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2020-2021**

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The Combination IM/Peds Match Team
National Residency Matching Program
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Transcript of APCCMPD's Response to the NRMP Combination IM/Peds Match Survey

The Association of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Program Directors appreciates the opportunity to provide comment on this issue. The APCCMPD agrees that harmonizing the match dates of the two largest specialties is an important adjustment to the process to favor trainees as much as possible.

With this said, the APCCMPD advocates to maintain the earlier match date [of December 1], rather than moving it two weeks later. In the 2019-2020 academic year, there were 9242 residents entering Internal Medicine fellowship specialties. 3,692 (40%) of those residents were International Medical Graduates. The process of obtaining visa approval necessitates as much lead time as possible, and even losing two weeks can jeopardize the process in some states. Given this fact, we worry that delaying the match may compress the ability for programs to on-board new trainees. However, more importantly, we worry that delaying the match could make the transition to fellowship difficult for trainees due to delays with approval of visa applications, state licensure, housing, and other arrangements. For this reason, we would strongly favor keeping the earlier match date.

The APCCMPD thanks you for the opportunity to provide comment. We would love to see this effort be one that sparks more harmonization of match timelines in order to maximize opportunities for dual-physician households.

Sincerely,



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President

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