicator 4.1.2.4**: Resident training takes place in functionally inter- and intraprofessional learning environments that prepare residents for collaborative practice.

**Indicator 4.1.2.5**: The residency program has access to the following outpatient and inpatient care clinical and consultative resources:

- well-equipped and adequately staffed operating rooms and postanesthesia care units;
- an anesthesiology consultation service or preoperative assessment clinic that provides clinical risk assessment and perioperative management of patients in both elective and emergency situations;
- a consultation service and facilities for the management of acute pain;

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- a consultation service and facilities for the management of chronic pain; and
- intensive care units organized for teaching with an appropriate level of responsibility under expert supervision, where attention is paid to the educational needs of the resident in Anesthesiology.

*Indicator 4.1.2.6 [Exemplary]:* The residency program's outpatient and/or inpatient care resources include access to a multidisciplinary perioperative medicine team providing care throughout the perioperative period.

**Indicator 4.1.2.7**: The residency program has access to a rural or community hospital to provide educational experience in Anesthesiology as practiced outside of an academic centre.

**Indicator 4.1.2.8**: The residency program liaises with programs or services of other disciplines to ensure that educational experiences arranged for residents in Anesthesiology meet their training requirements.

**Requirement 4.1.3:** The residency program has the necessary financial, physical, and technical resources.

**Indicator 4.1.3.1**: There are adequate financial resources for the residency program to meet the general and specific standards for the discipline.

**Indicator 4.1.3.2**: There is adequate space for the residency program to meet educational requirements.

**Indicator 4.1.3.3**: There are adequate technical resources for the residency program to meet the specific requirements for the discipline.

Indicator 4.1.3.4: Residents have appropriate access to adequate facilities and services to conduct their work, including on-call rooms, workspaces, internet, and patient records.

**Indicator 4.1.3.5**: The program director, residency program committee, and administrative personnel have access to adequate space, information technology, and financial support to carry out their duties.

**Indicator 4.1.3.6**: The residency program has access to simulation resources for procedural and crisis resource management training.

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**Element 4.2:** The residency program has the appropriate human resources to provide all residents with the required educational experiences.

**Requirement 4.2.1:** Teachers appropriately implement the residency curriculum, supervise and assess trainees, contribute to the program, and role model effective practice.

**Indicator 4.2.1.1 [Modified]**: The number, credentials, competencies, and scope of practice of the teachers are adequate to provide required clinical teaching, academic teaching, assessment, and feedback to residents, including teaching in the basic and clinical sciences related to Anesthesiology.

**Indicator 4.2.1.2 [Modified]**: The number, credentials, competencies, and scope of practice of the teachers are sufficient to supervise residents at all levels and in all aspects of Anesthesiology, including when residents are on- call and when providing care to patients, as part of the residency program, outside of a learning site.

**Indicator 4.2.1.3**: There are sufficient competent individual supervisors to support a variety of resident scholarly activities, including research as appropriate.

**Indicator 4.2.1.4**: There is a designated individual who facilitates the involvement of residents in scholarly activities, including research as appropriate, and who reports to the residency program committee.

**Indicator 4.2.1.5**: There is an adequate number of qualified teaching staff to provide training in regional anesthesia and analgesia, therapeutic nerve blocks, and the management of pain.

# Domain: Learners, Teachers, and Administrative Personnel

Standard 5: Safety and wellness is promoted throughout the learning environment.

Element 5.1: The safety and wellness of patients and residents are actively promoted.

**Requirement 5.1.1:** Residents are appropriately supervised.

**Indicator 5.1.1.1**: Residents and teachers follow central policies and any programspecific policies regarding the supervision of residents, including ensuring the physical presence of the appropriate supervisor, when mandated, during acts or procedures performed by the resident, and ensuring supervision is appropriate for the level or stage of training.

**Indicator 5.1.1.2**: Teachers are available for consultation for decisions related to patient care in a timely manner.

**Indicator 5.1.1.3**: Teachers follow the policies and processes for disclosure of resident involvement in patient care, and for patient consent for such participation.

