

# The ABS in 2007: Review and Update

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Association of Residency Coordinators in Surgery  
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## Rosters, orders, and verification

What	Why	When	How
Rosters	■ Who is where ■ OK completion	July	Edits plus sign offs
Orders	ABSITE	October	On-line
Verification	Eligible chiefs	March	Sign off + edit exceptions

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## The importance of the verification

- ABS will only approve number of resident positions approved by RRC
- Application packets will only include info for residents on previous rosters
- ABS may not be aware of RRC actions
- To avoid problems, send copies of RRC actions to ABS at time of such approval

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## Reporting operative experience

- ABS and ACGME to share SOL data
- Submit SOL hard copy (or complete ABS operative experience form) with application
- Applications can be sent at anytime ABS minimums are met – no need to wait.
- Separate PD signature not required
- No other formats acceptable

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## 2007 application deadlines

	Early	Late
GS QE	May 1	June 1
PS QE	July 2	July 16
VS QE	July 2	July 16
SCC CE	July 2	July 16

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## 2007 examination dates

GS QE	Thursday, August 9
PS QE	Monday, October 1
VS QE	Monday, October 1
SCC CE	Monday, October 1

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## Examination registration

- Promptly register (no reply card) and submit payment of separate examination fee (\$700)
- Examinees to schedule examination center with Pearson VUE but need Test Admission Authorization letter from ABS to do so
- Block released on June 8
- Register early!!!!

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## Very important!

- Keep ABS up-to-date on resident changes of both snail mail and e-mail addresses
- Can do so online at ABS website under "My Record" and "Update Personal Info"

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## ABSITE Issues

- Single registration/test form worked well
- Match answer sheets to test book
- Timely return of test books and seating charts
- PD vs. direct resident communication
- Maintaining scores
- On-line administration?

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## Understanding the New ABSITE

- APDS Panel Session III:  
The New ABS In-Training Examination
- Friday, April 13, 11:15 am – 12:25 pm

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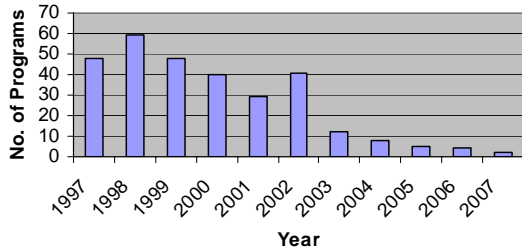
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**No. of Programs with "Suspicious Matches"**



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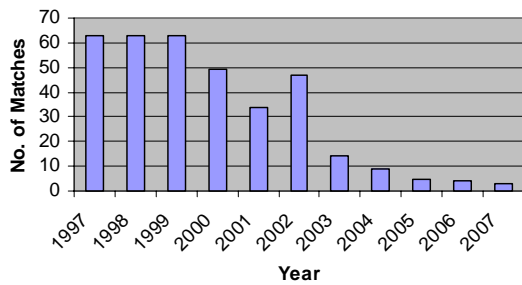
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**No. of "Suspicious Matches"**



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## Breaches in QE security

- *Teaching to the test* vs. *teaching the test*
- Change in examination development
- 2007 QE will again be all new items
- Change in examination scoring
- 8 hour examination (four 2 hour sessions) with 310 questions

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## ABS Guide to Multiple Choice Examinations

[www.absurgery.org/xfer/ABSTestGuide.pdf](http://www.absurgery.org/xfer/ABSTestGuide.pdf)

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## Calculating QE Pass Rates

### General University Hospital Program Results: 2001-2005

Most Recent Exam Taken	Total # Examined	# Passed	# Failed
1st Exam	25	23	2
2nd Exam	4	2	2
3rd Exam	1	0	1
<b>Program Total :</b>	<b>30 Examinees</b>	<b>25 Pass</b>	<b>5 Fail</b>

23 of 30 Examinees for Total Program Passed QE on their 1st Attempt ( 77% )

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## Calculating CE Pass Rates

### General University Hospital Program Results: 2001-2005

Most Recent Exam Taken	Total # Examined	# Passed	# Failed
1st Exam	20	20	0
2nd Exam	3	3	0
3rd Exam	1	1	0
<b>Program Total :</b>	<b>24 Candidates</b>	<b>24 Pass</b>	<b>0 Fail</b>

20 of 24 Candidates for Total Program Passed CE on their 1st Attempt ( 83%)

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## Calculating Combined Pass Rates - 1

- Identify how many of the 23 residents who passed the QE on their first attempt who also passed the CE on their first attempt (e.g., 19)
- Divide that number by the total number of QE examinees (i.e., 30)
- $19/30 = 63\%$

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## Calculating Combined Pass Rates - 2

- If individual failed **either** QE or CE on their first attempt s/he is considered unsuccessful
- If individual passed **both** QE or CE on their first attempt s/he is considered successful
- If individual passed QE but has not yet taken the CE, s/he is also considered successful

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### Studying Resident Attrition

- Prospective national study on who, why, and when
- Phase I - interview a random sample of residents who left Surgery in 2005-'06 in order to develop a survey instrument
- Phase II – prospective study of all Surgery residents in US , identifying and interviewing all residents who drop out or are terminated

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### Lunch Presentation on Attrition

- 11:45 am – 12:40 pm today
- Reserve a space at the registration desk
- Drs. Lewis, Bell, and Yeo

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The ABS greatly appreciates your efforts and cooperation and congratulates you on your 20th anniversary!

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