

**REPORT TO THE TSDA:
RRC FOR THORACIC SURGERY**

2009 Review Statistics

PROGRAM TYPE	NUMBER	RESIDENTS ON DUTY
Thoracic Surgery-Independent	72	233
Thoracic Surgery-Integrated	7	11
Congenital Cardiac Surgery	9	7
Total	90	251

- In 2009 the RRC-Surgery reviewed **23** programs (average cycle length **2.92** years) and **9** administrative requests. The Executive Committee reviewed **55** interim requests (program director changes, participating site change requests, and temporary increases in resident complement).
- Of the **46** citations programs received in 2009, the following types were received most often:

Citation Category	Number
Evaluation of Residents	6
Responsibilities of Program Director	5
The Education Program- Patient Care Competency	5
Institutional Support	4

Program Requirements

- The Congenital Cardiac Surgery program requirements are undergoing their scheduled major program revisions. It is expected that the requirements will be available for Review and Comment during the second half of 2010.
- The RRC is considering revising the program requirements so that the first three years of cases for the 6-year integrated program, residents perform 125 cases per year averaged over the first 3 years. Fifty of the 375 total number of cases must include specific types of procedures. The details of this requirement will be finalized at the January, 2010 Committee meeting.
- The Committee voted to change the program requirements for Congenital Cardiac Surgery to include the following under Program Requirements [III.A.3.] “documented experience educating thoracic surgery residents and membership (in good standing) in the Thoracic Surgery Directors’ Association.”
- The RRC is considering the following changes to the eligibility requirements for Thoracic Surgery Residencies and fellowships:
 - a.) Applicants must be a graduate of US or Canadian Allopathic Medical School
 - b.) If a program’s site visit is within the next two years an application for a 6 year integrated format must have a site visit.
 - c.) Program must be in good standing

Other Committee Business

- In September 2009, the ACGME Board of Directors’ Monitoring Committee reviewed the Thoracic Surgery RRC and extended its accreditation authority for a 5-year cycle.

- The Committee elected Dr. Douglas E. Wood as Chair-Elect of the RRC. Dr. Wood will begin his term on July 1, 2010, and conclude on June 30, 2013. He will continue to serve as Vice-Chair until June 30, 2010.
- The following institutions are approved for the Joint Thoracic/General Surgery Track programs:
 - Washington University School of Medicine
 - University of Virginia
 - Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education (Rochester)
 - Brigham & Women's Hospital/Children's Hospital Program
 - Duke University
 - University of Maryland
 - University of Rochester
 - New York University School of Medicine
 - University of Washington
 - Massachusetts General Hospital

Programs approved for the joint TS/GS track do not receive an increase in complement in either the Surgery or Thoracic Surgery programs. Additionally, residents in these programs must enter cases for the first 5 years in the General Surgery Operative Log and years 6 and 7 must be entered in the CTSnet Case Log system.

Respectfully submitted,

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