



**Board of Directors
2015-2016**

Kristin M. Burkart, MD, MSc
President

Sunita Kumar, MD
President-Elect

Rolando Berger, MD
Immediate Past President

Rendell Ashton, MD
Vice-President

Doreen J. Addrizzo-Harris, MD
Secretary-Treasurer

Anna Brady, MD
Fellow Representative

Joyce Reitzner, MBA, MIPH
Executive Director

February 1, 2016

Thomas Nasca, MD, MACP
Chief Executive Officer
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education
515 N. State St, Suite 2000
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Dr. Nasca,

The Association of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Program Directors (APCCMPD) appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the impact of the ACGME's duty hour policy implemented in 2011.

We are all cognizant of recent publications like the systematic review published last year in the Journal of Graduate Medical Education (Bolster L, Rourke, L. JGME. September 2015: 349-363), that showed no improvement in patient safety outcomes and resident well being, as well as a negative impact on resident teaching and professionalism following the implementation of the ACGME duty hour regulations in 2011. We therefore applaud the ACGME's initiative to conduct this policy review and support the ongoing multicenter randomized trials, iCOMPARE and FIRST on this issue. We recommend waiting for the results of these trials before any additional amendments to the duty hour policy. At this time the APCCMPD does not have any data on the impact of the duty hour regulations specific to the training of fellows in pulmonary and critical care, to make a formal recommendation.

On behalf of the APCCMPD, I accept and look forward to participating in the upcoming Resident Duty Hours in the Learning and Working Environment Congress in March 2016 in Chicago. Please feel free to contact me if there are any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Sunita Kumar, MD
President-Elect
Association of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Program Directors

APCCMPD
559 West Diversey Parkway
Chicago, IL 60614
Phone: (877) 301-6800

Email: joycereitzner@apccmpd.org
www.apccmpd.org