***ALPHABET SOUP FOR COORDINATORS AND MORE…***

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| **ACRONYM** | **FULL NAME** | **PURPOSE** | **FUNCTION** | **URL – if applicable** |
| AAIM | Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine | Professional/ Education | The Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine is the consortium of five academically focused specialty organizations representing departments of internal medicine at medical schools and teaching hospitals in the United States and Canada. AAIM consists of the Association of Professors of Medicine, the Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine, the Association of Specialty Professors, the Clerkship Directors in Internal Medicine, and the Administrators of Internal Medicine. Representing departments of internal medicine at 143 medical schools and 263 teaching hospitals in the United States and Canada, AAIM represents department chairs and chiefs; clerkship, residency, and fellowship program directors; division chiefs; and academic and business administrators as well as other faculty and staff in departments of internal medicine and their divisions. | http://www.im.org/aaim/ |
| AAMC | Association of American Medical Colleges | Professional/  Education | Improvement of the nation’s health through the strengthening the quality of medical education and training, to enhance the search for biomedical knowledge, to advance research in health sciences and to integrate education into the provision of effective health care. | http://www.aamc.org/ |
| ABMS | American Board of Medical Specialties | Certifying/  Professional | An organization of 24 approved medical specialty boards.  ABMS coordinates the activities of its members boards and provides information to others concerning issues about specialization and certification of medical specialists. | http://www.abms.org/ |
| ACGME | Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education | Accrediting | Responsible for the accreditation of post MD medical training programs within the US, through a peer-review process and based upon established standards and guidelines. | http://www.acgme.org |
| ACP | American College of Physicians | Professional/  Education | The American College of Physicians is a national organization of internists — physicians who specialize in the prevention, detection and treatment of illnesses in adults. ACP is the largest medical-specialty organization and second-largest physician group in the United States. Its membership of 124,000 includes internists, internal medicine subspecialists, and medical students, residents, and fellows. | http://www.acponline.org |
| AHA | American Hospital Association | Professional | The American Hospital Association is the national organization that represents and serves all types of hospitals, health care networks, and their patients and communities. Close to 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and 37,000 individual members come together to form the AHA. | <http://www.aha.org/aha/about/index.html> |
| [AMA](http://www.aha.org/aha/about/index.html) | [Ame](http://www.aha.org/aha/about/index.html)rican Medical Association | Professional | National leader in promoting professionalism in medicine and setting standards for medical practice and ethics. | http://www.ama-assn.org/ |
| AOA | Alpha Omega Alpha | Honorary | National medical honor society. | http://www.alphaomegaalpha.org |
| APDIM | Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine | Professional/ Educational | The international organization of accredited internal medicine residency programs.  APDIM is a professional and educational organization dedicated to the promotion of excellence in internal medicine training.   APDIM has a membership of over 1,800 individuals from approximately 400 institutions. APDIMs’ members represent 95 percent of the accredited internal medicine residency programs within the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada. | http://www.im.org/APDIM/ |
| CMS | Cen[ter](http://www.aha.org/aha/about/index.html) for Medicare and Medicaid Services | Regulatory Government Agency | Federal agency responsible for administering the [Medicare](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medicare/), [Medicaid](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medicaid/), [SCHIP](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/schip/) (State Children's Health Insurance), [HIPAA](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/hipaa/) (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act), [CLIA](http://www.cms.hhs.gov/clia/) (Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments), and several other health-related programs. | <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medicaid/default.asp> |
| CMSS | Council for Medical Specialty Societies | Professional | Not for profit organization established to foster, promote, support, augment, develop and encourage improved quality and delivery of care and systems of medical education and communication among professional organizations.  Represents specialty societies on ACGME, ACCME, ABMS, CMFA, NBME, NRMP. Council consists of members from specialty societies having Boards recognized by ABMS | <http://www.cmss.org> |
| DEA | Drug Enforcement Administration | Licensure | Governmental agency responsible for providing licensure/certification to physicians for dispensing all controlled substances. | http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/ |
| ECFMG | Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates | Certifying | Assesses the readiness of international medical graduates to enter residency or fellowship programs in the US that are accredited by the ACGME. | http://www.ecfmg.org/ |
| ERAS | Electronic Residency Application Service | Service | On line application service used by medical graduates or medical students in their final year of medical school to apply for specialized graduate training in residency programs in the US. | http://www.aamc.org/students/eras/start.htm |
| FCVS | Federation Credentials Verification Service | Service | Collects, verifies and maintains information and copies of documents and records that can be provided to professional licensing boards, hospitals and other entities when applying for licensure, staff membership, employment or other privileges. | <http://www.fsmb.org/fcvs_program/cvrhome.htm> |
| FREIDA or  AMA FREIDA | Fellowship and Residency Electronic Interactive Database | Information | Database with over 7,800 graduate medical education programs accredited by the ACGME, containing information about residency and fellowship training programs, affiliated teaching institutions, training statistics and graduates career plans statistics. This database is owned and facilitated by the AMA. | http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/category/2997.html |
