

This document contains detailed information as it relates to Residency Training Program variances approved by the Board of Regents as recommended by a working group of past RTP committee Chairpersons. Please note that the variances listed below are valid until June 30th, 2021.

Variances which affect all specialties:

CM	Possible Variance	Rationale
4.F.4 Supervision	Modify so that remote supervision may count	Allow diplomates in appropriate other specialties to co-supervise when specialty diplomate is remote
4.F.5 Milestones	Remind all PD's that these are aspirational	Not actual requirements
4.F.7 Onsite training	See above	As long as there is an acceptable diplomate onsite, the primary SD may supervise remotely
4.F.10 Journal Club	Possible variance includes teleconferencing and programs having joint JC	Still requires presence of at least one Boarded SD in the specialty to be part of the conference
4.F.11 Training Weeks	Allow partial weeks (1/2 week divisions) Allow 2 half weeks in same calendar week	Allow a resident to have ½ week of directly supervised clinical training and ½ week of nonclinical training, e.g. research, study during the same 7-day period. Each specialty will set their own specific requirements Waive requirement for contiguous weeks.
Study Time	Allow non-contiguous Still required May defer to 2021	Although not stated in Section 4, all specialties do require study time. In some specialties it must be contiguous weeks. Allow non-contiguous weeks.
4.G.3 Scheduling the Examination	Open ended -	At present this is not a concern, if programs are required to delay start of residencies then may need to address this as it could affect numbers of months completed before exam registration

Cardiology:

CM	Possible Variance	Rationale
5.A.4.c Direct Supervision	Permit remote supervision on limited basis	Meets public health needs and still permits training
5.A.7.b Cardiology Structured Education	Permit certain on-line and remote conferences	Allows training to continue
5.A.7.c Supplemental Educational Experiences	Waive requirement to attend at least one ACVIM Forum	Only for 2 nd and 3 rd year residents
5.B.1 Distribution of Training Time	No variance	
5.B.13 Credentials Submission	May need to be addressed if programs start late	Future Consideration

Large Animal Internal Medicine

CM	Possible Variance	Rationale
6.K Training Weeks	None needed	May become an issue if sites close, can be addressed then
6.I.2 Journal Club	Allow remote conference	Allow them to continue, no variance needed on number of hours
6.I.6 CWA's	None needed	
6.K.3.a Radiology and Ultrasonography	Remote training permitted	Will allow hours to be met
6.K.3.b Pathology	Remote Training permitted	Will allow hours to be met
6.I.7 Publication Requirement	None needed	
6.K.3 Research and Scholarly Activity	Remote delivery permitted	
6.E.3 Continuing Education	Remote delivery permitted	
6.E.3 Formal Conference Presentation	No variances – however allow remote delivery	
6.E.3 Exam Review/Prep	Remote delivery permitted	
6.M Evaluations	No variance permitted	Residents should be reviewed on schedule, even if remotely
6.K Supervision by ACVIM Diplomates	No variance needed	May become issue with travel restrictions, as some programs have residents meet this at more than one site. Will watch
6.K.2 Training in other areas	No variance needed	As requirements can be met in less than 3 years, not expected to be an issue

Neurology

CM	Possible Variance	Rationale
7.C.1 Non Traditional Programs	Currently allow 5 years to complete. May need to provide one year extensions? Consider relaxing 4 week block requirement	With travel restrictions, not all residents may be able to relocate for the required 4 week blocks.
7.C.5 Supervising Diplomate	Allow some remote supervision. Non-boarded individuals may NOT be an SD	Allowing careful remote supervision can provide adequate training
7.C.7 Training Week	See section 4.F.11	
7.D.1.c Didactic Learning	Allow Remote, online, electronic conferences, primarily RACE approved	Virtual journal club and other remote learning opportunities are permitted.
7.D.4 Supervising Diplomate Responsibilities	SD must ensure that resident on clinic duty has access to video-conferencing consultation	Allows resident to continue to get specialty consultations with other specialists and maintain physical distancing.
7.E.5 Unsupervised Time	Continue to provide 8 weeks, may consider allowing non-contiguous time	Protect study time while still permitting practice to function
7.E.5 Training in other fields	Allow for partial weeks	

