

ABTS Update

Cameron Wright

Executive Director ABTS

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ABTS Updates

- New Chief Operating Officer-Beth Winer (from the STS). Her new email will be bwiner@abts.org starting May 28
- New office location-we have moved from the ACS building to 1 North Wacker Drive, Suite 2402, Chicago, IL, 60606
- We are in the process of revising our application process for certification with a new app from a software company-the aim is have a better experience for both applicants and the ABTS staff

New I6 Condensed Pathway

- Similar to the ABS, the ABTS will grant a 1 year credit towards immediate advancement to the PGY 2 year for US residents in an ACGME surgery or vascular surgery residency (can be categorical or non-categorical) who have completed at least 1 year of training who decide to switch to CT surgery. Of course they must be in good standing and have a satisfactory evaluation by their PD. The ABTS must approve the resident and ACGME must be notified
- This path is also available to FMGs who have completed CT training in their home country and who have completed at least 1 year of a CT non-accredited fellowship in the US with a satisfactory evaluation from the PD

New PD and Faculty Forms Needed

- Problems identified when reviewing faculty forms for certification
 - Sometimes only 2 faculty fill out the forms (Why?)
 - Sometimes 1 faculty does not 'sign off", but the PD does-then what?
 - Some faculty think if a surgeon is a good physician (but not a good technical surgeon) it is OK to sign off they can independently operate (they can do ICU)
 - A program director has indicated the surgeon cannot independently operate but has not informed them before they left the program (and thus the surgeon cannot apply for Board Certification)

Changes to PD and Faculty Forms for 2025

- ABTS will require 70% of faculty to fill out the forms
- The PD will be asked 3 months before graduation to attest the resident has been recently evaluated in the Milestones Committee and the faculty plan to attest that he/she can independently operate and the case numbers will be adequate
- The new faculty form will highlight that the faculty attests the surgeon can independently practice **OPERATIVE** cardiothoracic surgery

Professionalism and EPAs

- The ABTS intends to pilot an assessment of professionalism during residency using a commercial 360 App
- The ABTS intends to run a pilot of EPAs (Entrustable Professional Activity) in 1-2 years to satisfy the ABMS requirement for Competency Based Education