



The American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology
Application for Accreditation of Training Program
in
Renal Ultrasonography

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This application packet is composed of several parts:

- Requirements for accreditation
- Application form

Checklist (check all that are included with application)

- Completed application form
- Detailed description of training program

Faculty:

- Description of training and experience for each faculty member
- Curriculum vitae for each faculty member

Training:

- Description of training provided
- Compilation of the total and yearly number and type of studies
- Description of equipment and facilities
- Description of record keeping program
- Description of quality assurance program
- Application fee

The American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology Requirements for Accreditation of Training Program in Renal Ultrasonography

General

Rationale:

Training programs will be responsible for training new nephrology fellows in Renal Ultrasonography and can provide training resources for nephrologists who are already in practice. Therefore, it is essential that these programs meet specific requirements to assure that their graduates will be able to fulfill the training requirements for certification by the ASDIN.

Faculty:

Requirement - A faculty that is committed to the program will be required. Minimal basic requirements shall be:

- *At least one full-time faculty member who is certified by the American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology.*
- *Additional faculty must meet the requirements for certification by the American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology.*
- *At least 25 % of a full-time faculty equivalent committed to the ultrasonography program.*

All faculty participating in the training program must be formally identified. The curriculum vitae of these individuals and other information necessary to document qualifications must be submitted with the application.

Training:

Requirement –The training program must be formalized and organized. There should be a body of didactic material that is presented and a defined body of clinical work that is required of all trainees. There must be an organized formal mechanism for proctoring of trainees and a mechanism of evaluation to determine clinical competence.

Didactic material -

Requirement – Didactic material must be presented to a trainee that is either written, based upon lectures or both. This must be organized and formal. The material presented should include the following:

Basics of Ultrasound Physics

Instrumentation

Basic Ultrasound Interpretation

Interpretation of Renal Pathology

Proctoring -

Requirement – The trainee should be adequately supervised and proctored until they have gained sufficient clinical competence to make independent judgment and operate

independently. The duration of the proctored period will vary with the individual trainee but should be based upon formalized evaluation of progress.

Each trainee must perform and interpret at least 40 studies and must perform and/or interpret an additional 40 studies. This is the minimum number of supervised studies required for certification by the ASDIN. Additional studies are required for certification but do not need to be supervised. The following types of studies must be included, with a recommended number of studies included as a general guideline:

Native kidneys, diagnostic (at least 30)

Native kidney, biopsy guidance (at least 5)

Urinary bladder (at least 5)

Transplanted kidney (at least 15 if applying for accreditation in renal transplant sonography)

Evaluation –

Requirement - This must be an ongoing process during training and there should be some form of documented evaluation at the end of training. The trainee must be able to work unsupervised and be able to solve problems independently.

There should be evidence of a formalized record of evaluation which should include case numbers and the quality of the studies.

Volume of studies:

Requirement – A sufficient quantity of studies must be performed to ensure that each trainee will have the requisite experience and to ensure that a range of pathologies is encountered.

At least 300 formal studies on patients must be performed in the training program each year. For programs seeking accreditation in transplant sonography, at least 60 of these must be performed on transplanted kidneys.

Equipment and facilities:

Requirement – Training requires adequate scanning equipment that is properly maintained. Additional facilities necessary for proper training include a storage location for images, and teaching files, books, and other educational resources.

This shall require the following as a minimum:

Equipment –

At least one good-quality ultrasound scanner that is well maintained and available for exclusive use by the training program. The scanner must be appropriate for abdominal imaging and must have one or more probes that provide sound frequencies in the appropriate range (3-6 MHz for adults). The scanner must provide adequate image quality in a wide range of patients and provide images that can be stored (either hard-copy or digital).

Image storage -

There must be a dedicated location for image storage that is accessible and from which images are easily retrieved. Such storage can be in digital form.

Educational resources -

A teaching file, books, and other resources should be available to all trainees.

Reporting and record keeping:

Requirement - Reports of the procedures performed must be generated and placed in the patient's permanent medical record. These must also be stored along with the images in a retrievable format at the training center. Documentation of all procedures is a necessity. Each trainee should receive documentation of the number of studies performed of each type. Maintaining a computerized database is strongly recommended.

The training program must have a means of generating reports and maintaining permanent records of all studies performed. In addition to basic patient information, the reports must include all findings and an interpretation. The records should identify the trainees who performed the studies. The records must be retrievable in order to document the experience of the trainees, and for follow-up and quality assurance. These can be either paper-based or electronic. If the permanent records are electronic, an adequate mechanism for record back-up must be in place.

Quality Assurance:

Requirements - An ongoing quality assurance process is an essential part of any training program. This program should provide a systematic method to continuously assess and improve the performance and interpretation of sonograms.

There should be a documented process for evaluating the quality of the ultrasound examinations performed as well as the interpretation of the studies. At a minimum, there should be a mechanism in place to ensure that inadequate or inconclusive studies are repeated on a timely basis, that abnormal findings are followed to determine the accuracy of the interpretation, and that the appropriate individuals are notified when additional imaging is required for suspicious findings. Ideally, these capabilities would be incorporated into a computerized database.

Site visit:

Accreditation will require a site visit after the above criteria are met but not before 6 months after initiation of the program.

Accreditation interval

In order for the program to maintain its status with the American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology, it must be accredited every 5 years. The Accreditation Committee of the American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology will determine the process by which this is accomplished.

Application Fee

A fee of \$1,000 must accompany the application. This fee is nonrefundable. Checks should be made payable to The American Society of Diagnostic and Interventional Nephrology. This fee is to cover the expense of processing the application. Any travel costs incurred for the site visit will be reimbursed by the applicant.

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Identifying Information

Name of Training Program

Institution

Program Director

Address

City

State,

Zip Code

Description of Program

A detailed description of the training program must accompany the application. This should include a description of the didactic training as well as the clinical training.

Type of Program: Academic Private practice Industry

Date program was established _____

Number of physicians trained _____ (as of date of application)

Annual capacity of training program _____ (number of physician trainees)

Faculty (Curriculum vitae and letter describing interventional nephrology experience of each member of faculty must be submitted with application. In addition, there must be a letter from the Division Director or equivalent individual attesting that at least 0.25 of a full-time faculty equivalent will be devoted entirely to the ultrasound training program.)

Name

Name

Name

Name

Training Program – provide a written description explaining how the program fulfills the requirements.

Volume of studies - provide a compilation of the total and yearly number of studies of each type performed.

Equipment and facilities - provide a detailed description of available equipment and facilities that documents how the program fulfills the requirements.

Reporting and record keeping - provide a written description explaining how the program fulfills the requirements. Include copies of sample reports.

Quality Assurance Program - provide a written description explaining how the program fulfills the requirements.

Signature

I certify that the information contained herein is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Program Director

Date

Telephone Number

E-mail Address