



# Your Most Pressing IRD Questions ANSWERED!



An educational resource brought to you by Margie Kleppick, President & CEO

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*We're taking a break from the Top 10 Tip articles to try something new!! Let us know what you think of this Q&A format.*

*Let's take a look at four of the most recent and frequently asked questions clients approach me with related to their IRD.*

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**Q:** I have heard that some program directors review the ACGME Resident Survey with their residents before the residents take the survey. Is this allowed?

**A:** Yes, it is allowed. In fact, it is encouraged!

During the ACGME Conference in March, 2009, I attended a session on the Resident Survey and the speaker from the ACGME stated that they (ACGME) encourage program directors to review the survey with the residents to be sure that they understand the questions. This is not to say that the program director should tell the residents how to respond to the questions.

Use the survey as an educational tool for residents and faculty. You should also use the results of the survey to identify areas of concerns and address them.

**Q:** What is the difference between Question 30a and 30b of the IRD?

**A:** Question 30a asks you to "Describe how the SI facilitates that each program provides effective educational experiences for residents that lead to measurable achievement of educational outcomes in the ACGME competencies (ACGME Outcome Project – Phase 3)." They are asking you what education/resources you provide the program in order to achieve these experiences. An example of this would be the institution providing a Simulation Center where the residents can develop skills that are measurable, etc. Explain what the facility provides and how the residents are taught/evaluated, and how the outcomes are linked to program improvement or patient care, etc. Question 30b asks you to "Describe how the SI monitors that each program provides effective educational experiences for residents that lead to measurable achievement of educational outcomes in the ACGME competencies." They are asking you how the SI monitors the programs to be sure they are using the education/facilities, etc. An example of this may be that the SI, during the Internal Review, looks at the program's evaluation tools used for the Simulation Center experience and determines if they are evaluating residents and using the outcomes to improve the program and/or patient care.

**Q:** Can we use the Hospital's Disaster Policy as Attachment 5 for the IRD?

**A:** Yes and no – Yes, if the Hospital's Disaster Policy addresses the administrative support for GME programs and residents, as well as assistance for continuation of resident assignments in the event of a disaster. My experience with this indicates that "most" Hospital Disaster Plans do NOT address the necessary areas in the requirements; therefore, you could not use this policy until you add the necessary information regarding administrative support for GME program and residents.

If you go to the [Partners' website](http://Partners' website), and look for the Top 10 articles posted there, you will see tips to create a useful GME Disaster Policy.

**Q:** There is a question in the IRD (Q5e) that asks me to explain how the annual report is provided to the participating sites, which are not also sponsors of GME programs. What do you think the ACGME is looking for?

**A:** The ACGME wants to know how you provide the reports and they want to be sure that the report contains all of the required elements which are listed in Q5c. Note that in addition to the above, you must be able to verify that the report was presented to the major participating site's governance body. A way to do this is to ask them for a copy of the minutes where the annual report was discussed with the governing body.

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## ADVANCED IRD TELECOURSE!

IRD Update – What's New

Thursday, August 6, 2009  
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. ET – one 1.5 hr. session

Register at [www.PartnersInMedEd.com](http://www.PartnersInMedEd.com)