What Is the Impact of Postinterview Communication Between Critical Care and Pulmonary Medicine Fellowship and Program Directors?

**STUDY DESIGN**
Survey after 2022 to 2023 National Resident Matching Program specialty match on postinterview communication

Assessed frequency, format, goals, and content of postinterview communication between critical care medicine (CCM) and pulmonary and critical care medicine (PCCM) applicants and program directors (PDs)

**RESULTS**

**33% response to survey**
- Fellows (n=373) 34%
  - CCM 19%, PCCM 69%, both 12%
  - PDs (n=86) 32%
  - CCM 17%, PCCM 57%, both 26%

**Impact of postinterview communication on rank order list**
- Did impact
  - 21% Fellows
  - 17% PDs
- No impact on rank order list
  - 73% Fellows
  - 83% PDs

**Postinterview communication initiated by:**
- Fellows (66%)
- PDs (49%)

**Challenges** identified by both groups for postinterview communication included:
- Time
- Lack of uniformity
- Peer pressure
- Misleading language
- Uncertainty about motives, rules, and response protocols

Postinterview communication is common among CCM/PCCM applicants and PDs. Both applicants and PDs desire clearer guidance on postinterview communication to minimize ambiguous and misleading communication.