Background

- A recent study in *Academic Radiology* concluded that the majority of PGY-1 trainees wished that they had had more exposure to reading chest X-rays and more instruction regarding when (and for whom) to order radiology studies during their medical school education.

- Academic programs, at both the student and resident levels, have an interest in teaching the fundamentals of radiology to non-radiology residents; however, it is not always clear whether this teaching is effective.

- Our aim in this project is to develop a survey tool that can be used to effectively assess the strengths and weaknesses of radiology education at the PGY-1 level.

Methods

- We gathered input from stakeholders from a variety of levels of training and practice settings including medical students, residents, medical school faculty, program directors, department chairs and members of the Graduate Medical Education Committee at our institution.

- Stakeholders were interviewed individually using a set of questions appropriate for that stakeholder's level of experience.

- The results of the interviews were parsed to determine what was perceived by the various interviewees to be the most important elements of radiology education. We then produced a survey with specific queries that are intended to assess the quality of those most salient aspects of radiology education.

Results

- Our survey tool has 25 questions. Questions concern the demographics of the survey-taker, while the remainder focus on the various aspects of radiology training and their effects on the development and education of non-radiologist physicians.

- Questions are classified in groups that assess standard ACGME physician competencies including patient care, medical knowledge and professionalism. Testing and validation of this tool will be conducted pending IRB approval.

Conclusion

Although we are still in the process of evaluating our survey, it is our hope that this new tool will assist in radiology curriculum development and also allow institutions to perform more accurate assessments of the impact of radiology education on the ability of young physicians to provide confident and competent patient care.

References