Requirement 5.1.2: Residency education occurs in a safe learning environment.

**Indicator 5.1.2.1**: Safety is actively promoted throughout the learning environment for all those involved in the residency program.

**Indicator 5.1.2.2**: Effective resident safety policies and processes are in place, which may include policies and processes defined centrally or specific to the program, and which reflect general and/or discipline-specific physical, psychological, and professional resident safety concerns, as appropriate. The policies and processes include, but are not limited to:

- After-hours consultation
- Complaints and allegations of malpractice
- Fatigue risk management
- Hazardous materials
- Infectious agents
- Ionizing radiation
- Patient encounters (including house calls)

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- Patient transfers (e.g., Medevac)
- Safe disclosure of patient safety incidents
- Travel
- Violence, including sexual and gender-based violence.

**Indicator 5.1.2.3**: Policies regarding resident safety effectively address both situations and perceptions of lack of resident safety and provide multiple avenues of access for effective reporting and management.

**Indicator 5.1.2.4**: Concerns with the safety of the learning environment are appropriately identified and remediated.

**Indicator 5.1.2.5**: Residents are supported and encouraged to exercise discretion and judgment regarding their personal safety, including fatigue.

**Indicator 5.1.2.6**: Residents and teachers are aware of the process to follow if they perceive safety issues.

**Requirement 5.1.3:** Residency education occurs in a positive learning environment that promotes resident wellness.

**Indicator 5.1.3.1**: There is a positive and respectful learning environment for all involved in the residency program.

**Indicator 5.1.3.2**: Residents are aware of and are able to access appropriate, confidential wellness support to address physical, psychological, and professional resident wellness concerns.

**Indicator 5.1.3.3**: The central policies and processes regarding resident absences and educational accommodation are applied effectively.

**Indicator 5.1.3.4**: The processes regarding identification, reporting, and follow-up of resident mistreatment are applied effectively.

**Indicator 5.1.3.5**: Residents are supported and encouraged to exercise discretion and judgment regarding their personal wellness.

**Standard 6:** Residents are treated fairly and supported adequately throughout their progression through the residency program.

**Element 6.1:** The progression of residents through the residency program is supported, fair, and transparent.

**Requirement 6.1.1:** There are effective, clearly defined, transparent, formal processes for the selection and progression of residents.

**Indicator 6.1.1.1**: Processes for resident selection, promotion, remediation, dismissal, and appeals are applied effectively, transparent, and aligned with applicable central policies.

**Indicator 6.1.1.2**: The residency program encourages and recognizes resident leadership.

**Indicator 6.1.1.3**: The residency program has effective policies and procedures or complies with and effectively implements central policies and procedures to address residents who are not progressing as expected through the stages of training.

**Requirement 6.1.2:** Support services are available to facilitate resident achievement of success.

**Indicator 6.1.2.1**: The residency program provides formal, timely career planning and counseling to residents throughout their progress through the residency program.

Standard 7: Teachers deliver and support all aspects of the residency program effectively.

**Element 7.1:** Teachers are assessed, recognized, and supported in their development as positive role models for residents in the residency program.

**Requirement 7.1.1:** Teachers are regularly assessed and supported in their development.

**Indicator 7.1.1.1**: There is an effective process for the assessment of teachers involved in the residency program, aligned with applicable central processes, that balances timely feedback with preserving resident confidentiality.

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**Indicator 7.1.1.2**: The system of teacher assessment ensures recognition of excellence in teaching and is used to address performance concerns.

**Indicator 7.1.1.3**: Resident input is a component of the system of teacher assessment.

**Indicator 7.1.1.4**: Faculty development for teaching that is relevant and accessible to the program is offered on a regular basis.

**Indicator 7.1.1.5**: There is an effective process to identify, document, and address unprofessional behaviour by teachers.

**Indicator 7.1.1.6**: The residency program identifies and addresses priorities for faculty development within residency training.

**Requirement 7.1.2:** Teachers in the residency program are effective role models for residents.

**Indicator 7.1.2.1**: Teachers exercise the dual responsibility of providing high quality and ethical patient care, and excellent supervision and teaching.

