

The Common Fellowship Application: The Critical Care Medicine Perspective

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Disclosure

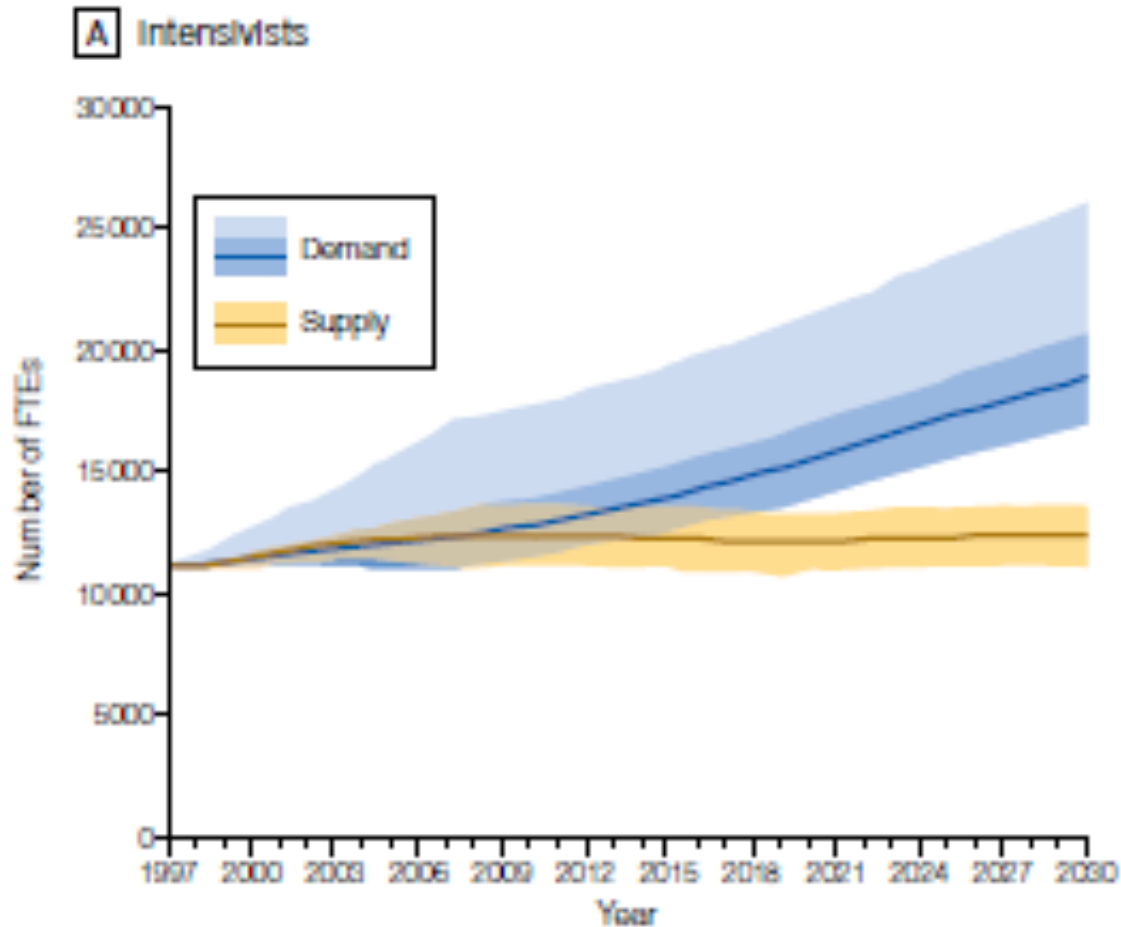
I have no financial relationships to disclose.

ASCCA Program Directors' Forum

Current Areas of emphasis:

- Fellow Recruitment
- Innovative/Integrated Programs
- ERAS/NRMP
- Echo and ultrasound curricula
- Duty hours

State of the Specialty



Critical Care Fellowships

- Currently 45 critical care anesthesia fellowships – decrease over past 5 years
- ~120 fellowship positions
- 62 fellows in 2009 (69 last year)
 - 63% US grads

Critical Care Fellowships

- Many fellowships have only one position
- Many fellowships frequently have no fellows
- Many smaller fellowships are limited to internal candidates



Discussion Points:

Many fellowships are co-administered with programs already using ERAS/NRMP (Critical Care – IM; Pulmonary Critical Care Medicine; Surgical Critical Care)

- ERAS will improve administrative efficiency

Discussion Points:

General consensus that information gathered by ERAS will fit the needs of all programs

General consensus that “mechanics” of ERAS are practical for all programs

Discussion Points:

NO consensus on application timeline

- Many excellent candidates declare interest early in the CA-2 year (or before)
- Programs also rely on candidates declaring interest later in the CA-2 year or in the CA-3 year
- Candidates may want to apply for sequential fellowships at once

Programs want to maintain autonomy and flexibility

Discussion Points:

- Some programs have defined “off cycle” spots
- There are many “off cycle” applicants
 - Staggered-start core programs
 - Military applicants
 - Practicing anesthesiologists

Discussion Points

If individual program flexibility is to be maintained, will the June hiatus be problematic?

- Would the purging of data be a concern at the program OR applicant level?
- Would an excessive number of “outside of ERAS” applications adversely impact the required quota of programs?

Discussion Points:

A candidate is only interested in one program – would the cost of ERAS be a deterrent?


A program only takes internal candidates, or may frequently have no applicants – is year to year variability in number of applications through ERAS a concern?

Summary

- Some strong interest in adopting ERAS
- Most are amenable so long as individual program flexibility can be maintained

NRMP

- CCM suffers from some of the same issues that have already been mentioned
 - Varying interview seasons
 - Some programs with “exploding” offers
- Strong divergence of opinions

A blue-outlined star shape with a white fill, centered on a white background. The star has seven points and is oriented with one point at the top. Inside the star, the text "Encourage your interested residents to pursue further training in critical care!!" is written in a black, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and vertically.

Encourage your
interested residents to
pursue further training
in critical care!!