

Grant #: 5-T03-OH008431-13
PI: Christopher J. Martin, MD
Title: The Appalachian Training Program in Occupational Health and Safety
2016 – 2017 Annual Report
Occupational Medicine (OM)

Summary

The Occupational Medicine Residency is a two-year program designed to meet the requirements for board certification in Occupational Medicine by the American Board of Preventive Medicine. Throughout both years, trainees are actively involved in academic and practical (clinical) activities. Residents complete coursework over the first year to satisfy the requirements for a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree and participate in the Occupational Medicine clinic at West Virginia University. During the second year, they carry out research work and engage in clinical, industrial, and administrative experiences. The program emphasizes two broad areas: clinical occupational medicine and workplace hazard evaluation and control.

Through close collaboration with an on-campus NIOSH facility, trainees have access to exceptional educational opportunities, including national-level field investigations of workplace injuries and outbreaks of disease. In addition, occupational health services are provided to one of the largest employers in our region (WVU) as well as to workers from approximately 125 mostly smaller workplaces through contractual agreements. Overall, these activities provide an outstanding learning environment for trainees reflective of the real world of occupational medicine practice.

Relevance

The Occupational Medicine residency (OMR) program serves a critical need to supply qualified occupational health professionals for our state and region. This is the only OMR in the entire Appalachian region, comprising portions of 14 states.

Key Personnel

Name	Role	Contact Information
Chris Martin, MD, MSc	Program Director, OMR	cmartin@hsc.wvu.edu 304-293-0741
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TPG web link – <http://publichealth.hsc.wvu.edu/occmmed/residency-program/>

High Impact Stories

- *Occupational Safety and Health: Recognizing Accomplishments and Planning for the Future* was a symposium held to celebrate 50 years of Occupational Respiratory Disease Research at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and 25 years of Occupational Medicine Residency (OMR) at West Virginia University
- Dr. Robert Gerbo, Associate Professor and Chief, Division of Occupational Medicine, received the Vice President's Achievement Award for Teaching, April 2017.
- Dr. Robert Gerbo was awarded a Community Engagement grant designed to stimulate and support community outreach and engagement projects that benefit the citizens of West Virginia. The project entitled "Health Screenings for Emergency First Responders: Protecting Our Local Heroes" provided confidential health screenings to emergency responders.
- Dr. Chris Martin, Program Director/DIO, has been reappointed for another one-year term to the Core Exam Committee of the American Board of Preventive Medicine.
- Dr. Carl Wertz, Associate Professor in the Division of Occupational Medicine, continues to serve on the Residency Review Committee for Preventive Medicine of the ACGME.
- Ms. Robin Altobello, OMR Program Manager, sits as Assistant Chair of the WVU School of Medicine's Health Care Disparities committee.