| FSMB | Federation of State Medical Boards | Professional | A national not-for-profit organization representing the 70 medical boards of the United States and its territories, including 14 state boards of osteopathic medicine whose mission is to provide continual improvement in the quality, safety and integrity of health care through the development and promotion of high standards for physician licensure and practice. | http://www.fsmb.org/ |
| HIPAA | Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1966 | Government | Protects health insurance coverage for workers and their families when they change or lose their jobs.  Established national standards for electronic health care transactions and addresses the security and private of health data. |  |
| JC | The Joint Commission | Accreditation | Independent non for profit organization that evaluates the quality and safety of care for more than 16,000 health care organizations.  Evaluates the organization’s performance in areas that affect care. On-site visits are done at least once every three years.  Sets the standards by which health care quality is measured. | http://www.jcaho.org/ |
| LCME | Liaison Committee on Medical Education | Accrediting | Nationally recognized authority for medical education programs leading to the M.D. degree in US and Canadian medical schools. | http://www.lcme.org/ |
| NBME | National Board of Medical Examiners | Certifying | Independent, not-for-profit organization that provides high quality examinations for the health professions – accepted by medical licensing authorities as the standard to judge candidates for medical licensure | http://www.nbme.org/ |
| NBOME | National Board of Osteopathic Medicine Examiners | Certifying | The NBOME is the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners. It's a nonprofit corporation dedicated to serving the public and state licensing agencies by administering examinations testing the medical knowledge of oste[o](http://www.nbome.org)pa[th](http://www.nbome.org)ic medical students and interns. | <http://www.nbome.org> |
| NRMP | National Resident Matching Program | Service | Private, non-for-profit corporation established to provide a uniform date of appointment to positions in graduate medical education in the US.  All US medical school graduates must register through NRMP for post graduate training. | http://www.nrmp.org/ |
| OPDA | Organization of Program Director Associations | Professional/  Education | Established to allow review and collaboration between disciplines on various GME topics. | http://www.cmss.org/index.cfm?p=display&detail=Organization%20of%20Program%20Directors |
| OSHA | Occupational Safety and Health Administration | Oversight | Governmental agency with mission to save lives, prevent injuries and protect the health of America’s workers, by establishing protective standards, enforcing standards and providing technical assistance and consultations to employers and employees. | http://www.osha.gov/ |
| RRC | Residency Review Committee | Accreditation | Under the policies and procedures of the ACGME, the RRC reviews residency programs to determine whether they are in substantial compliance with the Essentials of Accredited Residencies. | http://www.acgme.org |
| TAGME | Training Administrators of Graduate Medical Education | Certifying/  Education  Professional | To assure a comprehensive level of services, training, knowledge and leadership through certification for the administration of graduate medical education programs for physicians-in-training. | <http://www.tagme.org> |
| USMLE | United States Medical Licensing Examination | Certifying | Three step examination that assesses a physician’s ability to apply knowledge, concepts and principles that are important in health and disease, and that constitute the basis of safe and effective patient care. Used by medical licensing authorities in the US for granting initial license to practice medicine. | <http://www.usmle.org> |
| VA | Department of Veteran’s Association | Education | Supports over 8,600 resident FTE- about 10% of eligible specialty residents. | http://www.va.gov/ |

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***Program/Hospital Acronyms & General Terms***

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| **ACRONYM** | **FULL NAME** | **PURPOSE** | **DEFINITION/FUNCTION** | **URL – if applicable** |
| ADS | Accreditation Data System | Information/ Accrediting | An Internet based data collection system that contains the current data on file with ACGME for all sponsoring institutions and programs. Sponsors and accredited programs are required to verify and update general information annually in a secured environment. In addition, programs will be required to verify the accredited training of all residents and to communicate organizational changes as they occur.  ADS is also used to generate both the IM subspecialty and Common PIFs.  This database is owned and facilitated by the ACGME. | <https://www.acgme.org/ADS> |
| AOA | Alpha Omega Alpha | Honorary | National medical honor society. | http://www.alphaomegaalpha.org |
| APE | Annual Program Evaluation | Accreditation Requirement | As required by the ACGME Common Program Requirements (V.V. 1-3), each Program Director must appoint a Program Evaluation Committee (PEC) to complete an Annual Program Evaluation (APE). The APE is intended to promote a meaningful way for a program to meet ACGME Common Program Requirements while generating an action plan. More specifically this guide will help programs gather appropriate information needed for data analysis to ultimately drive quality improvement, at both the training program and institutional level. |  |
| COMLEX | Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination | Certifying | In order to more accurately measure the knowledge required by today's physicians, the NBOME initiated the three-level Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensing Examination (COMLEX-USA) to replace the former three-part NBOME examination series. The COMLEX is a three part exam. Each exam is administered over a two day period, and employs an osteopathic primary care approach to patient care fully integrated throughout the examination. | http://www.nbome.org/ |
| DIO | Designated Institutional Official | Oversight | Individual who has the authority and responsibility for the oversight and administration of the GME programs. | http:www.acgme.org |