Oncology

CM	Possible Variance	Rationale
8.G.4 SI requirements	Allow remote contact with SD	Permits continued physical distancing
8.H Distribution of time in Training	No change	It appears to be a reasonable requirement with change in Training Week. If can't meet, then extra weeks will need to be added to end of program
8.I Training Weeks	Allow partial weeks Allow split weeks, one part specialty/clinical, second part other requirement Full week: >32 hours Partial week: >16 hours	Allows for greater flexibility to meet physical distancing requirements and also allows residents to continue forward progress
8.I Training Weeks	Will accept 1 week blocks	Previously time needed to be acquired in 2 week blocks, that is not always possible with physical distancing recommendations
8.K Rounds	Allows for remote rounds	Permits rounds requirements to be met, allowing forward progress
8.L Intensive Clinical Training	No variance	As remote mentorship is permitted, this requirement remains feasible
8.M Clinical Training-Other Specialties	Allows for remote training with appropriate specialist as SD (only if that specialty is NOT available at the training institution - we will need a letter from the RA supporting the virtual format, including documentation of intended daily interactions/how the time will be spent. The expectation is that the resident attends daily rounds/case discussions, performs literature reviews/attends virtual JC and discusses cases under (remote) supervision of RA just like he/she would do in person. A full week is considered a minimum of 32 hours during the pandemic so we would expect the resident to spend that amount of time working on rotation related matters. We will also need a letter	Allows for appropriate physical distancing and also recognizes that many of these experiences are at secondary locations, which may not permit residents to come on site during current restrictions. Allows residents to continue to make forward progress.



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	<p>from the resident post rotation documenting how the time was spent signed off by the RA to ensure satisfactory completion) Allows for 1 week blocks, allows for case studies, rounds, etc. as supervised by RA and appropriate SD if cases are not being seen</p>	
8.N Unsupervised time	No variance	This should not be affected by current situation
8.O Research	No Variance	Should not be affected
8.P Journal Club	Remote and video conferencing approved	This change allows resident experiences to continue.
8.Q Seminar, Lecture, Conferences	<p>Allow a one-year exemption if conference scheduled Mar – July 2020. Allows for decrease from 4 times/month to 2 times/month from Mar – July 2020</p>	Should permit continued forward progress with residency training programs.
8.R CE meeting	No variance	Unless physical distancing extends far into the future, this requirement should still be feasible
8.S Formal Exam Reviews	No variance	As residents can attend both VCS and Forum, along with approved on-line (ACE Science of Oncology) review sessions, this remains feasible
Not in CM	Telemedicine is permitted as long as SD is directly overseeing	
Residency Trained as SD	Not permitted	Must have a board-certified SD. This can be a remote SD with the Residency Trained person as a secondary trainer for weeks that boarded SD is not on clinics – Boarded SD must be available and actively engage in remote supervision during those times.

Small Animal Internal Medicine

CM	Possible Variance	Rationale
9.C.1.b Facilities	No variance needed	
9.C.1.c Didactic Learning	Allow remote conferences	Will permit continued forward progress
9.C.1.d Supporting disciplines	No variance needed	These can be scheduled in the future, so should still be able to be met
9.C.1.e Secondary Training sites	No variance needed	Need to be aware when scheduling to be certain that resident will be able to travel and that site is accepting outside residents
9.C.2 PD responsibilities	No Variance Needed	
9.C.3 Responsibilities of Resident Advisor	No Variance Needed	
9.C.4 Responsibilities of SD	Allow for second internist to be available for remote mentoring, provided one internist is physically on site	Still requires that program have 2 internists on staff, accepts that physical distancing may not permit both to be in same building on each day. Permits continued forward progress of resident
9.C.5.a Patient Care	No Variance needed	
9.C.5.b Journal Club	Teleconferencing is permitted, requires that at least on diplomate be present for conference	Allows continued forward progress
9.C.5.c Clinical Case Conference	Variance to allow remote rounding and advice on case management	Provides continued patient care with physical distancing
9.C.5.d Publication Requirement	No Variance required	
9.F.1 Intensive Clinical Training in SAIM	Variance required to permit atypical work weeks. A week may be acquired over a 14-day span. May also combine training segments in same 7 day span, e.g. study/research days interspersed with clinical training	Allows residents to continue progress while permitting physical distancing



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	Variance also permits remote direct supervision when appropriate	
9.F.2 Clinical Training in other Specialties	Variance permitting previous (GIG) permission to allow contact hours during residency rather than set blocks of time Variance also permits a week to be completed over a two-week time span Variance to not require two contiguous "weeks" of training, may accrue two individual "weeks" separated by time	Permits continued physical distancing and continuation of training
9.F.3 Other training, research, study	Allows non-continuous training with radiologists and pathologists. 40 hours may be accumulated over a two week span	
9.F.4 Research and Scholarly Activity	See 9.F. 1 above	
9.F.5 Protected Study Time	Study time for 3 rd year residents is preserved. May transfer 2 nd years study time to year 3 and combine (total of 8 weeks). Variance so that time no longer needs to be contiguous weeks	
Vacation	No variance needed	
CM vs RTP	If a programs RTP requirements exceed the CM and the RTP wishes to amend their RTP to waive the requirements in excess of the CM, the RTP must submit paperwork requesting a variance	Permits programs with requirements in excess of CM flexibility in awarding residency certificates if physical distancing may block completion of specific program requirements that are in excess of the CM