



ACGME's Commitment Statement on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic

In recognition of the need for a national response to the epidemic of opioid addiction in the U.S., the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has joined the National Academy of Medicine, the Aspen Institute, and more than 55 other organizations to form the Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic.

The mission of the ACGME is to improve health care and population health by assessing and advancing the quality of resident physicians' education through accreditation. The ACGME accredits the programs and institutions that train the physicians of tomorrow and, in that role, is committed to prepare physicians to deliver safe, high-quality medical care to all Americans.

Through the development of professional educational standards for graduate medical education, the ACGME is dedicated to ensuring that the clinical learning environments in which residents and fellows train use protocols and procedures that are evidence-based, customized to the needs of the public, and effective in teaching residents and fellows how to:

- Prevent addiction when possible, while effectively treating pain
- Recognize addiction in its earliest stages
- Function effectively in systems of care
- Use non-pharmacologic means wherever possible
- Participate in clinical trials of new opioid pain relief

In support of addressing the opioid epidemic through education, ACGME President and CEO Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP will co-lead the health professional education and training working group of the Action Collaborative, one of four focused groups established to create a comprehensive action plan to address the epidemic.

The ACGME is committed to collaborating with health systems, providers, government representatives, and others across the medical continuum to share knowledge and advance solutions to address this very important issue.