

SURVEY SAYS

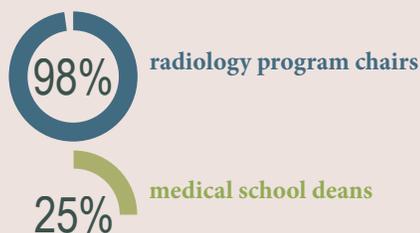
AN ACR TASK FORCE INVESTIGATES RADIOLOGY'S ROLE IN MEDICAL EDUCATION.

By Alyssa Martino

The ACR Task Force on Medical Student Education in Radiology, in partnership with the Alliance of Medical Student Educators in Radiology, surveyed academic radiology department chairs and medical school deans in late 2012 to understand how medical imaging is currently taught and how physician education can adapt going forward.¹

Who should teach imaging?

Nonradiologists cannot adequately teach imaging skills



What obstacles exist to implementing these changes?

Radiology faculty time and availability



Available curriculum time



Resistance from other departments



Financial reasons



How can the ACR and the Alliance of Medical Student Educators in Radiology help?

Support advocacy efforts



Establish a national standard curriculum



Provide curricular resources



How is radiology usually taught in medical school?

During a radiology elective



Integrated into other courses, such as anatomy



Radiology interest group



Didactic clinical lectures



What should change in the next ten years?

More imaging education across all four years of medical school



More involvement of radiologists in teaching imaging to medical students



What Does All of This Mean?

Christopher M. Straus, MD, associate professor of radiology and director of medical student education at the University of Chicago and a member of the ACR task force, says this survey highlights the surprising disparity between academic radiology chairs and medical school deans on such issues as who should teach imaging. He believes the task force summary demonstrates the “need to promote greater involvement through minimizing the effort required. This can be achieved through the deployment of a nationally available curriculum that each program can adopt and integrate in parts or in its entirety to best fit its specific needs.” Straus says, “We need to increase the availability and involvement of radiologists in the education of our future referring physicians.”

ENDNOTE

1. Straus CM, et al. “Medical Student Radiology Education: Summary and Recommendations From a National Survey of Medical School and Radiology Department Leadership.” *JACR* 2014;11(6):606–10. <http://bit.ly/JACRMedSchool>.