**Indicator 7.1.2.2**: Teachers contribute to academic activities of the residency program and institution, which may include, but are not limited to: lectures, workshops, examination preparation, and internal reviews.

**Indicator 7.1.2.3**: Teachers are supported and recognized for their contributions outside the residency program, which may include, but are not limited to: peer reviews, medical licensing authorities, exam boards, specialty committees, accreditation committees, specialty societies, and government medical advisory boards.

Indicator 7.1.2.4: Teachers contribute to scholarship on an ongoing basis.

**Standard 8:** Administrative personnel are valued and supported in the delivery of the residency program.

**Element 8.1:** There is support for the continuing professional development of residency program administrative personnel.

**Requirement 8.1.1:** There is an effective process for the professional development of the residency program administrative personnel.

**Indicator 8.1.1.1**: There is a role description that outlines the knowledge, skills, and expectations for residency program administrative personnel, that is applied effectively.

**Indicator 8.1.1.2**: Residency program administrative personnel receive professional development, provided centrally and/or through the residency program, based on their individual learning needs.

**Indicator 8.1.1.3**: Residency program administrative personnel receive formal and/or informal feedback on their performance in a fair and transparent manner, consistent with any applicable university, health organization, or union contracts.

# Domain: Continuous Improvement

**Standard 9:** There is continuous improvement of the educational experiences, to improve the residency program and ensure residents are prepared for independent practice.

**Element 9.1:** The residency program committee systematically reviews and improves the quality of the residency program.

**Requirement 9.1.1:** There is a systematic process to regularly review and improve the residency program.

**Indicator 9.1.1.1**: There is an evaluation of each of the residency program's educational experiences, including the review of related competencies and/or objectives.

**Indicator 9.1.1.2**: There is an evaluation of the learning environment, including evaluation of any influence, positive or negative, resulting from the presence of the hidden curriculum.

**Indicator 9.1.1.3**: Residents' achievements of competencies and/or objectives are reviewed.

Indicator 9.1.1.4: The resources available to the residency program are reviewed.

Indicator 9.1.1.5: Residents' assessment data are reviewed.

**Indicator 9.1.1.6**: The feedback provided to teachers in the residency program is reviewed.

**Indicator 9.1.1.7**: The residency program's leadership at the various learning sites is assessed.

**Indicator 9.1.1.8**: The residency program's policies and processes for residency education are reviewed.

**Requirement 9.1.2:** A range of data and information is reviewed to inform the evaluation and improvement of all aspects of the residency program.

**Indicator 9.1.2.1**: Information from multiple sources, including feedback from residents, teachers, administrative personnel, and others as appropriate, is regularly reviewed.

**Indicator 9.1.2.2**: Information identified by the postgraduate office's internal review process and any data centrally collected by the postgraduate office are accessed.

Indicator 9.1.2.3: Mechanisms for feedback take place in an open collegial atmosphere.

*Indicator 9.1.2.4 [Exemplary]*: A resident e-portfolio (or an equivalent tool) is used to support the review of the residency program and its continuous improvement.

*Indicator 9.1.2.5 [Exemplary]*: Education and practice innovations in the discipline in Canada and abroad are reviewed.

*Indicator 9.1.2.6 [Exemplary]*: Patient feedback to improve the residency program is regularly collected/accessed.

*Indicator 9.1.2.7 [Exemplary]*: Feedback from recent graduates is regularly collected/accessed to improve the residency program.

**Requirement 9.1.3:** Based on the data and information reviewed, strengths are identified, and action is taken to address areas identified for improvement.

**Indicator 9.1.3.1**: Areas for improvement are used to develop and implement relevant and timely action plans.

**Indicator 9.1.3.2**: The program director and residency program committee share the identified strengths and areas for improvement (including associated action plans) with residents, teachers, administrative personnel, and others as appropriate, in a timely manner.

**Indicator 9.1.3.3**: There is a clear and well-documented process to evaluate the effectiveness of actions taken and to take further action as required.