AAMC Resident Readiness Survey Pilot Project

Summary of Year 1 Findings, Class of 2020

The AAMC has been engaging in efforts to support the process of transition to residency. As part of these efforts, the AAMC is developing and testing a new survey tool that invites program directors to share information about their post-graduate year 1 (PGY-1) residents’ readiness for graduate medical education (GME). The objectives of this effort are to streamline and centralize the reporting process so that response rates to schools increase, programs do not receive multiple surveys from different schools, and schools receive consistent outcomes data regarding their graduates that can inform and improve their educational programs in undergraduate medical education (UME).

Over the past three years, the AAMC has conducted national focus groups, listening and information sessions, and two national questionnaires to better understand the needs and current practices related to how to collect information about resident readiness for GME that informs the UME educational program. An initial pilot of the new process was recently completed and this document includes a brief summary of select findings. For more information, see this site or contact ResidentReadiness@aamc.org.

Methods & Select Findings

The standard resident readiness survey was created over the course of 18+ months with input from multiple diverse stakeholders across UME and GME, including faculty, residents, medical students, DIOs, Program Directors. The final version used in the pilot consisted of 20 questions which focused on overall performance, professionalism, time management, patient care, medical reasoning, documentation, communication, and patient safety. The program director was asked to choose “exceeded expectations”, “met expectations”, “failed to meet expectations”, “not enough information to determine”, or “not applicable to my program” in response to 17 activities considered important to performance during PGY-1. Program directors were invited to participate by email and they were instructed to access their surveys via GME Track, a resident database and tracking system to collect and manage GME data.

Figure 1: Coverage by Specialty

As shown below in Figure 2, program directors completed the overall performance item for 5,527 residents. Of these residents, 97.5% met or exceeded overall performance expectations and 2.5% did not meet overall performance expectations.

Figure 2: During the transition to GME (0-6 months of PGY-1 year), did this resident meet overall performance expectations?

NOTE: A total of 10712 residents were eligible for inclusion in the Resident Readiness Survey. There were 31 distinct cases of eligible residents where the resident was reported in GME Track at more than one program. Therefore, the data presented reflect 10743 potential evaluations.

As shown below in Figure 2, program directors completed the overall performance item for 5,527 residents. Of these residents, 97.5% met or exceeded overall performance expectations and 2.5% did not meet overall performance expectations.
As shown below in Figure 3, program directors completed the item "demonstrated professionalism when interacting with patients and family members" for 5,444 residents. Of these residents, 98.0% met or exceeded expectations, <1% failed to meet expectations and program directors did not have enough information to make a determination for <1%.

Figure 3: Demonstrated professionalism when interacting with patients and family members (altruism, compassion, honesty, confidentiality, and integrity).

As shown below in Figure 4, program directors completed the item "admitted one's own errors and accepted responsibility for personal and professional development" for 5,432 residents. Of these residents, 91.5% met or exceeded expectations, 1.8% failed to meet expectations, and program directors did not have enough information to make a determination for 6.5%.

Figure 4: Admitted one’s own errors and accepted responsibility for personal and professional development.

As shown below in Figure 5, program directors completed the item "Performed overall tasks and responsibilities in an organized and timely manner with appropriate attention to detail" for 5,444 residents. Of these residents, 96.1% met or exceeded expectations, 3.2% failed to meet expectations and program directors did not have enough information to make a determination for <1%.

Figure 5: Performed overall tasks and responsibilities in an organized and timely manner with appropriate attention to detail.

As shown below in Figure 6, program directors completed the item "Identified and reported system failures and patient safety concerns in a timely manner" for 5,399 residents. Of these residents, 85.2% met or exceeded expectations, <1% failed to meet expectations, and program directors did not have enough information to make a determination for 14.0%.

Figure 6: Identified and reported system failures and patient safety concerns in a timely manner.