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March 2021

Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP  
Chief Executive Officer  
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education  
401 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2000  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Dr. Nasca,

On behalf of the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM) and our more than 7,600 members, I would like to thank you for all the work the ACGME does to ensure excellent training for our learners. SAEM appreciates the opportunity to comment on the most recent proposed changes to the Common Program Requirements (CPRs). We appreciate the time, effort, and resources that were used to develop them and the ongoing opportunity for us to provide feedback on how these changes impact emergency medicine.

The background and intent section of the CPRs revisions states, "The ultimate outcome of graduate medical education is excellence in resident education and patient care." SAEM fully agrees with this statement and believes that dedicated time for resident education and program administration are paramount for achieving this outcome. SAEM strongly supports the proposed revisions to the CPRs. SAEM appreciates the variability and flexibility in training to allow individual, specialty-specific Residency Review Committees (RRCs) to determine minimums for protected time for program directors, associate/assistant program directors, and core faculty, with recognition of the essential role protected time plays to ensure the highest quality education of our learners.

SAEM is grateful for the ACGME's commitment to the highest standards of resident education and patient safety. We are eager to continue working with the ACGME to train outstanding learners in emergency medicine. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback.

Sincerely,

James F. Holmes, Jr MD, PHD  
President, 2020-2021