

Pediatric Pain Medicine: The Landscape of Current Fellowship Programs In the United States

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BACKGROUND

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115



Pain Medicine
ACGME-Accredited
Fellowship Programs

Society for Pediatric Pain Medicine

11



Pediatric Pain
Fellowship
Programs

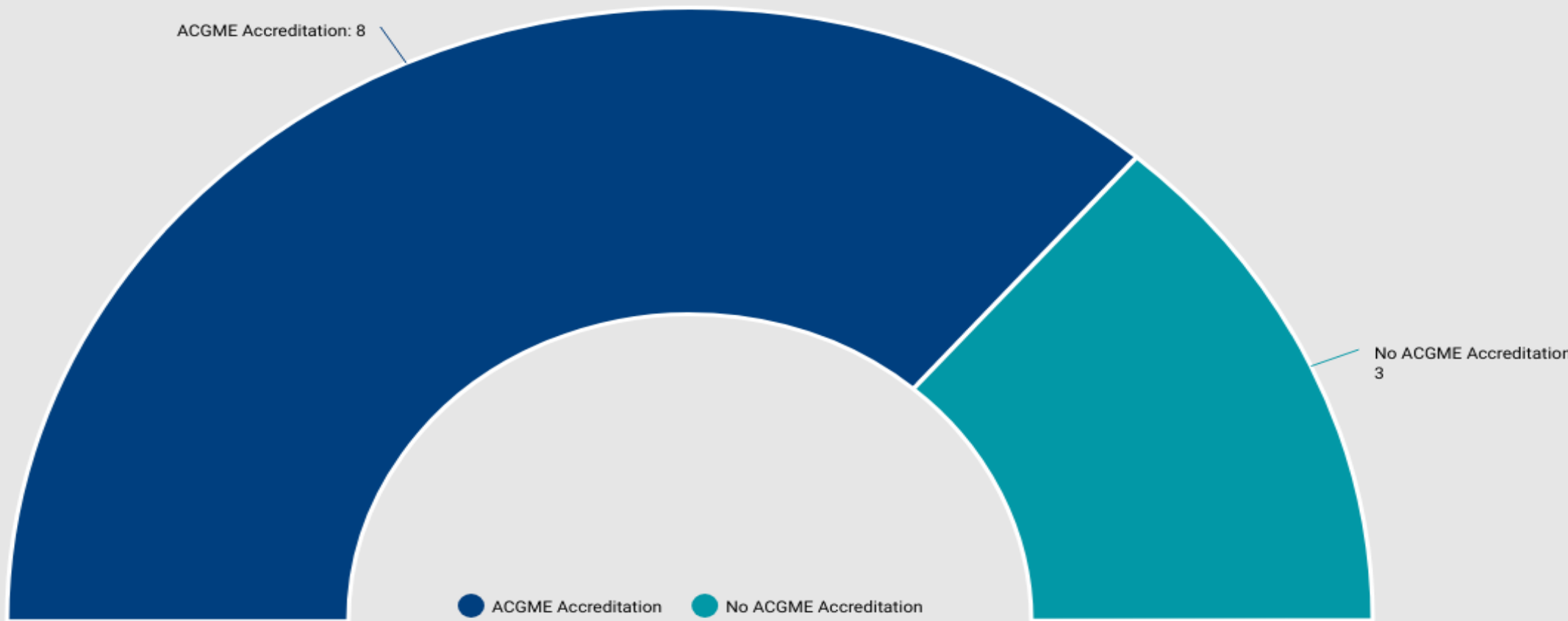
There is also little current literature evaluating the landscape of pediatric pain medicine fellowship programs.

Our review may be one of the first analyses of the current structure of pediatric pain medicine fellowship programs in the United States.

METHODS

- List of pediatric pain fellowships developed from fellowship directory available through following associations: Society for Pediatric Pain Medicine, Association of Pain Program Directors, and American Society of Regional Anesthesia and Pain Medicine
- Programs accounted for if there was emphasis on pediatric pain training
- 11 fellowship programs were yielded from search
- Each program analyzed from available information on program's website page and from directories mentioned previously
- Information included are ACGME accreditation, year established, acute and chronic pain exposure, interventional training, patient demographics, applicant specialties, fellowship positions, multidisciplinary exposure, and adult and pediatric training

RESULTS



Graph 1: Pediatric Pain Fellowship Program Overview

Program	Patient Demographic (adult, children, or both)	Applicant Specialties	# of Positions Available	Multidisciplinary Exposure	Fellowship Program Design: Adult and Pediatric Time Frame
A	Both	Anesthesiology, Neurology, PMR, or Psychiatry	2	Yes	12 month duration of which 6 months is adult-focused and 6 months is pediatric-focused.
B	Both	Anesthesiology, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Neurology	Not specified	Yes	12 month duration of which equal time is spent in adult and pediatric pain.
C	Both	Not specified	2	Yes	12 month duration focused mainly pediatric.
D	Both	Not specified	1 out of 3 is a pediatric-focused position	Yes	12 month duration of which 6 months is pediatric-focused at Children's National Hospital and the other 6 months is adult-focused at GW and DCVA.
E	Both	Anesthesiology, or Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	2	Yes	12 months duration equally divided into adult and pediatrics.
F	Both	Not Specified	1	Yes	12 months duration, majority pediatrics. Minimal adult-focus.
G	Both	Not specified	2	Yes	Mainly pediatric focused. Dual pediatric anesthesia and pain medicine fellowship provided.
H	Both	Completion of pediatric anesthesiology fellowship	1	Yes	Pediatric 80% focus and adult 20% focus.
I	Both	Anesthesiologists, pediatricians, physiatrists, psychiatrists, neurologists	1	Yes	Pediatric heavily focused with some adult exposure.
J	Both	Anesthesiology, PM&R, Neurology, Psychiatry	Not indicated	Yes	6 months pediatric-focused and 6 months adult-focused.
K	Pediatric	Pediatric anesthesiologist training preferred	1	Yes	Pediatric-focused

Table 1: Pediatric Pain Fellowship Program Design

Program	ACGME Accreditation	Year Established	Acute and Chronic Pain Exposure (chronic pain or both)	Interventional Training Exposure
A	Yes	2008	Both	Yes
B	Yes	2017	Both	Yes
C	Yes	2022	Chronic Pain; not specified for acute pain	Yes
D	Yes	Not noted	Both	Yes
E	Yes	Not noted	Both	Yes
F	No	Not noted	Both	Yes
G	Yes	Not noted	Both	Yes
H	No	Not noted	Both	Yes
I	Yes	2016	Both	Yes
J	Yes	Not noted	Both	Yes
K	No	Not noted	Both	Yes

Table 2: Pediatric Pain Fellowship Program Overview

CONCLUSION

- Pediatric pain medicine is developing, and most pediatric pain fellowships have developed in past decade
- Many pediatric pain fellowships are divided into half pediatric and adult pain management in one year, which may be inadequate. Similar to adult pain fellowship, pediatric pain fellowships should consider one year focused on pediatric pain management
- Consideration in promoting other education opportunities, having non-ACGME accredited fellowship training, or expanding fellowship time. Also, standardization of fellowship training is necessary.
- Pediatric pain medicine not well-known, so challenging for trainees to gain insight into subspecialty
- Some ways to promote pediatric pain include having greater social media presence, and forming initiatives at various associations
- Further collaboration is needed between societies such as ASRA Pain Medicine and Society of Pediatric Pain Medicine
- During residency, there should be formal introduction of pediatric pain medicine. May provide insight and exposure while recruiting future applicants
- Expanding pediatric pain medicine training to pediatric-trained applicants can help build a more robust workforce.