Information for Medical Students:
Post-graduate Training in Interventional Radiology (IR)

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has restructured the training program for Interventional Radiology.

KEY FACTS ABOUT THE INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY RESIDENCY

1. **IR Fellowship training.** The current 1-year subspecialty fellowship in Vascular and Interventional Radiology (VIR) is being phased out and will be replaced by the new IR Residency. The last fellowship class will complete training on June 30, 2020.

2. **IR Residency Formats.** The IR residency has two formats: Integrated and Independent:
   - **The Integrated IR Residency** is 5 years in length (a total of 6 years of post-graduate training). This IR training format is available to medical students. Students apply thru the NRMP Main Match and begin residency training in the PGY 2 year. The 5-year residency curriculum is concentrated on diagnostic radiology in the first 3 years and interventional radiology in the last 2 years.
   - **The Independent IR Residency** is 2 years in length (total of 7 years of postgraduate training). This training format is available to graduates of a diagnostic radiology residency.

Some diagnostic radiology residency programs may offer additional training in IR during the diagnostic radiology residency. This advanced training is termed **Early Specialization in IR (ESIR).** Diagnostic radiology residents who complete ESIR training may be able to finish IR training in a total of 6 post-graduate years; matriculating into an Independent IR residency at an advanced placement level and completing the program in 1 year instead of 2.

3. **IR/DR certification.** Graduates of an IR Residency qualify to take the IR/DR examination offered by the American Board of Radiology (ABR). The IR/DR certificate recognizes competency in both diagnostic radiology and interventional radiology. Certificate holders can practice both Diagnostic Radiology and Interventional Radiology.

4. **Internship.** Both Integrated and Independent IR residency formats require a preliminary clinical internship (PGY 1 year). Internship training can be in surgery, internal medicine, pediatrics, a surgical subspecialty or a transitional year.

5. **NRMP Main Match for Integrated IR Residency:** Seven integrated IR residency programs participated in the 2016 Main Match; 15 positions were offered. All filled. It is anticipated that ~60 integrated IR residency programs will participate in the 2017 Main Match. The exact number of offered positions is not determined but is likely to exceed 100.

More information. More detailed information regarding post-graduate training in IR can be obtained from your medical student career advisor for Radiology. Information is also available on the Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) resident, fellow and student website at: http://www.sirweb.org/fellows-residents-students/

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