

Postgraduate Medical Education Accreditation 2023

Message from the Associate Dean

Issue 6 - June 2023

IN THIS ISSUE

From the Associate Dean

From the AOT

Timeline Review

Accreditation Health Check

Resources

Accreditation serves two purposes – continuous quality improvement (CQI) and public accountability. Since the 2022 internal review, impressive work has been done within programs and the institution to address AFIs, develop implementation plans, and collaborate both internally and externally to make meaningful and sustained improvements within our organization. As we move towards an external site survey visit, the second aspect – public accountability – gains more focus. We are striving to maintain the status of accredited program with follow-up by regular review (A-RR) for our programs and work on one program to get from accredited program with follow-up by action plan outcomes report (A-APOR) to A-RR.

There have been many changes to the context in which we work. Spurred by the pandemic, many situations are articulated as “crises” e.g., climate change and health human resources, expectations are different, and examinations, Competence-By-Design and other aspects of the core business of postgraduate medical education are not entirely stable. Many Internal Medicine programs across the country have received a ruling of Notice of Intent to Withdraw. The RCPSC has done tremendous work on taking these into consideration and has been responsive in an agile manner and is fully supportive of the institutions and programs. In the spirit of CQI, many programs receive a ruling of A-APOR. Together, we have been cognizant of these changes and “realities” and have worked to offer high quality education. In some ways, striving for a high quality and keeping the core mission and vision front and square, is a strategy that will help all of us as we are “evaluated” by our peers.

In just over five months we will be welcoming the survey teams from the RCPSC and the CFPC to our beautiful province. The work associated with accreditation can, at times, feel overwhelming as we try to balance it with on-going commitments to our patients, our learners, and ourselves. I know this has been additional work in already busy work lives and that many have given up personal time to meet the deadlines. I am grateful for all the work each program has committed to and completed to deliver on deadlines provided by our accrediting bodies. This work has highlighted the extraordinary strengths our programs already have, as well has allowed us to focus on those areas that need to be addressed.

I am aware that as we get ever closer to the external survey there will be more work to be done and I am thankful that we have a team of dedicated folks working so diligently. This is a testament to the expertise and desire to ensure our residents, faculty, program academic and clinical leaders have all the required tools and environment to continue to develop excellent residents who will go on serve our communities.

Many of you may not have had the opportunity to be part of an accreditation visit previously while others are seasoned at this important exercise. For those who are new to this endeavor and for those who may need some refreshing, PGME is working to bring together everyone in the programs to provide an overview of expectations and an opportunity to speak, ask questions, and to alleviate any concerns and/or voice any further areas PGME or our College can assist to show each program at their very best. There are plans in the works for visits to our distributed sites with a team from PGME – we are very much looking forward to seeing everyone in person and visiting you where you work and live.

Let us keep our heads held high and be happy and proud of all that has been accomplished so far. Please also feel free to reach out to any of the Accreditation Oversight Team (AOT) members or myself for any questions, concerns, comments, or additional needs. We are here for all of you and will do our best to ease concerns and share your successes as we get ever closer to our visit.

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From the PGME Accreditation Oversight Team (AOT)

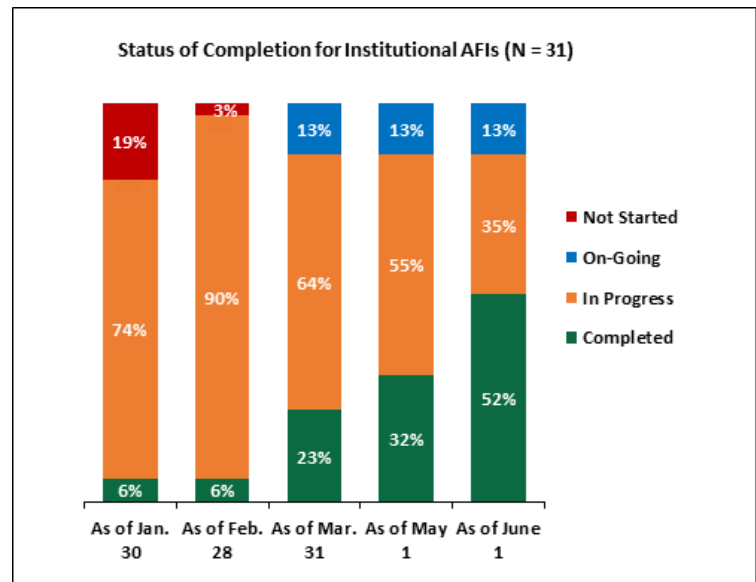
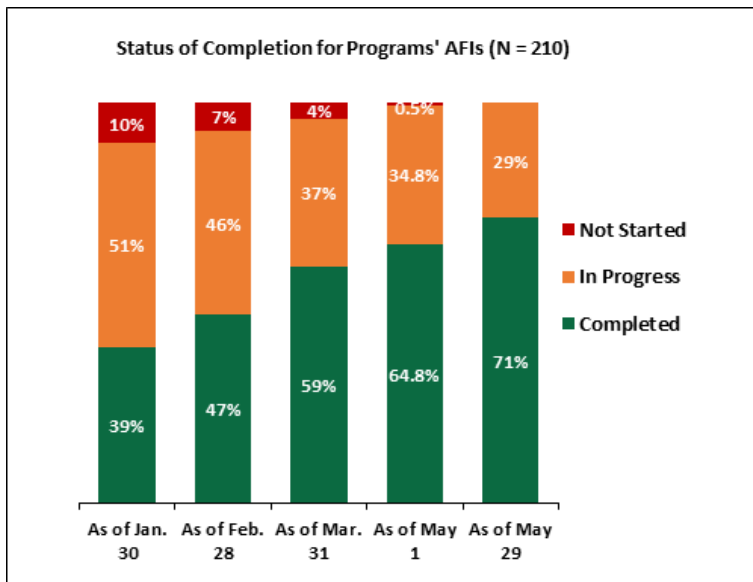
As programs complete the work on AFIs and are updating CanAMS instruments, the AOT wishes to express appreciation to all programs, the Academic Program Enhancement Committee (APEC), residents, and everyone for the work done so far.

