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Submission for : **Poster**Group : **CAME**Intended Audience : **Postgraduate****Title: Is It Taking Longer to Complete Post-M.D. Training in Canada? The Age and Length of Training of Recent Cohorts of New Physicians**Presenter : **Dianne Thurber, CAPER/CAME**AV/Internet needs : **None**

Submitted by : Dianne Thurber

Date : 11/15/00

Title:

Is It Taking Longer to Complete Post-M.D. Training in Canada? The Age and Length of Training of Recent Cohorts of New Physicians

Author:A. Dianne Thurber, M.A., Director, Canadian Post-M.D. Education Registry**Objective:**

To determine whether there has been an increase in the average age of new Canadian graduate physicians completing residency training between 1993 and 1999 and discuss implications for physician resources.

Method and Subjects:

New physician cohorts (1993 and 1999) were selected from the CAPER (Canadian Post-M.D. Education Registry) database. Variables related to length of training and age were analysed. Variables studied were: age at entry to medical school, gender, the field of post-M.D. training, the province of post-M.D. training and the addition of fellowship training.

Results:

The average age of new family physicians increased from 28.5 to 29.9 and the average age of new specialists increased from 31.9 to 32.2 years. The average length of FM/GP training increased from 1.8 to 2.3 years. Specialty training increased from 4.5 to 5.3 years. Resident choices to do additional Family Medicine training and to select residences with longer training times explained the increased training time.

Conclusions:

Many variables are associated with length of training. Longer training time however, the age of graduates have major physician resource implications.

November 15, 2000