These standards are dormant – for current standards see Conjoint standards for Adult and Pediatric Allergy/Immunology. Contact the AOA board at allergyimmunology@osteopathic.org.

BASIC STANDARDS FOR FELLOWSHIP TRAINING IN PEDIATRIC ALLERGY/IMMUNOLOGY

American Osteopathic Association
And the
American College of Osteopathic Pediatrians

BASIC STANDARDS
FOR FELLOWSHIP TRAINING
IN
PEDIATRIC ALLERGY/IMMUNOLOGY

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ARTICLE I – Introduction

These are the basic standards for subspecialty training in pediatric allergy/immunology as approved by the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians (ACOP). These standards are designed to provide the fellow with advanced and concentrated training in pediatric allergy/immunology and prepare the fellow for examination for certification in pediatric allergy/immunology. The following standards must be a functioning component of an AOA-approved program in pediatric allergy/immunology.

ARTICLE II - Purpose

This two (2) year training program is designed to develop clinical and laboratory skills in the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric allergic and immunologic disease.

Osteopathic Concepts: The training of the fellow in clinical pediatric allergy and immunology should include the observation and correlation of neuromusculoskeletal lesions as they apply to the diagnosis and therapeutics of systemic disease and its application to the osteopathic concepts in the practice of clinical pediatric allergy and immunology.

ARTICLE III – Institutional Requirements

A. To be approved by the AOA for subspecialty fellowship training in pediatric allergy/immunology, and institution must meet all requirements as formulated in the Fellowship Training Requirements of the AOA and documents that the program meets the policies and procedures of the affiliated OPTI.

B. The institution must provide sufficient patient load to adequately train a minimum of two pediatric allergy/immunology fellows. There must be a sufficient number of supervised pediatric allergy/immunology cases to insure adequate training in long term care, psychological and developmental problems peculiar to these patients. There must be sufficient volume, scope and variety to enable each fellow to receive a well rounded experience.

C. The institution will maintain an adequate medical library containing carefully selected texts, the latest editions of pediatric allergy/immunology journals. The library will be in the charge of a qualified librarian who will provide organization of the materials and help in the investigative work of the fellow.

D. The institution shall be properly equipped, have adequate facilities, be adequately staffed with nurses and paraprofessionals, and be properly organized to provide adequate patient care.

E. The teaching faculty must be adequate to provide personal instruction at the bedside, laboratory studies, teaching rounds, conferences, seminars, demonstration, lectures, and clinical conference.

F. The institution shall provide a written policy and procedure for selection of fellows. This shall include application/process, interview process, and appointment process.
G. Upon completion of the pediatric allergy/immunology program the institution and OPTI shall jointly provide an appropriate certificate to the fellow. The certificate will confirm the completion of the program requirements, starting and completion dates, and the name of the training institution and program director.

ARTICLE IV– Program Requirements

A. Any new fellowship program shall only commence after it has received the approval of the AOA’s Council on Postdoctoral Training. The program will be at a total duration of 24 months long preparing the fellow to practice the subspecialty of pediatric allergy/immunology.

B. At the end of the training period, the physician is to be able to provide definitive diagnosis and recommend appropriate therapy in these clinical areas by utilizing information gained from:
   1. The medical library.
   2. The physical examination.
   3. Immunological testing:
      a. percutaneous testing.
         Aeroallergen
         Foods
         Venoms
         Drugs
      b. intradermal testing.
         Aeroallergen
         Foods
         Venoms
         Drugs
      c. food challenge
      d. drug challenges
      e. autologous interdermal testing
      f. lymphocyte determination
      g. B cell determination and response
         Antibody response to:
         Polysaccharides
         Proteins
      h. T cell determination and response
      i. Neutrophil determination and response
j. Complement determination and response  
k. Intracellular Regulatory enzyme determination and response  
l. Cell surface receptor determination and response  
m. Flow cytometry results  

4. Pulmonary Functions:  

C. During the *first year* the fellow is to have responsible participation in the diagnosis and management of outpatients seen in pediatric allergy and clinical immunology. This experience should be utilized to instruct the fellow in the techniques of skin testing, dilution titration as well as the fundamentals of immuno-therapy. In addition, the fellow is to participate in the inpatient management and consultation of patients with immunological diseases.  

D. During the *second year* in addition to clinical responsibilities, the fellow is to design and implement, in conference with the Program Director, at least, one research project. A paper based on the research is required for the satisfactory completion of the program.  

