

## **COGME perspectives on medical education issues**

**ISSUE:** In its June 2009 report, the Commission discussed the importance of medical education in transforming the nation's health care delivery system from one that historically has focused on care for acute illness—at the expense of chronic condition management, coordination of care across settings—to one that values patient-centered care, quality improvement, and efficient resource use.

### **KEY POINTS:**

The Council on Graduate Medical Education (COGME) was authorized by Congress in 1986 to provide an ongoing assessment of physician workforce trends, training issues and financing policies, and to recommend appropriate federal and private sector efforts to address identified needs. The legislation calls for COGME to advise and make recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) and to the U.S. Congress. The 17 appointed council members include representatives of practicing primary care physicians, national and specialty physician organizations, international medical graduates, medical student and house staff associations, schools of medicine and osteopathy, public and private teaching hospitals, health insurers, business, and labor. Federal representation on the Council includes officials from HHS and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dr. Russell G. Robertson, Chair of COGME, will present relevant perspectives on medical education issues that the Council has discussed in their recent meetings and reports. Such topics may include:

- Residency education and training
- Nonhospital experience in residency programs
- Medical education's role in fostering delivery system reforms
- Workforce issues
- Title VII and VIII
- Opportunities for broader sources of funding for graduate medical education

**ACTION:** Dr. Robertson will make a brief presentation. Then Commissioners will have the opportunity to ask him questions and discuss issues that arise.

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