



November 28, 2017

Elisa Arespachoga  
Physician Leadership Forum Director  
American Hospital Association  
155 N. Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Ms. Arespachoga:

On behalf of the Internal Medicine Education Advisory Board (IMEAB), thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Verification of Graduate Medical Education Training (VGMET) form.

IMEAB is a collaborative of organizations with interests in academic internal medicine, including the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine, American Board of Internal Medicine, American College of Osteopathic Internists, American College of Physicians, American Medical Association, Association of American Medical Colleges, Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, Society of General Internal Medicine, and Society of Hospital Medicine.

IMEAB has a collective interest in modifying the terminology in section I of the VGMET form. Because IMEAB has found that program directors and credentialing organizations often have varying definitions of non-probationary remediation, these changes will enhance uniform interpretability. Given the permanence of data reported to state medical boards and potential credentialing-related barriers that may result, the recommendations seek to clarify conditions set forth in section I.

1. Add "If answering yes to any of the following questions in this section, comment in section II" to the instructions for section I.
2. Replace "Conditions or restrictions beyond those generally associated with the training regimen at your facility" with "Performance-related extensions in training, curtailment of clinical privileges, or formal probation."
3. Remove or modify "Involuntary leave of absence" to avoid complicating licensure for events unrelated to clinical readiness.

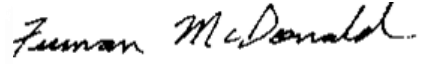
In addition, we felt that "frequently asked questions" document would improve comprehension for users. An example is enclosed with this letter.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the VGMET form. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact AAIM President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) D. Craig Brater, MD, at (703) 341-4540 or [AAIM@im.org](mailto:AAIM@im.org).

Sincerely,



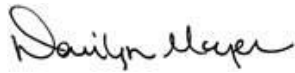
D. Craig Brater, MD  
President and CEO  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine



Furman S. McDonald, MD  
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American Board of Internal Medicine



Brian Donadio  
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American College of Osteopathic Internists



Darilyn V. Moyer MD, FACP  
Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer  
American College of Physicians

## FAQ for Completing the Verification of Graduate Medical Education Training

**Background:** A standardized “Verification of Graduate Medical Education Training” (VGMET) form has been developed through collaboration of multiple accrediting bodies. This form will be completed once, either at the time of completion of training (2016 and future graduates) OR at the time of the first request for verification (for pre-2016 graduates).

One question in Section I of the form has been the focus of many questions.

**“Was the trainee subject to any of the following during training? (i) Performance related extensions in training, curtailment of clinical privileges, or formal probation”.**

Programs and institutions have varying language for remediation activities, warnings, and other interventions used with resident physicians. Prior to answering this question, for any given status or action, ask yourself if the situation resulted in any of the outcomes listed in the question (a performance related extension in training, a curtailment of clinical privileges or formal probation).

**Example 1:** A resident received a formal warning while in training in my program resulting in one on one coaching by an associate program director while completing their previously scheduled clinical rotations. No further problematic behaviors occurred and the trainee graduated in good standing. How do I respond?

Performance-related extension in training? No

Curtailment of clinical privileges? No

Formal probation? No

**Final response** No

**Example 2:** A resident was required to repeat an educational experience or rotation to demonstrate satisfactory performance. The trainee did not need to extend training to accommodate this remediation.

Performance-related extension in training? No

Curtailment of clinical privileges? No

Formal probation? No

**Final response** No

**Example 3:** A resident was required to repeat six months of the PGY1 year to demonstrate satisfactory performance. The trainee extended training to accommodate this remediation.

Performance-related extension in training? Yes

Curtailment of clinical privileges? No

Formal probation? No

**Final response** Yes

**Example 4:** A resident's clinical privileges were suspended at a training site because of a complaint that was verified during an investigation. The resident could complete the training program through participation in other training sites.

Performance-related extension in training? No

Curtailment of clinical privileges? Yes

Formal probation? No

**Final response** Yes



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October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Gwen Pegram  
Academic Affairs Specialist  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine  
330 John Carlyle Street  
Suite 610  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Ms. Pegram:

Thank you for requesting feedback from our organization regarding the efforts of the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine to clarify questions on the Verification of Graduate Medical Education Training (VGMET) form.

We are in strong support of this effort.

Sincerely,

Mary Lien-Lai, MD, FAAP, FCCP  
Senior Vice President for Medical Accreditation  
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education  
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