

**Tales from the Front
Perspectives on an ACGME
Site Visit**

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V. Seenu Reddy, MD, MBA
UT Health Science Center
San Antonio, TX

Outline

- Unique Perspective
- The Site Visit Experience from Different Vantage Points
- Suggestions from Experience

Unique Perspective

- 10.5 Years of Residency
 - Straddled the Introduction of the 80 Hour Workweek
- Participated in Site Visits
 - General Surgery Resident
 - Thoracic Surgery Resident
 - Faculty / Associate Program Director
- ACGME Thoracic RRC Member/Reviewer
- ACGME Council of RC Residents
- ACGME Board of Directors
- UTHSCSA GME Committee
 - Q&A Committee

Site Visit is Not a Pejorative Term

- STSA – J. Kent Trinkle Lectureship
- Time to Showcase the Program
- Highlight What Your Division/Dept, Center or Institution Does Well
- Best Face Forward but not a Time to Camouflage the Program

PREPARATION IS THE KEY

■ Prepare your Paperwork

- Resident Case Logs
- Institutional Case Summary
 - $1 + 1 \neq 3$
- Conference Sign Ins
- Journal Clubs
- Simulation Labs
- Meetings Attended
- Research Publications
- ***Resident Evaluations

PREPARATION IS THE KEY

- If it is not documented it did not happen or is not happening on a regular basis
- The PC & PD must ensure that there is an adequate paper or electronic trail of all activities

PREPARATION IS THE KEY

- Prepare your Faculty, Staff and Residents
 - Explain the Purpose of the Site Visit
 - Explain What is in Your PIF to Your Faculty
 - Explain What is in Your PIF to Your Residents
 - “The PIF is the CV for your Program” JHC

The Site Visit

- Prepare your Schedule
 - Not the day for major cases or other meetings
- Make arrangements for Residents and Faculty

The Site Visit

- Be Prepared to Address Citations
- Have Ample Documentation
 - Easy and Organized Format
 - Prepare Binders and Summaries

Common Citations from the Site Visit

- Inadequate Call Rooms
- Inadequate Resident Space
- No evidence of Conference or Didactic Activity
- Poor Evaluation Methodology
- Resident work hours

80-Hour Work Week

- *"Wanted. Men for hazardous journey. Low wages. Bitter cold. Long hours of complete darkness. Safe return doubtful. Honor and recognition in the event of success."*
- Ernest Shackleton's 1907 ad in London's Times, recruiting a crew to sail with him on his exploration of the South Pole

80-Hour Work Week

- *One of the most common Citations*
- Need to have work hour logs
- Residents need to be given written work hour policies - - document this
- Call schedules have to reflect this
- PD must have a system to monitor

Recap

- Ideal Site Visit is a Showcase for the Program
- Preparation Is Key to Success
 - Ample Lead Time
 - Ample Resources
- Utilize Your DIO, GME Office and Fellow PDs to Enhance your Preparation

The Site Visit

**There will come a time when
you think everything is
finished. Yet that will be the
beginning.**

Louis L'Amour