



CAME Voice/Voix

CAPER Celebrates 30 years!

Lynda Buske, Manager of CAPER, AFMC, lbuske@caper.ca

When you look at Canadian medical education as a system we begin to ask questions such as ‘who is doing what?’ and ‘how do these programs or provinces compare in terms of processes and outcomes?’. Answering these questions involves collecting and managing data on behalf of the Canadian medical education system as a whole. The Canadian Post-M.D. Education Registry (CAPER) is the central repository for statistical information on postgraduate medical education in Canada. CAPER is incorporated within the bylaws of the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada (AFMC) and is funded by a number of national medical organizations as well as provincial/territorial and federal governments. CAPER’s individual-level data permit analysis across universities and trainee characteristics, such as school and country of MD graduation, legal status, age, gender and field of training. Data is captured longitudinally from the time of entry to training to practice locations following post-M.D. training.

CAPER was established in 1986 with six original funders: the Association of Canadian Medical Colleges; the Canadian Association for Internes and Residents; the Canadian Medical Association; the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada; the College of Family Physicians of Canada; and Health and Welfare Canada. This year marks our 30th anniversary! Our funders have expanded to include provincial/territorial governments and the Medical Council of Canada.

CAPER publications and services are designed for statistical and research purposes. Data collection is carried out according to strict privacy policies and CAPER promotes best practices with its data-sharing partners. Data submissions are received annually from the 17 faculties of medicine and an annual census report is published each spring. Specialty and province-specific reports are produced later in the year. CAPER also has the ability to track residents out into practice to assess retention by location of undergraduate or postgraduate education. Fact sheets with brief analyses of various topics such as specialty trends in postgraduate training, retention in practice, time to completion training, etc. can be found at <http://caper.ca/en/news/new-fact-sheets-on-caper-and-img/>

Our website is updated on a regular basis and most of the content is in French and English. Please visit at www.caper.ca or follow us on twitter [@capercanada](https://twitter.com/capercanada). Dozens of custom requests are provided to faculties of medicine each year free of charge. Please contact us if you have particular data needs for your project or initiative. You can submit special requests to caper@afmc.ca or to me directly at lbuske@caper.ca or 613-731-1204