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## **ACGME Announces Pursuing Excellence in Clinical Learning Environments**

*21 Partners Join ACGME to Improve Clinical Learning Environments for Graduate Medical Education*

CHICAGO, November 3, 2015—Today the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) announced Pursuing Excellence in Clinical Learning Environments, a four-year initiative designed to promote transformative improvement within the clinical learning environments of ACGME-accredited Sponsoring Institutions and their residency and fellowship programs. To spur innovation, the ACGME will provide funding through a competitive award process.

“Given the rapidly evolving US health care system, the ACGME is committed to partnering with other organizations to cultivate best practices that define optimal learning environments in clinical settings,” said ACGME Chief Executive Officer Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP. “Pursuing Excellence will bring together stakeholders to drive innovation that ensures the high standard the American Public expects from its health care system.”

The ACGME will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) in February 2016 as part of the funding award process out of its Clinical Learning Environment Review (CLER) Program, and is currently inviting input from Sponsoring Institutions, via a Request for Information being issued today, to help shape this RFP.

“We are looking forward to leveraging the leadership and talent among our collaborators to achieve transformative improvements in the quality of the clinical learning environment,” said ACGME Senior Vice President, Institutional Accreditation Kevin B. Weiss, MD, MPH.

This ACGME-led initiative includes partnerships with 21 other national health care and education organizations seeking to rapidly improve the quality of the clinical learning environment in which physicians and other clinical professionals are trained. In addition to their commitment and support, partners will meet regularly and provide critical insights and expertise to inform the initiative over its four years. These partners include:

- Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME)
- Alliance of Independent Academic Medical Centers (AIAMC)
- American Association for Physician Leadership (formerly ACPE)

- American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM)
- American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS)
- American Hospital Association (AHA)
- American Medical Association (AMA)
- American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC)
- American Osteopathic Association (AOA)
- American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
- Association for Hospital Medical Education (AHME)
- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
- Association of Osteopathic Directors and Medical Educators (AODME)
- Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS)
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)
- Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)
- Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME)
- National Patient Safety Foundation (NPSF)
- Organization of Program Director Associations (OPDA)
- The Joint Commission (TJC)
- VHA-UHC Alliance NewCo., Inc. (formerly UHC)

Pursuing Excellence will bolster efforts underway across the medical education continuum to improve and enhance physician training in the US. The AMA's Accelerating Change in Medical Education Consortium, launched in 2013, is reshaping medical education to ensure future physicians are trained to care for patients in the 21<sup>st</sup> century health care system. Earlier this year, the AAMC announced a comprehensive and sustained effort to strengthen graduate medical education through its Optimizing Graduate Medical Education initiative. The five-year road map focuses on three strategic areas: investing in future physicians; optimizing the environment for learning care and discovery; and preparing physicians and physician scientists for the evolving demands of 21<sup>st</sup> century health care.

Additional information about Pursuing Excellence in Clinical Learning Environments, including a link to complete the Request for Information, is available at [www.acgme.org](http://www.acgme.org).

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*The ACGME is a private, non-profit, professional organization responsible for the accreditation of approximately 9,600 residency and fellowship programs and approximately 700 institutions that sponsor these programs in the United States. Residency and fellowship programs educate over 120,000 resident physicians in 130 specialties and subspecialties. The ACGME's mission is to improve health care and population health by assessing and advancing the quality of resident physicians' education through accreditation.*