

FAQs for the New Anesthesiology Case Log System

Q: Why did the RRC change to this new case log reporting system?

A: The RRC's goal is to improve the accuracy of data regarding procedures that are completed during residency. Over time, required experiences have changed, and this system will reflect the new program requirements that went into effect in July 2008. The new system was designed to enhance the accuracy of recorded data. Reporting case logs by individual patient/procedure should be more informative to residents and to their programs, and can offer a basis of comparison to the other programs.

Q: When and how will the new case log system operate?

A: Residents are required to start using the new case log system on July 1, 2009. They should record their completed patient-based procedures directly into the ACGME on-line program that is available on ADS. The case log system should be used as often as necessary, ideally daily, to ensure accuracy.

Q: How was the new system developed?

A: The system was developed through collaboration between RRC members and ACGME information technology professionals. This iterative process included input from committee members including on-going discussions about formatting, 12-months of pilot-testing, and extensive feedback and review.

Q: What resources are available to programs and residents so they can learn more about the new case log system?

A: Two resources were developed to describe the system to offer residents an opportunity to work with the new system before it goes live. A tutorial

<http://www.acgme.org/residentdatacollection/documentation/tutorials.asp>

outlines the system and includes pictures of the actual data screens. A test site gives residents an

<https://dconnect.acgme.org/residentdatacollection/>

opportunity to practice using the new system. To login as a resident, the ID is "resident040" and the password is "password".

Q: Does the new case log system apply to all residents in each level of training?

A: Yes, all residents will be required to enter case log data using the new system beginning July 1, 2009.

Q: What should programs do about case log data from the 2008-2009 academic year?

A: Programs may share these data with the ACGME or keep them in their own system, only. The old and new systems cannot be operational at the same time; the old system has to be discontinued before the new system can commence. The ACGME does not require the submission of data from the current academic year. However, case logs data from the previous system will be archived for program reference. We will make the change to the new system on June 29th. At that time, we will archive all data currently entered and change the data entry mechanism to the new individual case based system. Summary reports will continue to be available for the old data. However from that point on, new entries will only be possible via the new format.

Q: When will these data begin to approach reliability?

A: That is expected to take some time to achieve. This is due to how the new system is being implemented. Once we have graduates with 3 years of data in the new system, we will be able to generate comparative reports providing feedback to the programs and for program review by the RRC. In the meantime, however, programs are encouraged to follow the data input process carefully. This is critical for developing a meaningful national database that has the potential to describe trends and have an impact on the creation of new program requirements.