E. Teaching conferences must be conducted at least once weekly.  

F. The fellow should be required to engage actively in the teaching program for other residents, interns and students.  

G. The fellow is required to maintain a log of all cases, procedures and techniques on those patients in whose care he has participated. The fellow will be required to submit his log to the Council on Education and Evaluation as required.  

H. Portions of the training program that the training institution assigns to other institutions must be appropriately documented with appropriately executed affiliation agreements between the institutions.  

I. The program shall integrate the principles and practices of osteopathic medicine into the diagnosis and treatment of the pediatric allergy/immunology patient by interaction with osteopathic physicians and through undergraduate and postdoctoral training in osteopathic theory.  

J. For entrance into the pediatric allergy/immunology fellowship the applicant must have completed an AOA approved residency program in pediatrics.  

K. An ongoing document showing fellows’ mastery of ACOP competencies must be maintained by program director.
ARTICLE V-QUALIFICATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROGRAM DIRECTORS

A. Qualifications:
   1. The program director must be recognized for expertise in pediatric allergy/immunology either by appropriate certification and/or national recognition of achievement.

   2. The program director must be personally responsible for the pediatric allergy/immunology patients

   3. The program director must meet the requirements of the standards as formulated by the AOA Fellowship Training Requirements.

   4. The program director must be a member in standing of the ACOP and attend an ACOP program director meeting at least on an every other year basis.

B. Responsibilities:
   1. The program director’s authority in directing the fellowship must be defined in the institution’s program shall include:
      a. Scheduling rotations and fellow teaching responsibilities
      b. Arranging outside rotations
      c. Cooperating in intradepartmental programs
      d. Maintaining record for AOA inspections

   2. The program must be readily available to the fellowship staff.

   3. The program director will provide all documents to the fellows:
      a. An orientation manual and program manual
      b. AOA requirements for approved fellowship and internship
      c. AOA requirements for pediatric allergy/immunology fellowship
      d. Bylaws of the medical staff
      e. AOA Code of Ethics
      f. A guided study program

   4. The program director shall be responsible to the fellow for:
      a. Coordinating on call schedules
      b. Submitting ACOP annual training reports
      c. Overseeing each fellow’s logs and any AOA documents
      d. Supervising manuscript development
      e. Conducting quarterly evaluations
      f. Developing journal clubs, conferences and lectures.
ARTICLE VI - REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT

A. Applicants for training in pediatric allergy/immunology must:
   1. Have graduated from a COCA-accredited medical school
   2. Be a member of the AOA and ACOP during fellowship training
   3. Have completed an AOA approved pediatric residency
   4. Be licensed in the state in which the training is being conducted

B. During the training period, the fellow must:
   1. Submit an annual report to the ACOP. The fellow shall keep accurate and concurrent records of the following:
      a. Educational postgraduate conferences
      b. Institution training services and a written evaluation of each service
      c. Educational postgraduate work taken outside the base training institution, listing the dates, location, subjects and speaker.
      d. Assigned cases of the pediatric allergy/immunology service and including the patient record number, date of discharge, primary diagnosis, and etc.
      e. Procedures performed under supervision
      f. Consultations performed on service.

   2. Submit one paper to the ACOP with supervision of the program director. The manuscript should be suitable for publication. The manuscript should be preceded by an abstract and poster presented at ACOP, AAAAI.

   3. Teach and direct pediatric residents and students in patient care.

   4. Participate with attending in teaching responsibilities.

   5. Participate in meeting that directly relate to pediatric allergy/immunology.

   6. Participate in comprehensive study programs.

   7. Submit evaluations of supervisors in pediatric allergy/immunology regularly

   8. Review literature periodically.
APPENDIX A

Core Competency # 1: Osteopathic Philosophy and OMT

Pediatric fellows are expected to demonstrate and apply knowledge of accepted standards in osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT) appropriate to their specialty. The educational goal is to train a skilled and competent osteopathic practitioner who remains dedicated to life long learning.

1) Demonstrate competency in the understanding and application of OMT appropriate to pediatrics.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Provide active training opportunities for OMT in both hospital and ambulatory settings.
- Teach fellows to perform a critical appraisal of medical literature related to OMT.
- Observe and credential fellows in the performance of OMT by assessing their diagnostic skills, medical knowledge, and problem-solving abilities.

2) Integrate osteopathic concepts and OMT into the medical care provided to patients as appropriate.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Have fellows assume increasing responsibility for the incorporation of osteopathic concepts in patient management.
- Participate in activities that provide educational programs at the student and intern levels.
- Participate in CME programs provided by the specialty colleges or other AOA Organizations.

