

**ACGME Program Requirements for Graduate Medical Education  
in Hematopathology  
Summary and Impact of Major Requirement Revisions**

Requirement #: I.D.1.d)

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

I.D.1.d) Laboratories must perform or provide access to all tests required for the education of fellows. <sup>(Core)</sup> ~~Fellows must have access to laboratories or referral laboratories that perform all required tests, including flow cytometry, hematology, coagulation testing, cytogenetics, molecular diagnostics and genomics, histology, immunohistochemistry, and in situ hybridization.~~ <sup>(Core)</sup>

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:

**Because not all programs perform diagnostic testing in house, the Review Committee noted fellows should have access to results from reference labs that are essential to the practice of their subspecialty focus area. The proposed revision was made to simplify this requirement and align the program requirements with other pathology subspecialties.**

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

**Fellow education will be improved, as the requirement ensures programs have access to and expose fellows to all testing relevant to the specialty, including both testing performed in house and testing sent to reference laboratories.**

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

**No impact is anticipated.**

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

**No impact is anticipated.**

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

**The proposed revision was made to align this program requirement with the requirements of other pathology subspecialties.**

Requirement #: IV.B.1.b).(1).(a) - IV.B.1.b).(1).(a).(ii)

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

IV.B.1.b).(1).(a) Fellows must demonstrate diagnostic competence, including: <sup>(Core)</sup>

IV.B.1.b).(1).(a).(i) analyzing laboratory results, to include automated and manual cell counts and indices, cellular morphology of blood and bodily fluids, automated hematology analyzers, coagulation testing, cytogenetics, flow cytometry, immunohistochemistry, and molecular and genomic studies; <sup>(Core)</sup>

~~IV.B.1.b).(1).(a).(i)~~IV.B.1.b).(1).(a).(ii) creating an integrated bone marrow report that includes all pertinent findings, including key laboratory data, morphology of peripheral blood, bone marrow aspirate and trephine biopsy, special stains, flow cytometry, molecular studies and cytogenetic testing; <sup>(Core)</sup>

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:

**This revision was made to reflect the current scope of practice.**

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

**No impact is anticipated on patient safety or patient care quality. With this revision, fellow education will be improved, as required topics are relevant to the current scope of practice.**

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

**No impact is anticipated.**

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

**No impact is anticipated.**

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

**No impact is anticipated.**

Requirement #: IV.B.1.b).(2).(a).(i)

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

IV.B.1.b).(2).(a).(i) ~~The fellow's level of participation in performing bone marrow aspirations/biopsies should be guided toward the career intention of the fellow. Fellows should participate perform in at least five bone marrow aspiration/biopsy procedures and the with assessment of adequacy of the specimen for diagnosis.~~ (DetailCore)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:

**The proposed revision was made to reflect the necessity for fellows to have experience performing the bone marrow aspiration/biopsy procedures, not only observing them. The Review Committee noted performance of bone marrow aspirations/biopsies is included in the scope of a pathologist and is therefore a skill that needs to be obtained in fellowship to prepare fellows for any practice setting upon graduation.**

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

**No impact is anticipated on patient safety. With this revision, fellow education will be impacted by requiring them to achieve competence in performing at least five bone marrow aspiration/biopsy procedures and ensuring they are ready for independent practice.**

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

**No impact is anticipated.**

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

**With this revision, programs will need to ensure that pathology fellows have access to sufficient bone marrow aspiration/biopsy procedures to meet requirement.**

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

**The proposed revision is anticipated to have an impact on bone marrow aspiration/biopsy procedure volume, and the fellowship programs may need to work with other accredited programs to ensure adequate volume to meet the program requirements.**

Requirement #: IV.B.1.b).(2).(a).(ii)

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

~~IV.B.1.b).(2).(a).(i)~~IV.B.1.b).(2).(a).(ii) Fellows should demonstrate the ability to make bone marrow smears. <sup>(Detail)</sup>

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:

**This revision was made to reflect the current scope of practice.**

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

**No impact is anticipated on patient safety or patient care quality. With this revision, fellow education will be improved, as required topics are relevant to the current scope of practice.**

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

**No impact is anticipated.**

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

**Programs should ensure an adequate volume of bone marrow smears for fellows to demonstrate competence in completing the procedure.**

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

**No impact is anticipated.**

Requirement #: IV.B.1.b).(2).(b)

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

IV.B.1.b).(2).(b) Fellows must demonstrate competence in obtaining informed consent.  
(Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:

**The proposed revision was made to ensure fellows are competent in obtaining informed consent, which is a critical part of performing a procedure.**

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

**The proposed requirement will improve patient safety and care quality by ensuring fellows can obtain informed consent.**

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

**No impact is anticipated.**

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

**No impact is anticipated.**

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

**No impact is anticipated.**

Requirement #: IV.B.1.b).(2).(d)

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

~~IV.B.1.b).(2).(b)~~IV.B.1.b).(2).(d) Fellows must demonstrate competence in performing bone marrow nucleated differential cell counts (300 or 500 cells). (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:

**This revision was made to reflect the current scope of practice.**

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

**No impact is anticipated on patient safety or patient care quality. With this revision, fellow education will be improved, as required topics are relevant to the current scope of practice.**

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

**No impact is anticipated.**

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

**No impact is anticipated.**

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

**Programs should ensure an adequate volume of specimens for fellows to demonstrate competence in completing the procedure.**

Requirement #: IV.C.4. - IV.C.4.c)

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

IV.C.4. [Fellow experiences must include:]

IV.C.4.a) ~~supervision of trainees and/or laboratory personnel, and with graduated responsibility, including independent diagnoses and decision-making;~~ (Core)

IV.C.4.b) supervision of residents and/or other learners; and, (Detail)

~~IV.C.3.a)~~IV.C.4.c) educational activities specific to hematopathology, review of the medical literature in the subspecialty area, and use of study sets of unusual cases. (Core)

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:

**The proposed revision was made to clarify that experiences should include supervision of residents and other learners, and it also standardizes program requirements across the pathology subspecialties.**

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

**No impact is anticipated.**

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

**No impact is anticipated.**

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

**No impact is anticipated.**

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

**Residents and/or learners from other accredited programs may be supervised by fellows.**

Requirement #: V.A.1.a).(1)

Requirement Revision (significant change only):

V.A.1.a).(1) The feedback, based on direct observation, should incorporate competency-based assessments <sup>(Core)</sup>

1. Describe the Review Committee's rationale for this revision:

**The proposed revision is in alignment with the ongoing work toward the integration of competency-based medical education into ACGME-accredited programs and focuses on direct observation as a method to provide formative feedback.**

2. How will the proposed requirement or revision improve resident/fellow education, patient safety, and/or patient care quality?

**The proposed revision will improve fellow education by moving toward competency-based medical education and focusing more on the individual fellow.**

3. How will the proposed requirement or revision impact continuity of patient care?

**No impact anticipated.**

4. Will the proposed requirement or revision necessitate additional institutional resources (e.g., facilities, organization of other services, addition of faculty members, financial support; volume and variety of patients), if so, how?

**Programs may need to consider additional institutional resources to implement competency-based education, specifically on direct observation and feedback. Additional institutional resources may include the possibility of further faculty development.**

5. How will the proposed revision impact other accredited programs?

**No impact anticipated.**