

# Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs in Solid Organ Transplantation

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# INTRODUCTION

The *Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence (AFC) Programs in Solid Organ Transplantation* are a national set of standards maintained by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for the evaluation and accreditation of Solid Organ Transplantation AFC programs. The standards aim to provide an interpretation of the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* as they relate to the accreditation of AFC programs in Solid Organ Transplantation, and to ensure these programs adequately prepare AFC trainees to meet the health care needs of their patient population(s) upon completion of training.

The standards include requirements applicable to AFC programs and learning sites and have been written in alignment with the standards organization framework used in the general standards that aims to provide clarity of expectations, while maintaining flexibility for innovation.

These standards are intended to be read in conjunction with the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*, as well as the discipline-specific documents for Solid Organ Transplantation. In instances where the indicators reflected in the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* have been modified within this document to reflect a discipline-specific expectation, the indicator as reflected in this document takes precedence.

# STANDARDS

## DOMAIN: PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

The *Program Organization* domain includes standards focused on the structural and functional aspects of the AFC program, which support and provide structure to meet the general and discipline-specific standards of accreditation for AFC programs.

### **STANDARD 1: There is an appropriate organizational structure, leadership and administrative personnel to effectively support the AFC program, teachers and trainees.**

Refer to Standard 1 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

**Element 1.2: There is an effective and functional AFC program committee to support the AFC program director in planning, organizing, evaluating, and advancing the AFC program.**

Requirement(s)	Indicator(s)
<b>1.2.1:</b> The AFC program committee is composed of appropriate key AFC program stakeholders.	<b>1.2.1.1 (modified):</b> Major academic and clinical components and relevant learning sites are represented on the AFC program committee, including representatives from each of the organ groups for which the program is accredited. The committee includes members with medical and surgical expertise in solid organ transplantation.

## DOMAIN: EDUCATION PROGRAM

The *Education Program* domain includes standards focused on the planning, design, and delivery of the AFC program, with the overarching outcome to ensure that the AFC program prepares trainees to be competent for practice in the discipline.

### **STANDARD 2: Trainees are prepared for independent practice in the AFC discipline.**

Refer to Standard 2 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* in addition to the indicators detailed below.

**Element 2.1: The AFC program is designed to facilitate trainees' attainment of the required competencies.**

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<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>
<b>2.1.1:</b> The AFC program’s design and delivery is based on the standards of training for the AFC discipline.	<b>2.1.1.6:</b> The academic curriculum includes formal teaching of organ transplant immunology, pharmacology of immunosuppression, and organ transplant-related infections and pathology. <b>2.1.1.7:</b> The AFC program provides a forum for discussion of emerging organ transplant research (e.g., journal club). <b>2.1.1.8:</b> The AFC program provides a forum for discussion of quality assurance issues (e.g., morbidity and mortality rounds).

**Element 2.2: There is an effective, organized system of trainee assessment.**

<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>
<b>2.2.1:</b> The AFC program has a planned, defined and implemented system of assessment.	<b>2.2.1.4:</b> Trainees maintain the Solid Organ Transplantation logbook.

## **DOMAIN: RESOURCES**

The *Resources* domain includes standards focused on ensuring that the AFC program’s clinical, physical, technical, financial, and human resources are sufficient for the delivery of the education program and, ultimately, to prepare trainees for practice in the discipline.

### **STANDARD 3: The delivery and administration of the AFC program is supported by appropriate resources.**

Refer to Standard 3 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs* in addition to the indicators detailed below.

**Element 3.1: The AFC program has the clinical, physical, technical, and financial resources to provide all trainees with the educational experiences needed to acquire all competencies.**

<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>
<b>3.1.1:</b> The patient population is adequate to ensure that trainees attain required competencies.	<b>3.1.1.1 (modified):</b> The AFC program provides access to the volume and diversity of patients appropriate to the AFC discipline consistently for all trainees, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ candidates for pre-operative organ transplant evaluation;</li> <li>○ patients undergoing organ transplant surgery;</li> <li>○ patients requiring perioperative care post-transplantation; and</li> </ul>

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- allograft recipients receiving care in the post-transplantation period.