3) Understand and integrate osteopathic principles and philosophy into all clinical and patient care activities.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance:

- Utilize caring, compassionate behavior with patients.
- Demonstrate always the treatment of people rather than symptoms.
- Demonstrate understanding of somato-visceral relationships and the role of the musculoskeletal system in disease.
- Demonstrate listening skills in interaction with patients.
- Knowledge of and behavior in accordance with the osteopathic oath and AOA code of ethics.

Suggested Methods For Evaluation
Core Competency # 2: Medical Knowledge

Pediatric fellows are expected to demonstrate and apply knowledge of accepted standards of clinical pediatrics, remain current with new developments in pediatrics, and participate in life-long learning activities, including research.

1) Demonstrate competency in the understanding and application of clinical pediatrics to patient care.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Performance On COMLEX-USA Level 3 and In-Service Examinations.
- Supervised Observation of the Clinical Decision-Making Abilities of Pediatric fellows.
- Seminars or CME.
- Participation in a Directed Readings Program and Journal Club.
- Periodic Assessment of fellow Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Abilities.

2) Know and apply the foundations of clinical and behavioral pediatrics.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Participate in activities that critically evaluate medical information and scientific evidence.
- Develop as a medical educator by giving presentations before peers, faculty, and participating in the instruction of medical students and other professionals.
- Routinely assess the skill and outcomes of fellows in their performance of medical procedures.
- Programmatic education in life long learning.

Suggested Methods for Evaluation

1. Chart Stimulated Recall Oral Examinations (CSR)
2. Simulations and Models
3. Ratings from Patients, Staff, Supervisors and Professionals (360 Degrees)
4. Oral Examinations
5. Written Examinations
6. Direct Observation

Core Competency # 3: Patient Care

Pediatric fellows must demonstrate the ability to effectively treat patients, provide medical care that incorporates the osteopathic philosophy, patient empathy, awareness of behavioral issues, the incorporation of preventive medicine and health promotion.

1) Gather accurate, essential information for all sources, including medical interviews, physical examinations, medical records, and diagnostic/therapeutic plans and treatments.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Supervise the performance of medical interviewing techniques.
- Provide instruction on developing and implementing of effective patient management plans.
- Teach proper methods for requesting and sequencing diagnostic tests and consultative services.
- Instill the need to provide a caring attitude that is mindful of cultural sensitivities, patient apprehensions, and accuracy of information.

2) Validate competency in the performance of diagnosis, treatments and appropriate procedures.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Provide instructional programs for the performance of medical procedures where appropriate.
- Develop a credentialing program for pediatric fellows to validate their procedural competency.
- Instruct fellows in the performance of procedures, including any potential complications and known risks to the patient (informed consent).

3) Provide health care services consistent with osteopathic philosophy, including preventative medicine and health promotion that are based on current scientific evidence and understanding of behavioral medicine.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Counsel patients and families on health promotion and lifestyle activities related to good health maintenance.
- Refer patients to non-for-profit and community service organizations that support health promotion and behavioral modification programs.
- Work with professionals from varied disciplines as a team to provide effective medical care to patients that address their diverse healthcare needs.
Suggested Methods For Evaluation

1. Checklists
2. Simulations and Models
3. Patient Surveys
4. OSCE
5. Standardized Patient
6. Procedure or Case Logs
7. Oral Examination
8. Record Review
9. Ratings from Patients, Staff, Supervisors and Professionals (360 Degrees)

Core Competency # 4: Interpersonal and Communication Skills

Pediatric fellows are expected to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that enable them to establish and maintain professional relationships with patients, families, and other members of health care teams.

1) Demonstrate effectiveness in developing appropriate doctor-patient relationships.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Interviewing Techniques
- Health Assessment of Non English-Speaking and Deaf Patients
- Involvement of Patients and Families in Decision-Making
- Appropriate Verbal and Non-Verbal Skills
- Understanding of Cultural and Religious Issues and Sensitivities in the Doctor-Patient Relationship

2) Exhibit effective listening, written and oral communication skills in professional interactions with patients and health professionals.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Communicating medical problems and patient options at appropriate levels of understanding
- Maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records
- Respectful interactions with health practitioners, patients, and families of patients
- Eliciting medical information in effective ways
- Work effectively with others as a member or leader of a healthcare team

Suggested Methods for Evaluation

1. Standardized Patients
2. OSCE
3. Ratings from Patients, Staff, Supervisors and Professionals (360 Degrees)
4. Patient Surveys
5. Checklist
6. Case/Chart Review
7. Videotaping

Core Competency # 5: Professionalism

Pediatric fellows are expected to uphold the osteopathic oath in the conduct of their professional activities that promote advocacy of patient welfare, adherence to ethical principles, and collaboration with health professionals, life-long learning, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population. Pediatric fellows should be cognizant of their own physical and mental health in order to effectively care for patients.

