What is Considered Scholarly Activity?

ACGME Glossary:
An opportunity for residents/fellows and faculty to participate in:
- Research
- organized clinical discussions,
- rounds,
- journal clubs, and
- conferences.

In addition, some members of the faculty should also demonstrate scholarship through one or more of the following:
- peer-reviewed funding;
- publication of original research or review articles in peer reviewed journals or
- chapters in textbooks;
- publication or presentation of case reports or
- clinical series at local, regional, or national professional and scientific society meetings; or
- participation in national committees or educational organizations.

Anesthesiology FAQ
Can participation in lectures, journal clubs, or anesthesia committees meet the requirements for scholarly activity? No. Although these activities are important, and are considered an essential part of a program’s academic endeavors, they cannot substitute for publication in scholarly journals and other academic pursuits, which are essential for the specialty to advance and for residents and fellows to gain exposure to how research is conducted.

Internal Medicine Subspecialties FAQ
At the time of the PIF submission, 50% of the fellows in the previous three graduating classes must demonstrate at least one of the following:
- Manuscript(s) published
- Case Reports published
- Abstract(s) published in journal, or specialty abstract book
- Abstract(s) presented at national specialty society meeting

1-year programs are exempt from the fellow research productivity requirement

Neurology FAQ
What is an appropriate range of research or scholarly activity for faculty members?
The majority (at least 51%) of the faculty must participate in the scholarship of:
- a) discovery, as evidenced by peer-reviewed funding or by publication of original research in a peer-reviewed journal;
- b) dissemination, as evidenced by review articles or chapters in textbooks; or
- c) application, as evidenced by the publication or presentation of, for example, case reports, clinical series, or didactic lectures, at local, regional, or national professional and scientific society meetings.

Scholarly activities may also include participation in academic societies, leadership roles in professional societies; journal club and grand rounds presentations.

What are examples of resident scholarly activity?
Examples of resident scholarship include: participation in research; publication and presentation at national and regional meetings; preparation and presentation of neurological topics at educational conferences and programs; organization and administration of educational programs; and activity related to professional leadership. Peer-review activities and quality of care programming are additional examples of scholarship.
**Nuclear Medicine FAQ**
Is attendance at lectures and journal club, and participation in administrative committees, considered scholarly activities?
No. Attending lectures or journal club, and participating in administrative committees (local, state, regional, or national) are certainly important and essential aspects of resident education. However, these activities cannot substitute for the scholarly activities and other academic pursuits essential for the advancement of nuclear medicine as a specialty, and by which residents gain exposure to the way research is conducted.

**Ophthalmology FAQ**
Clarify: “The faculty must establish and maintain an environment of inquiry and scholarship with an active research component.”
Among the program faculty, representation of scholarly activity is required in the form of regular presentations at local, regional, or national meetings; participation in original research, or clinical trials; publication in peer-reviewed journals; or grant writing/submission. Not all faculty members need to participate in these activities, and not all activities mentioned need to occur within a single program. However, the Review Committee seeks to know that the residents have exposure to a faculty that is involved in ongoing scholarly activity.

**PM&R FAQ**
How should residents participate in scholarly activity?
Residents should investigate one topic in depth. Outcomes of this research/investigation could include: a chapter or review article; a local, regional, or national presentation; a case report/series presented as a poster or platform presentation at a national meeting; preparation or submission of a manuscript for publication; or a research project.

**Psychiatry FAQ**
How much of the faculty must participate in scholarly activity to fulfill the faculty scholarship requirements?
All physician faculty members must demonstrate scholarship through participation in national committees or educational organizations. A majority of the physician faculty must demonstrate scholarship through peer-reviewed publications/book chapters/review articles and presentations at regional and national meetings. Some faculty members should demonstrate scholarship through peer-reviewed funding, in addition to the above. Programs may be cited for non-compliance with this requirement if all physician faculty members do not provide evidence for regular (at least annual) scholarly activity, since active faculty scholarship is needed in order to establish and maintain an educational environment of inquiry and scholarship.

**Radiology FAQ**
How should the radiology faculty be involved in scholarly activity?
A list of scholarly activities for faculty include:
- Peer-reviewed publications in scientific journals
- Textbook Chapters
- Scholarly presentations at local, regional or national professional and scientific society meetings
- Membership in national committees or educational organizations

Please note that not every member of the faculty needs to be equally involved in these activities.

