



## Research Update



## Nearly all residents satisfied with training; few satisfied with time devoted to practice management

from the **AAP Department of Research**

The Academy is committed to understanding the training experiences of young pediatricians. Data from the 2015 AAP Annual Survey of Graduating Residents highlight that most residents are satisfied with their overall training and the amount of time spent on various areas in pediatrics.

- Among residents graduating in 2015, 93% would repeat a pediatric residency, if given the choice.
- More than three-fourths are satisfied with the training time spent on pediatric intensive care units, inpatient general pediatrics and subspecialty pediatrics, outpatient subspecialty pediatrics, and using quality improvement methods to improve patient care (see figure).
- Over half are satisfied with training time in outpatient general pediatrics, research, and inpatient-focused procedures.
- One-third think too much time is spent on training in neonatal intensive care units.
- Half feel too little time is spent on outpatient focused procedures.
- Eight in 10 think too little time is spent on practice management, such as billing, coding, and payment.

Residents have diverse career goals, including subspecialty (42%), primary care (41%), hospitalist (11%), and both primary care and subspecialty (6%) practice. Residents whose career goal is primary care are more likely than residents with a subspecialty or hospitalist goal to report too much time is spent on inpatient general pediatrics (23%, 13%, and 11%, respectively) and pediatric intensive care units (11%, 3%, and 2%, respectively) and too little time in outpatient general pediatrics (40%, 17%, and 26%, respectively).

Residents with a subspecialty or hospitalist goal are more likely than residents with a primary care goal to report too little time is spent on inpatient-focused procedures (51%, 56%, and 39%, respectively) and outpatient subspecialty pediatrics (24%, 27%, and 14%, respectively). Residents

whose career goal is subspecialty pediatrics also are more likely to report too little time in research.

Dissatisfaction with the amount of training spent on practice management is similar across career goals.

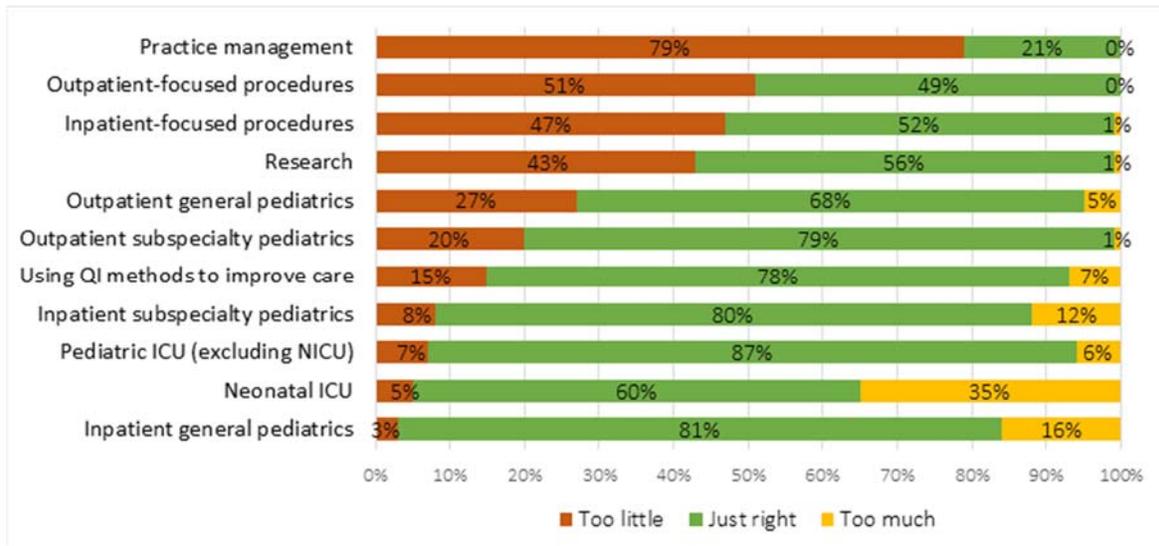
“Academy leadership values the information we are gaining from graduating residents and is grateful to those who respond to the resident survey,” said Christian D. Pulcini, M.D., M.Ed., M.P.H., chair of the AAP Section on Pediatric Trainees. “The information that we are learning from recent residency graduates—including their need for more information on practice management—is shaping the Academy’s future programs and services for our members. It is wonderful to have the opportunity to confirm that a large majority of residents are satisfied with their decisions to become pediatricians, as we all knew anecdotally it is the best career choice of all.”

The Annual Survey of Graduating Residents, a 20-year AAP program, is sent to a nationally representative random sample of 1,000 residents graduating from U.S. pediatric programs. Surveys are mailed and emailed each year from May to August. The response rate for the 2015 survey was 55%.

### RESOURCES

- For information on practice transformation and managing your career (early career decisions), visit <http://bit.ly/2nhJbj>.
- For methodologies and tools on coding and payment, visit <http://bit.ly/2ijZiM0>.
- For more information on the Annual Survey of Graduating Residents, visit <http://www2.aap.org/research/graduatingressurvey.htm> or contact Mary Pat Frintner, in the AAP Division of Health Services Research, at 800-433-9016, ext. 7664, or [mfrintner@aap.org](mailto:mfrintner@aap.org).

**Satisfaction with amount of time spent on training among 2015 pediatric residency graduates, n=546**



Source: AAP 2015 Annual Survey of Graduating Residents