| ECFMG Number | Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates | Certifying | The identification number assigned by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) to each international medical graduate physician who receives a certification from ECFMG. | <http://www.ecfmg.org/certification/index.html> |
| GME | Graduate Medical Education | Training | Specialized training for physicians after medical school graduation. | <http://www.gme.umn.edu/> |
| GMEC | Graduate Medical Education Committee | Oversight | The Institution maintains a Graduate Medical Education Committee (GMEC) to develop Institutional Policies relating to the Graduate MEDICAL Education Program and monitor ACGME Compliance of Residency Programs and adequacy of Institutional support. |  |
| GMED | Graduate Medical Education Directory | Resource Guide | Directory of graduate medical education programs.  Published by the AMA.  (The “Green Book”) | http://www.ama-assn.org/  Can be purchased from the AMA website, under the “Bookstore” link, or major booksellers such as Amazon or Barnes and Noble. |
| IMG | International Medical Graduate |  | A graduate from a medical school outside the United States and Canada (and not accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education). IMGs may be citizens of the United States who chose to be educated elsewhere or non-citizens who are admitted to the United States by US Immigration authorities. |  |
| IT Exam | In Training Exam | Education/ Training | Formative examinations developed to evaluate resident/fellow progress in meeting the educational objectives of a residency/fellowship program. These examinations may be offered by certification boards or specialty societies. |  |
| JC | The Joint Commission | Hospital Accreditation | Formally known as the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations or JCAHO, which evaluates and accredits health care organizations in the United States. |  |
| LON | Letter of Notification |  | The official communication from a Review Committee that states the action taken by the Review Committee. |  |
| MAA | Master Affiliation Agreement |  | A written document that addresses GME responsibilities between a sponsoring institution and a major participating site. |  |
| NF | Night Float | Resident Rotation | Rotation or educational experience designed to either eliminate in-house call or to assist other residents during the night. Residents assigned to night float are assigned on-site duty during evening/night shifts and are responsible for admitting or cross-covering patients until morning and do not have daytime assignments. Rotation must have an educational focus. |  |
| PEC | Program Evaluation Committee | Accreditation Requirement | The Program Director must appoint a Program Evaluation Committee, composed of at least two program faculty members and at least one resident. There must be a written description of its responsibilities. The Program through the PEC will document formal, systematic evaluation of the curriculum at least annually and is responsible for rendering an Annual Program Evaluation. |  |
| PD | Program Director |  | The one physician designated with authority and accountability for the operation of the residency/fellowship program. |  |
| PGY | Post Graduate Year |  | Refers to a resident's current year of accredited GME. This designation may or may not correspond to the resident’s particular year in a program. For example, a resident in pediatric cardiology could be in the first program year of the pediatric cardiology program but in his/her fourth graduate year of GME (including the 3 prior years of pediatrics.) |  |
| PIF | Program Information Form | Site Visit/  Accreditation | The PIF is the document completed by the program director in preparation for a site-visit. The document is a compilation of requested information that reflects the current status of the educational program. The PIF is organized in two parts: the Common PIF, which addresses the program’s compliance with the Common Program Requirements, and the specialty or subspecialty specific PIF, which addresses compliance with the specialty or subspecialty specific program requirements. The IM subspecialty and Common PIFs are electronically generated through the Accreditation Data System (ADS). |  |
| PLA | Program Letter of Agreement |  | A written document that addresses GME responsibilities between an individual accredited program and a site other than the sponsoring institution at which residents receive a required part of their education. |  |
| USMLE  Step 1 | USMLE Step 3 Examination | Certifying | Step 1 assesses whether you understand and can apply important concepts of the sciences basic to the practice of medicine, with special emphasis on principles and mechanisms underlying health, disease, and modes of therapy. Step 1 ensures mastery of not only the sciences that provide a foundation for the safe and competent practice of medicine in the present, but also the scientific principles required for maintenance of competence through lifelong learning. Step 1 is constructed according to an integrated content outline that organizes basic science material along two dimensions: system and process. | <http://www.usmle.org> |
| USMLE  Step 2  CS  CK | USMLE Step 2 Examination  Clinical Skills  Clinical Knowledge – (are part of this examination) | Certifying | Step 2 assesses whether you can apply medical knowledge, skills, and understanding of clinical science essential for the provision of patient care under supervision and includes emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention. Step 2 ensures that due attention is devoted to principles of clinical sciences and basic patient-centered skills that provide the foundation for the safe and competent practice of medicine. Step 2  CK is constructed according to an integrated content outline that organizes clinical science material along two dimensions: physician task and disease category.  Step 2 CS uses standardized patients, i.e., people trained to portray real patients. The cases cover common and important situations that a physician is likely to encounter in clinics, doctors’ offices, emergency departments, and hospital settings in the United States. | <http://www.usmle.org> |
| USMLE  Step 3 | USMLE Step 3 Examination | Certifying | Step 3 assesses whether you can apply medical knowledge and understanding of biomedical and clinical science essential for the unsupervised practice of medicine, with emphasis on patient management in ambulatory settings. Step 3 provides a final assessment of physicians assuming independent responsibility for delivering general medical care. Step 3 is organized along two principal dimensions: clinical encounter frame and physician task. Step 3 content reflects a data-based model of generalist medical practice in the United States. | http://www.usmle.org |