



Society of Breast Imaging Creates the First Breast Imaging Fellowship Match

June 9, 2016

RESTON, VA — The Society of Breast Imaging (SBI) today announced the creation of the Breast Imaging Fellowship Match Program which impacts more than 150 residents applying for breast imaging fellowship positions. The first match takes place in 2017 for the 2018 appointment year. The SBI serves as the sponsoring organization with the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP) managing the match process.

More than 70 breast imaging fellowship programs from across the country are participating, offering roughly 90 percent of available breast imaging fellowship positions through the match.

In 2014 during the RSNA conference SBI fellows discussed the need to improve the current interview and offer process for residents applying to breast imaging fellowship programs. Out of that meeting the SBI created the Breast Imaging Fellowship Committee that was charged with finding ways to simplify and streamline the matching process. More recently the committee expanded and now includes 14 program directors in support of the match. As a result of the committee's hard work, the first Breast Imaging Fellowship Match takes place in March, 2017.

“As the preeminent organization for Breast Imaging, the SBI leadership realizes it is time to ensure a fair and transparent fellowship-interviewing process for future breast imagers. The creation of the match provides residents with enough time and exposure to breast imaging before making a decision about pursuing a fellowship,” said Gary Whitman, MD, Chair of the Breast Imaging Fellowship Committee. “It also alleviates some of the unnecessary stress and anxiety for the next generation of breast imagers. They will no longer have to interview and accept offers for breast imaging fellowships two years before the fellowship actually begins.”

The match benefits breast imaging fellowship programs by allowing program directors to rank the best candidates interested in their institutions. It eliminates the race to interview candidates earlier and earlier in their careers alleviating the pressure to make a decision before completing all interviews.

The Breast Imaging Fellowship Match is now the third subspecialty radiology match with the NRMP, joining vascular/interventional and neuroradiology subspecialties.

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About the Society of Breast Imaging:

The Society of Breast Imaging (SBI), established in 1985, is a professional medical organization dedicated to improving the practice of breast imaging and the quality of medical education in breast imaging. The SBI also provides a medium for the exchange of ideas among those involved in breast imaging. The SBI includes leading national and international breast imaging specialists among its membership.

For more information about the Breast Imaging Fellowship Match, please contact Holly Suthers at hsuthers@sbi-online.org.

For media inquiries, please contact Kesha L Willis at kwillis@sbi-online.org.