**3.1.1.2:** The AFC program provides access to the full spectrum of organ donors, as applicable, for organ procurement and transplantation, including:

- Living and deceased donors;
  - Donors with donation after cardiac death (DCD);
  - Donors with neurological determination of death (NDD); and
  - Donors meeting exceptional criteria.
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**3.1.2:** Clinical and consultative services and facilities are effectively organized and adequate to ensure that trainees attain the required competencies.

**3.1.2.5:** The clinical transplant program meets the accreditation criteria of the Organ and Tissue Transplant Standards of Accreditation Canada.

**3.1.2.6:** The AFC program has timely access to the operating room for donor and recipient surgeries as well as all necessary equipment.

**3.1.2.7:** The AFC program has 24-hour access to inpatient beds for the evaluation of potential solid organ transplantation candidates and the care of allograft recipients. This includes access to beds equipped with appropriate monitoring.

**3.1.2.8:** The AFC program has access to ambulatory clinics for follow up of allograft recipients.

**3.1.2.9:** The AFC program has access to resources to provide trainees with the opportunity for consultative and ongoing care for acutely and/or critically ill organ recipient candidates and allograft recipients in the emergency room and critical care unit.

**3.1.2.10:** The AFC program has access to consultative services in all relevant medical or pediatric subspecialties.

**3.1.2.11:** The AFC program has access to anesthesia, interventional radiology, endoscopy, mental health services, pathology services with transplant expertise, and dialysis services.

**3.1.2.12:** The AFC program has access to the full spectrum of medical imaging services and diagnostic laboratory services.

**3.1.2.13:** The clinical program includes transplant coordinators and supporting clerical staff.

**3.1.2.14:** The AFC program has access to registered dietitians, rehabilitation therapists, respiratory therapists, and social workers.

**3.1.2.15:** The AFC program has access to a tissue typing laboratory and expertise, as well as an endoscopy suite, pulmonary function testing, echocardiography, electrocardiography, and cardiac catheterization services.

**3.1.2.16:** The AFC program has a linkage with the provincial organ procurement organization.

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**3.1.3:** The AFC program has the necessary financial, physical, and technical resources.

**3.1.3.5:** The AFC program has access to timely transport of potential candidates for organ transplantation.

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**3.1.4:** There is appropriate liaison with other programs and teaching services to ensure that trainees experience the breadth of the discipline.

**3.1.4.2:** The university sponsors accredited programs in Anatomical Pathology, General Surgery, Internal Medicine, and Pediatrics.

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**Element 3.2: The AFC program has the appropriate human resources to provide all trainees with the required educational experiences.**

<b>Requirement(s)</b>	<b>Indicator(s)</b>
<b>3.2.1:</b> Teachers appropriately implement the curriculum, supervise and assess trainees, contribute to the program, and role model effective practice.	<b>3.2.1.1 (modified):</b> The number, credentials, competencies, and scope of practice of the teachers are adequate to provide the breadth and depth of the discipline, including required clinical teaching, academic teaching, appropriate research, and assessment and feedback to trainees. Staff represent the medical and surgical aspects of the discipline. <b>3.2.1.4:</b> The AFC director has Royal College certification in an entry discipline or equivalent and demonstrated specialty expertise in solid organ transplantation.

**DOMAIN: LEARNERS, TEACHERS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL**

The *Learners, Teachers, and Administrative Personnel* domain includes standards focused on safety, wellness, and support for learners and teachers.

**STANDARD 4: Safety and wellness are promoted throughout the learning environment.**

Refer to Standard 4 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

**STANDARD 5: Trainees are treated fairly throughout their progression through the AFC program.**

Refer to Standard 5 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

**STANDARD 6: Teachers effectively deliver and support all aspects of the AFC program.**

Refer to Standard 6 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

**DOMAIN: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

The *Continuous Improvement* domain includes standards focused on ensuring a systematic approach to the evaluation and improvement of the AFC program.

**STANDARD 7: There is continuous improvement of the educational experiences to improve the AFC program and ensure trainees are prepared for independent practice in the discipline.**

Refer to Standard 7 and its various components within the *General Standards of Accreditation for Areas of Focused Competence Programs*.

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**Approved** – Specialty Standards Review Committee (January 2015)