1) Demonstrate respect for patients and families and advocate for the primacy of patient’s welfare and autonomy.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Honest representation of patient’s medical status and the implications of informed consent.
- Maintenance of patient confidentiality and proper fulfillment of doctor-patient relationship
- Inform patients accurately of the risks associated with medical research projects, the potential consequences of treatment plans, and the realities of medical errors in medicine.
- Treat the terminally ill with compassion in the management of pain, palliative care, and preparation for death
- Course/program participation (e.g. Compliance, end of life, etc)

2) Adhere to ethical principles in the practice of pediatrics.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Understand conflicts of interest inherent in medicine and the appropriate responses to societal, community, and healthcare industry pressures.
- Use medical resources effectively and avoid the utilization of unnecessary tests and procedures.
- Recognize the inherent vulnerability and trust accorded by patients (and families) to physicians and uphold moral principles that avoid exploitation for sexual, financial, or other private gain.
- Pursue life-long learning goals in clinical medicine, humanism, ethics, and gain insight into the understanding of patient concerns and the proper relationship with the medical industry.

3) Demonstrate awareness and proper attention to issues of culture, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, and mental and physical disabilities.
Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Become knowledgeable and responsive to the special needs and cultural origins of patients.
- Advocate for continuous quality of care for all patients.
- Prevent the discrimination of patients based on defined characteristics.
- Understand the legal obligations of physicians in the care of patients.

Suggested Methods of Evaluation

1. Standardized Patients
2. OSCE
3. Ratings from Patients, Staff, Supervisors and Professionals (360 Degrees)
4. Patient Surveys
5. Checklist
6. Lectures/Seminars
7. Competency Cards
8. Sensitivity Seminars/Programs
9. Videotaping

Core Competency # 6: Practice-Based Learning and Improvement

Pediatric fellows must demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate their methods of clinical practice, integrate evidence-based medicine into patient care, show an understanding of research methods, and improve patient care practices.

1) Treat patients with the most current information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Use reliable and current information in diagnosis and treatment.
- Understand how to use the medical library and electronically mediated resources.
- Demonstrate the ability to extract and apply evidence from scientific studies to patient care.

2) Perform self-evaluations of clinical practice patterns and practice-based improvement activities using a systematic methodology.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Understand and participate in quality assurance activities at the hospital and at ambulatory sites.
- Apply the principles of evidence-based medicine in the diagnosis and treatment of patients.
• Measure the effectiveness of fellow practice patterns against results obtained with other population groups in terms of effectiveness and outcomes.

3) Understand research methods, medical informatics, and the application of technology as applied to medicine.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

• Participate in research activities and/or scholarly activities as required by the ACOP.
• Demonstrate computer literacy, information retrieval skills, and an understanding of computer technology applied to patient care and hospital systems.
• Apply study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of clinical studies.

Suggested Methods for Evaluation

1. Written Examinations
2. OSCE
3. Chart Stimulated Oral Examinations (CSR)
4. Standardized Patients
5. Record Reviews
6. Self Study
7. Procedure or Case Logs
8. Fellow Initiated Research

Core Competency # 7: Systems-Based Practice

Pediatric fellows are expected to demonstrate an understanding of health care delivery systems, provide effective and qualitative patient care within the system, and practice cost-effective medicine.

1) Understand national and local health care delivery systems and how they impact on patient care and professional practice.

Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

• Instruction In Health Policy and Structure
• Understand Business Applications in a Medical Practice
• Show Operational Knowledge of Health Care Organizations, State and Federal Programs
• Understand the Role of the Fellow as Member of the Health Care Team in the Hospital, Ambulatory Clinic, and Community.
• Guest Lectures/Seminars with Policy Makers

2) Advocate for quality health care on behalf of patients and assist them in their interactions with the complexities of the medical system.
Suggested Educational Content/Topics to Achieve Compliance

- Understand local medical resources available to patients for treatment and referral
- Participate in advocacy activities that enhance the quality of care provided to patients
- Practice clinical decision-making in the context of cost, allocation of resources, and outcomes.

Suggested Methods for Evaluation

1. OSCE
2. Ratings from Patients, Staff, Supervisors and Professionals (360 Degrees)
3. Chart Stimulated Recall (CSR)
4. Oral Exams
5. Seminars
6. Record Review
7. Patient Surveys
8. Checklist Appendix A