

# GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION



**GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION (GME)** is the continuation of formal training for physicians after they have completed their medical school education. GME includes residency programs and fellowship programs for subspecialty training after residency. This training lasts typically from three to seven years.

UW Medicine, through its School of Medicine, is the largest sponsor of GME programs in the five-state region of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho (WWAMI). About 1,335 trainees participate in 25 residency and 76 clinical fellowship programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and four fellowships approved by the American Board of Medical Specialties. In addition, over 100 trainees participate in non-accredited clinical fellowship programs, many of which are approved by national specialty societies.

## ***Accredited UW School of Medicine training programs***

Current accredited residency programs (with number of subspecialty fellowship programs in parentheses) sponsored by the UW School of Medicine include:

- Anesthesiology (5)
- Dermatology (1)
- Emergency Medicine (1)
- Family Medicine (1)
- Internal Medicine – Boise
- Internal Medicine – Seattle (19)
- Medical Genetics
- Neurological Surgery
- Neurology (4)
- Nuclear Medicine
- Obstetrics & Gynecology (2)
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedic Surgery (2)
- Otolaryngology (1)
- Pathology (11)
- Pediatrics (16)
- Physical Medicine/Rehabilitation (3)
- Plastic Surgery
- Psychiatry (4)
- Radiation Oncology
- Radiology – Diagnostic (4)
- Surgery – General (3)
- Surgery – Thoracic (1)
- Surgery – Vascular (1)
- Urology (1)

### *GME training sites*

Among nearly 700 sponsoring institutions nationally, UW Medicine ranks 7th in the number of ACGME-accredited programs and 8th in the number of trainees.<sup>1</sup> Trainees are located at four primary teaching sites in Seattle: University of Washington Medical Center, Harborview Medical Center, Seattle Children's Hospital and the VA Puget Sound Health Care System. Numerous other community hospitals and clinics in Seattle and the greater WWAMI region also serve as important training sites for UW residents and fellows.



### *Building a strong physician workforce*

GME programs are essential to the creation and maintenance of the physician workforce population, and they play a vital role in reducing regional and national physician shortages. With research showing that the site of residency training is one of the strongest predictors of where physicians will practice after training, GME programs are strong drivers of regional physician workforce supply.

The Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) projects a shortage of more than 90,000 primary-care and specialty physicians nationally by the year 2020. With the exception of Western Washington, the physician workforce shortage is expected to be even more acute in the WWAMI region where the physician supply is already below the national average.<sup>2</sup>

### *GME funding: A good investment in community health*

Historically, the Medicare program has been the primary financier of graduate medical education in the United States, providing funding to teaching hospitals through Direct and Indirect Medical Education funding. This funding is critical to teaching hospitals, which provide life-saving services that are largely unavailable elsewhere in the community, including Level I trauma and burn centers and intensive care units.

### *Leadership team*

GME leaders are responsible for the administrative oversight and academic quality of UW's residency and clinical fellowship programs. They are committed to improving the quality of the learning environment for trainees and supporting the delivery of the highest quality care to patients.

- Byron Joyner, M.D., M.P.A., vice dean, GME
- Jennifer Best, M.D., F.A.C.P., associate dean, GME
- Amity Neumeister, M.B.A., assistant dean for accreditation, GME
- Cindy Hamra, J.D., assistant dean for operations & administration, GME

<sup>1</sup>ACGME, 2013–2014 Data Resource Book

<sup>2</sup>AAMC, 2011 State Physician Workforce Data Book