Congenital Residency Update

Cynthia S. Herrington, MD
Chair, Congenital Program Directors
Thoracic Surgery Directors Association

Saturday January 21, 2017
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Hospital</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carl Backer, MD (Chair)</td>
<td>Lurie Children’s Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Campbell, MD</td>
<td>Children’s Hospital Colorado</td>
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<td>Charles Fraser, MD</td>
<td>Texas Children’s Hospital</td>
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<td>Cynthia Herrington, MD</td>
<td>Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles</td>
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<td>Brian Kogon, MD</td>
<td>Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta</td>
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<td>Richard Mainwaring, MD</td>
<td>Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital</td>
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<td>Francis Fynn-Thompson, MD</td>
<td>Children’s Hospital Boston</td>
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<td>Richard Ohye, MD</td>
<td>CS Mott Children’s Hospital</td>
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<td>Lester Permut, MD</td>
<td>Seattle Children’s Hospital</td>
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<td>Brian Reemtsen, MD</td>
<td>University of California Los Angeles</td>
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<td>Stephanie Fuller, MD</td>
<td>Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia</td>
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<td>Michael Mitchell, MD</td>
<td>Children’s Hospital Wisconsin</td>
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Congenital Programs with a Resident
Resident Participation in Congenital Match

2017: 11 Programs Matched
Resident Participation in Congenital Match

June of 2018 we will finish 11 new grads for the job market

2017: 11 Programs Matched
Congenital cardiac surgery fellowship training: A status update
Brian Kogon, MD, Tara Karamlou, MD, William Baumgartner, MD, Walter Merrill, MD, and Carl Backer, MD

**Background:** In 2007, congenital cardiac surgery became a recognized fellowship by the Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and leads to board certification through the American Board of Thoracic Surgery (ABTS). We highlight the strengths and weaknesses in the current system of accredited training.

**Methods:** Data were collected from program directors, the ACGME, and the ABTS. In addition, surveys were sent to training program graduates. Topics included program accreditation status, number of fellows trained per year and per program, match results, fellow operative experience, fellow satisfaction, and post-fellowship employment status.

**Results:** There are twelve active accredited fellowship programs, and 44 trainees have completed accredited training. Each active program has trained a median of 3 fellows (range: 0-7). Operative logs were obtained from 38 of 44 (86%) graduates. The median number of total cases (minimum 75) was 136 (range: 75-236). For complex neonates (minimum 5), the median number of cases was 6 (range: 2-17). Some fellows failed to meet the minimum requirements. Thirty-six (82%) graduates responded to the survey; most were satisfied with their overall operative experience, but less with their neonatal operative experience. Of this total, 84% are currently practicing congenital cardiac surgery, and 74% secured jobs prior to completing their residency.

**Conclusions:** Since 2007, congenital cardiac surgery training has been accredited by the ACGME. In general, the training is uniform, the operative experience is robust, and the fellows are satisfied. Although shortcomings remain, this study highlights the many strengths of the current system. (J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg 2016;151:1488-95)
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In our study, by survey, 84% of graduates are currently practicing congenital cardiac surgery, and 74% secured jobs prior to completing their fellowship. However, not all of the congenital training programs have trained a fellow every year thus far. In fact, we have only graduated a median of 6.5 fellows per year (range: 6-10).

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Although we may be becoming more closely aligned, options to even better align the number of trainees with the number of job opportunities include increasing the minimum case volume requirements, so that fewer institutions have training programs, and creating a rotating schedule for the accredited programs so that every program does not train a fellow every year.
Programmatic Updates

2010 – Curriculum Outline – Paper Handout
2012 - Curriculum Online – Weekly
2014 - Curriculum Online – Weekly (Draft #2)
2015 – Curriculum Transition to Moodle to Astute (2016)

June 13, 2015 – First In-Service Exam
  95 Questions, Average Grade = 89%

October 2015 – CHSS-Best Congenital Resident Paper

March 12, 2016 – Second In-service Exam
  114 Questions, Average Grade = 82%
Congenital Cardiac Programs in U.S.