

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 1, 2019

**SUBJECT:** **Modification of Examples of Evidence of 3.5 of 2017 Optometric Residency Standards**

**TO:** Deans and Presidents of Schools and Colleges of Optometry; Directors of Optometric Residencies; Supervisors of Optometric Residencies; ACOE Consultants; Federal Service Chiefs

**FROM:** Darin L. Paulson, O.D., ACOE Chair

**DIST:** ACOE, Ms. Urbeck, Ms. Wirth, Ms. Scaletty, Ms. Evans, Ms. Mittler

Several programs have been cited/found out of compliance with standard 3.5 of the Optometric Residency Standards that became effective on July 1, 2017. At its February 22-24, 2019 Winter Meeting, the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) adopted the following modification to examples of evidence for standard 3.5 of the 2017 Optometric Residency Standards.

Modification of Examples of Evidence of Standard 3.5 of the 2017 Optometric Residency Standards  
(Wording added to the examples of evidence is underlined and deleted wording is ~~struck through~~.)

3.5 The sponsor must participate in a clinical quality assurance process involving the residency.

INTENT: The intent of this standard is to ensure appropriate quality of care provided by both the resident and residency faculty.

***Examples of evidence:***

- *Internal/external ~~audits~~ (i.e. ongoing peer review)*
- *Chart review*

The examples of evidence have been modified to omit the word “audits” to ensure that programs do not provide evidence of “insurance audits” as the only acceptable example of evidence in confirming that the standard of appropriate quality of care provided by the residency faculty has been met. Programs must have a clinical quality assurance peer review process in place that assesses the care provided by both the resident and residency faculty. Quality of care provided by the program faculty may be evaluated in a variety of ways including:

- Chart reviews done by internal peer reviewers, including both program faculty and residents
- Chart reviews done by external peer reviewers, including but not limited to those at the program’s affiliate

If you have any additional questions, comments or suggestions for the ACOE regarding the 2017 Optometric Residency Standards, please feel free to contact me at the address above or Fiza Scaletty, ACOE Manager, at [fscaletty@aoa.org](mailto:fscaletty@aoa.org). The standards and other useful information may be found on the ACOE web site at [www.theacoe.org](http://www.theacoe.org), or by [clicking here](#). Over the next few months, the ACOE will be adding this and other resource information to the ACOE web site, and we will appreciate your feedback on materials that you would find useful.