



# PHILIPPINE PEDIATRIC SOCIETY, INC.

*A Specialty Division of PMA*

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June 1, 2020

Dear Chair and Training Officer,

In response to the concerns and questions about the residency programs during the COVID 19 Pandemic, the PPS Hospital Accreditation Board has further revised the recommendations:

1. Extension of Accreditation Status
  - 1.1. For hospitals due for accreditation from April 2020 to April 2021, the HAB will extend their accreditation status for one (1) year.
  - 1.2. The accreditation visit may be in the form of a face-to-face meeting or via an online modality depending on the situation.
  - 1.3. The documents for accreditation should be submitted 6 months before the expiration of the accreditation.
2. For some hospitals declared as COVID hospitals or have limited number of patients
  - 2.1 The Department can conduct online Teaching-Learning Activities such as case management video conference or online lectures and other innovative Teaching-Learning Activities and online Assessment Tasks, e.g. online exams. These should all be properly documented and submitted to the HAB.
  - 2.2 The Department may rotate residents to other training hospitals with the same accreditation status provided that there is a MOA with that hospital and an evaluation report at the end of rotation.
  - 2.3 The pediatric residents may participate in the care of adult COVID 19 patients as the need arises and in compliance with the Bayanihan Law (RA 11469).
3. Community Rotation

For the safety and security of the trainees, the community rotation can be suspended and in place the following can be done:

  - 3.1 Submission of advocacy videos or posters which can be sent to the communities (if possible)
  - 3.2 Participation of residents in the solicitation of Personal Protective Equipment such as face shields to be given to the hospital
  - 3.3 Online lectures on community problems, for example, teenage pregnancy, smoking, etc.
  - 3.4 All alternative activities should be properly documented and submitted to the HAB.
  - 3.5 The resumption of the community rotation should get the approval of the PPS HAB.



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4. Researches of residents
  - 4.1. Graduating residents can be given a 3 to 4 month extension
  - 4.2. Instead of prospective papers, the resident may submit systematic reviews, meta-analysis, retrospective or descriptive studies
  - 4.3. Online critical appraisal of journals
5. Subspecialty rotations
  - 5.1 Provide online subspecialty case discussions and lectures. These should be properly documented and submitted to the HAB.
  - 5.2 Residents may be allowed to see the patients of the subspecialist in another hospital. This preceptorial under the subspecialist may be allowed following the policies of the hospital and the guidelines of the PPS HAB. Evaluation of the resident should be provided accordingly.

These interim guidelines will be effective until December 31, 2020.

Yours Sincerely,

**Melinda M. Atienza, MD, FPPS**  
Secretary  
Hospital Accreditation Board  
Philippine Pediatric Society

Noted by:

**Joselyn A. Eusebio, MD, FPPS**  
President  
Philippine Pediatric Society