

Liaison Committee on Medical Education

October 3-4, 2001

The Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) is the nationally recognized accrediting authority for medical education programs leading to the M.D. degree in U.S. and Canadian medical schools. It is jointly governed by the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges, and is linked to the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Colleges.

The LCME held its quarterly meeting in Chicago on October 3. In addition to discussions regarding accreditation of specific medical schools, the LCME addressed the following issues:

1. The relationship between the AAMC and AACOM

The AAMC has participated in an initial meeting with leaders of Osteopathic Medical Colleges about accreditation standards for osteopathic medical education. The American Osteopathic Association provides accreditation for osteopathic schools. For more information about these programs, visit the following web sites: <http://www.aacom.org> or <http://www.aoa-net.org>

2. The formation of new medical schools in the United States

The LCME addressed the opening of the Florida State School of Medicine, and will continue to monitor the potential opening of other medical schools in the United States. <http://www.med.fsu.edu>

3. The relationship between the LCME and offshore medical schools, including international programs established by United States medical schools

The LCME discussed its possible relationship with non-US or Canada based medical colleges, and continues to define its realm of jurisdiction. Much of this discussion has been stimulated by the pending establishment of a medical school in Qatar by Cornell University. Cornell anticipates granting its first medical degree in 2008. http://www.med.cornell.edu/qatar/news/apr_8_qatar.html

4. The upcoming AAMC Annual Meeting in Washington, DC

The LCME will sponsor several sessions at the upcoming AAMC annual meeting November 2-7 in Washington. These include orientation for the medical schools being surveyed this year. <http://www.lcme.org/annualmtg2001.htm>

5. The composition of site survey teams for this year's medical school accreditation site visits.

The LCME will send full accreditation survey teams to 25 medical schools in the 2001-2002 academic year. The schedule can be found at: <http://www.lcme.org/surv0102.htm>

6. The AMA/AASM Sleep and Fatigue Workshop to be held in Alexandria, VA.

The AMA co-hosted a workshop addressing issues of sleep and fatigue in medical training. <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/article/1987-5226.html#9>

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments that you may have. If you are a student at a school scheduled for an accreditation visit this year, I would be happy to answer any questions about the process.

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