



November 16, 2009

Charles P. Clayton
Vice President for Policy
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine
2501 M Street, NW
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Washington, DC 20037-1325

RE: Proposed Revisions to NRMP Internal Medicine Specialty
Match Timeline

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Mr. Clayton,

During the Association of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Program Director's (APCCMPD) semi-annual member meeting held on November 2, 2009, we discussed the proposal to move the NRMP Match timeline for Internal Medicine specialties from the later half of the second-year of residency to the first half of the third-year of residency. I am pleased to report that our association had overwhelming support for this proposal.

The APCCMPD membership discussed the details and agreed on benefits of allowing additional time and experience before deciding to pursue fellowship training. A few members expressed some logistical concerns regarding the time needed to obtain medical licensure in states with historical lengthy processes. In addition, the proposal seems to shorten the timeline of what currently amounts to six months (Dec-May) to five months (July-Nov). The APCCMPD membership cite July and August as being particularly busy months for fellowship programs as they spend time orienting their new fellows and dealing with many faculty absences for vacations. These members believe that starting the timeline one month earlier with programs able to download application on June 15 would allow greater flexibility for their programs.

In summary, the APCCMPD supports the proposal to move the NRMP timeline for fellows, and requests a slight modification to begin the process in the month of June of residency Year 2 rather than July of Year 3.

Sincerely,

Joyce Bruno-Reitzner,
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Executive Director

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