Ongoing and upcoming activities include:

- PGME meetings with various stakeholders (DHs, Residents, SHA, etc.).
- APEC review of CanAMS documents.
- Program visits by APEC.
- RCPS and CFPC planned meetings with program admins, DH, PD, faculty.
- Programs work on exemplary indicators.
- Program and Institutional Logistics, Plan B.

The AOT has provided an Accreditation Health Check in this Newsletter. Programs are encouraged to use the checklist to monitor their progress and ensure that they are on track. We will continue to share resources and relevant information with programs as we remain committed to working towards full accreditation of the institution and all our residency programs- we got this!

As always, programs should please feel free to reach out to the AOT with any questions, concerns, or even best practices.



TIMELINE REVIEW

2022

- ✓ Internal Review
- ✓ AFI Review
- ✓ AOT Oversight - development of Implementation Plan
- ✓ PGME meetings with Stakeholders (PDs, DHs, Residents, SHA, etc.)
- ✓ Accreditation Workshop for PDs and PAs - November
- ✓ Program Progress Reporting – Due December 22nd

2023

January - May

- Program and Institutional AFI work
- Monthly Program Progress Reporting – **Due on the 20th of each month**
- Active Risk Management (bi-weekly touch base with programs)
- PGME meetings with Stakeholders (PDs, DHs, Residents, SHA, etc.)
- Accreditation Workshop for PDs and PAs - March
- APEC and PGME committee meetings - recommendations to programs
- AOT Oversight – Monitoring and reporting of progress
- Institutional CanAMS documents– **Due by May 31**
- AFIs addressed and CanAMS updated – **Due by May 31**

June - August

- PGME meetings with Stakeholders (PDs, DHs, Residents, SHA, etc.)
- Active Risk Management (bi-weekly touch base with programs)
- Program CanAMS documents - **Due by June 15**
- APEC review of CanAMS documents - **Due by August 15**
- AOT Oversight – Monitoring and reporting of progress
- Program and Institutional Logistics, Plan B

September - December

- All CanAMS documents submitted to RCPSC/CFPC by PGME - **Due by September 15**
- Programs complete their schedules, ensure all participants are aware and have it booked in their calendars, book rooms, order food – **Due September 11 - 15**
- PGME meetings with Stakeholders (PDs, DHs, RPC, Faculty, Residents, SHA, etc.)
- Accreditation Workshop for Residents – September
- Accreditation Workshop for PDs and PAs – October
- AOT Oversight – Monitoring and reporting of progress
- Royal College CanAMS profile and AFI instruments submitted to RCPSC by PGME - **Due by September 11**
- Family Medicine CanAMS profile and AFI instruments submitted to CFPC by PGME – **Due by September 25**
- Draft schedules to be submitted to RCPSC and CFPC by PGME – **Due by September 11**
- **Site Survey – November 26 – December 1**





Accreditation Health Check



- AFI work is being addressed or finalized.
- Any roadblocks that programs are facing have been escalated to PGME.
- The CanAMS profile instrument has been completed.
 - Programs have reviewed the [CanAMS checklist](#) for finalizing responses in CanAMS.
- All documents in CanAMS have been updated.
- Program specific policies have been added to the additional document section in CanAMS.
- The CanAMS AFI instrument has been completed.
- The CanAMS profile and AFI instrument has been submitted to PGME by letting audrey.kincaid@usask.ca know they are completed.
- Schedules are being worked on for program specific reviews, and all who are involved in the review have been notified to clear their calendars on the day of the review.
- Documents are being compiled for document review (RPC minutes, CC minutes, (with dates matching agenda dates), resident files with consent forms). See document review guidelines for [Royal College AFC Programs](#), [Royal College Residency Programs](#), [CFPC](#).

Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.”

~ Mattie Stepanek



RESOURCES

[PGME Website](#)



For information and updates on Accreditation, please visit the new [Accreditation](#) section on the [PGME website](#)

Accreditation Standards

- [Program Standards](#)
- [Institution Standards](#)

QUESTIONS?

For all accreditation related matters and questions, please contact:
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