What qualifies as a “resident scholarly activity?”
All residents must be involved in laboratory research, clinical research, the analysis of disease processes (e.g., a retrospective review), the analysis of imaging techniques (e.g., development or assessment of techniques), and/or the analysis of practice management activities (e.g., a systems-based practice activity of some sort). The outcome of this type of activity must be published, or presented at a local, regional, or national scientific gathering. The program must be able to document compliance at the time of a site visit.

Does resident participation in lectures on critical thinking skills or in a journal club fulfill the requirement for scholarly activity?
No. This type of activity is required in addition to involvement in scholarly activity, as defined above.
I am trying to count our residents' and fellows' scholarly activities according to the description in the newsletter. How does this work?
During the course of their training, residents and fellows must complete one project to obtain 1 point. This project could be a publication or a presentation at a meeting (local, regional, or national).

**Metrics for Scholarly Activity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Pass</th>
<th>Fail</th>
<th>Commendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residents*</td>
<td>1 point/resident</td>
<td>&lt;1 point/resident</td>
<td>≥ 1.5 points/resident on average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellows*</td>
<td>1 point/fellow</td>
<td>&lt;1 point/fellow</td>
<td>≥ 1.5 points/fellow on average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty (FTE)#</td>
<td>Average 2 pts/faculty member</td>
<td>Average &lt; 2 pts/faculty member</td>
<td>Average ≥ 1.5 pts/faculty member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* One point given per publication (print-i.e. article, case report, chapter, or electronic- i.e. ACR case in point) or local, regional or national presentation/poster or electronic exhibit over the length of the program
# One point given for documented activity in each of the following activities over the length of the review cycle
  - Grants
  - Publications
  - Selected chapters, text books
  - Presentation at local, regional or national meeting
  - Education related service on national committees

Can faculty points for scholarly activity be averaged? Some of our faculty members publish articles and some focus exclusively on teaching and education.
Yes, faculty points can be averaged for the review cycle. If you have 10 faculty members, your program needs to obtain 20 points total during the review cycle (typically five years). Some faculty members may be awarded grants, some may publish articles, others may serve on a national committee, and some faculty members may not engage in any of these activities.

How are the scholarly activity points counted? For instance, if one of our faculty members serves on a national committee for 5 years does that result in 5 points?
No, serving on a committee is a one-time activity and results in 1 point. Receiving a grant counts as 1 point. However, publishing 5 different articles in peer-reviewed journals is 5 points. Making 2 presentations is 2 points.

Do faculty members, residents, and fellows have to earn 1 point each year of the review cycle? What is the period of time within which this should take place?
Think of your review cycle as a block of time (typically 5 years) during which faculty members must complete scholarly activities that result in an average of 2 points each. During this same period of time, residents and fellows must be on track to complete their scholarly activities that result in 1 point for the length of their training. That is, fellows should complete 1 project during their 1 or 2 year fellowship and residents should complete 1 project during their four- year program. These activities do not have to be completed annually. Scholarly activities must be completed within a program’s review cycle.

**Surgery FAQ**

Why must the program director have documented scholarly activity, and what types of scholarly activity are sufficient?
The program director sets the tone for the scholarly environment of the residency program. In order to be effective in this capacity, the program director must be recognized and respected by faculty members and residents as having demonstrated success in scholarship. It is highly recommended that the program director have documented scholarly activity in all three areas described in the Program Requirements. Because it is expected that both faculty members and residents are involved in research and publications, the program director should have evidence of peer-reviewed publication during the most recent five-year period. In addition, the program director should have contributed to the field of surgery by analyzing or reviewing clinical practice. It is highly desirable that a program director has actively participated in national or regional surgical meetings and served on committees of national or regional surgical organizations. Although there are other ways to demonstrate scholarship, the Review Committee recommends these guidelines for demonstration of scholarly activity by program directors.
Urology Program Requirements

Documentation of resident performance of scholarly activity may be demonstrated by manuscript preparation, lectures, teaching activities, abstracts, and active performance of research or participation in clinical studies and reviews.

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