

From: Vice Dean PGME - Dr. Salvatore Spadafora

Sent: Thursday, February 07, 2013 9:06 AM

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Subject: CaRMS IMG Applicants and the Assessment Verification Period (AVP)

Importance: High

To: All PGY1 Program Directors with CaRMS IMG Positions

cc: Program Administrators, Postgraduate Education/Education Leads, PGME Staff

Dear Colleagues:

As you consider candidates for your IMG positions as part of this year's CaRMS match process I urge you to carefully review the information below with regard to the **Assessment Verification Period**.

The AVP is a form of Pre-Entry Assessment Period (PEAP) which is required under the Medicine Act of Ontario) [The Medicine Act](#) for all MDs entering postgraduate medical education who have not graduated from an LCME-CACMS accredited medical school. (LCME stands for Liaison Committee on Medical Education and CACMS stands for the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools)

The AVP is governed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) and successful completion is required before the CPSO will issue a Postgraduate Education Certificate of Registration to an IMG. [CPSO Registration Requirements](#)

The AVP is a **high stakes period that occurs during the first twelve weeks of an IMG resident's training**. Failure of the AVP deems the resident ineligible to proceed in the training program and an AVP cannot be repeated by the same trainee in the same specialty. The AVP was developed in cooperation with the Postgraduate Education Committee of the Council of Ontario Faculties of Medicine (PGE COFM), the CPSO, PGME Deans, Council of Academic Hospitals of Ontario (CAHO) and the Professional Association of Interns and Residents of Ontario (PAIRO) who each have membership in PGE COFM. Despite the fact that the AVP counts as credited training, when it was introduced it was viewed as a process that was not subject to appeal. This has since been challenged and there have been successful appeals at four of the six Ontario medical schools on process, conduct, and perceived fairness of the AVP and not on the professional medical assessment of the learner by clinical faculty.

The process of the AVP is described in the PGME Policies and Guidelines and the Department of Medicine on-line resources at:

U of T PGME - [PGME Assessment Verification Period](#)

I have also attached AVP Instructions as developed by the Department of Medicine as an example and reference document.

A failed AVP must be clearly supported through documentation and made evident through the 2-week, mid-point and final assessment. This high stakes period of assessment must be free of procedural concerns and must clearly delineate a failure before the PGME office will sign off and submit to the CPSO.

Notwithstanding the above, we expect that majority of our learners will be very successful in their programs and we congratulate you for the tremendous effort that goes into this process. Should you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact me or our staff at the PGME office.

Sincerely,

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