

To champion the prevention,
diagnosis, and treatment of chest
diseases through education,
communication, and research.

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June 28, 2021

Thomas Nasca, MD, MACP
President and Chief Executive Officer
ACGME

Dear Dr. Nasca,

We are writing on behalf of the American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST) to express our organizational support for the proposal from the American Association for Bronchology and Interventional Pulmonology (AABIP) and Association of Interventional Pulmonology Program Directors (AIPPD) for ACGME recognition of a new sub-specialty in interventional pulmonary medicine.

Interventional pulmonology is a sub-specialty of Pulmonary Medicine that focuses on the evaluation and management of thoracic diseases primarily involving the airways, lung parenchyma and pleural space, with a focus on minimally invasive diagnostic and therapeutic procedural skills that is beyond the scope of adult Pulmonary Medicine fellowship requirements. Currently, interventional pulmonology fellowships provide advanced training for 12 months after completion of a standard fellowship in pulmonary medicine to allow a fellow to acquire competency in the subspecialty. Through the accreditation process, successful standardized training and practices have been established that benefit patients and since 2010, there has been a rapid and continued increase in the number of interventional pulmonology fellowship programs nationwide.

We support the proposal that a coordinated approach to procedural training and practice is desirable across the entire spectrum of pulmonary medicine and agree that this effort would be best orchestrated through the oversight of ACGME.

Sincerely,



Steven Q. Simpson, MD, FCCP
CHEST President



Robert Musacchio, PhD
CHEST Executive Vice President and CEO