

## National Summit on the Future of Residency Training – Call for Volunteers

We write to ask for nominations for individuals to participate in a national dialogue on the future of residency training in family medicine.

In early 2020, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) announced a major revision of the residency requirements for Family Medicine. Major revisions are rare and important, happening about once a decade, and offer an opportunity for major changes in the structure and function of residency training. There is increasing evidence that what happens during residency matters – quality and cost of care imprinted during residency lasts for up to 15-20 years, and the residents trained under these new requirements will practice until 2050 and beyond. This major revision, therefore, will frame the shape and promise of Family Medicine for the next generation.

In response to the major revision, and working closely with the ACGME, all of the family medicine organizations are collaborating to have a specialty dialogue in the late summer and early fall around a series of core questions for residency training, culminating in a national summit to be held virtually at the beginning of December. In addition, in parallel, the ACGME Review Committee for Family Medicine (RC-FM) will be conducting a future forecasting exercise. We are recruiting volunteers for both.

The core questions for the national dialogue and summit will include:

1. What does society need from family physicians in the future?
2. What should we teach?
3. How should we teach?
4. How can we prepare residents for flexibility in scope and population over their whole careers?
5. What is the right balance between innovation and standardization in residency training?
6. How can we improve the social accountability of residency training, both at the local level and at the national level?

Each family medicine organization will conduct focus groups in the summer/fall on these core questions. Volunteers selected for the national summit will be asked to consider these questions, review background briefs, short summaries of focus groups and drafts of commissioned papers, and to come to the summit fully prepared to participate. The summit will be highly interactive with multiple opportunities for discussion. The national summit will be virtual and is tentatively set for December 6-7, 2020.

In addition, the ACGME RC-FM will conduct a future planning exercise in November. They will use a scenario planning technique, in which participants imagine the future of family medicine and family medicine resident training in a number of very different but plausible future worlds. The focus will be in the far future—2040 and beyond—with the hope that what we do now will

anticipate a variety of different futures. The exercise will be used along with the national summit to inform the initial draft of the major revision. Volunteers will join the ACGME writing committee for the exercise. The final schedule is not set yet, but the meetings will be in November and be virtual. Volunteers will be expected to review materials in advance and participate in a series of webinars.

Nominations can be made by individuals themselves or by organizations. We are looking for volunteers for both the summit and the RC-FM future forecasting exercise, but feel free to give us your preference. Attendees will be broadly representative of the discipline and its stakeholders – we seek practicing clinicians, residency directors and residency faculty, residents, students, major employers, DIOs and public members. Diversity of perspective and expertise will be critical as we envision the future of family medicine training.

Please send a letter of interest and a biosketch inclusive of relevant experience to Mary Harwerth ([mharwerth@aafp.org](mailto:mharwerth@aafp.org)) by July 17, 2020. Nominations will be vetted by the Residency Summit Planning Committee, a committee drawn from all family medicine organizations, along with leadership of the RC-FM. Decisions will be made by early August.

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