American College of Physicians
ACP Virtual Doctor’s Dilemma® Competition
Rules for Competition

Competition Structure

The competition will consist of two rounds: Elimination and Championship both held on Friday, May 14, 2021.

Eligibility: Players are eligible to participate in the competition if they are currently residents in an ACGME- or AOA-accredited categorical internal medicine residency training program; preliminary residents in a program and transitional residents in their first year of training are also eligible to participate. Residents in combined internal medicine-pediatrics (Meds-Peds) programs or other ACGME- or AOA-approved combined categorical training programs (i.e. internal medicine-emergency medicine) are also eligible to compete.

International internal medicine residents who have completed residency training may participate only if their training concluded within 30 days of competition.

Chief residents and fellows in sub-specialty training programs are not eligible to compete.

First Round: Elimination (May 14, 2021) Time: Begins at 9am EST

The Elimination round schedule will be announced on Thursday, April 1, 2021 through LeaderNet and emails to participants and representatives.

Each of the teams will compete in a game against six/seven randomly chosen opponents. These games will be streamed live via YouTube.

5 teams will advance to the championship round. These teams will be the winning teams from each of the first-round games. If the combined scores result in a tie, a series of sudden death playoff questions will determine which team advances.

Final Round: Championship (May 14, 2021) Time: Approx. 5:30pm EST

The Championship game will host the five teams on the afternoon of May 14, 2021.

ACP Doctor’s Dilemma® Competitors: Game Regulations

Logging into Zoom

Teams should log in 30 minutes before the start of their game for testing.
**Game Start**

ACP Chapters designate their representative team. Teams may not exceed three players during any round. Each team must have a proctor present during competition. **The proctor must be a faculty member** of the institution such as a Program Director or Associate Program Director. Each team shares a computer and the proctor must be visible in the room during each game. If a team cannot be in the same room during the competition, please contact Melanie Wallace at doctorsdilemma@acponline.org.

Once the teams are logged into Zoom, they will rename themselves (by chapter name) and join the game. The moderator will welcome participants and invite them to introduce themselves. The moderator will then summarize competition rules, and the game categories will be displayed. Each game consists of five categories with five questions in each, for a total of 25 questions plus one final dilemma question. All questions are written by physicians in ACP’s Doctor’s Dilemma® Question Development Committee using ACP educational resources. Before being entered into the competition, questions are subjected to multiple reviews, including peer-review by subspecialist physicians on the IM-ITE Writing Committee and others as appropriate.

Before the start of each game, the team selecting the first category will be chosen by drawing straws. The moderator will announce the team selected to choose the first category.

**Answering Questions**

Each team will need to log into [https://buzzin.live/](https://buzzin.live/) and click “Join Game” to access their buzzer for the game. Teams may use a separate device such as a cellphone or may open a new tab on their browser to access [https://buzzin.live/](https://buzzin.live/). ACP staff will input the game code into the chat in Zoom for teams to join the game. Please ensure your team name is the same on buzzin.live as it is on the game board and Zoom.

Once a team selects a question by category and amount, the moderator reads the question.

Once the question is read and revealed on the game board screen, any team can buzz in.

The team that buzzes in first is recognized by the software, and that team will be identified by the moderator. Teams may mute themselves to discuss answers amongst themselves. Participants may not answer until their team is identified. That team has 15 seconds to answer. When ready to answer, the team must remember to unmute their microphones. Teams answering correctly retain control of the game board and select the next question.

If a team answers incorrectly, the game board grays out the team name and the point value of that question is deducted from the score. The team that answers incorrectly, may not buzz in again to answer the same question. The screen will reset to allow remaining teams to answer. Remaining teams should buzz in if they would like to answer. All remaining teams have 10
seconds to answer the question. This process continues until the correct answer is given, all teams answer incorrectly, or time runs out.

**Software malfunctions/Connectivity issues**

While software malfunctions are rare, the moderator has the authority to take corrective action caused by game software or connectivity issues. In the rare event when the software or Zoom malfunctions in recognizing the team that raises their hand first, the moderator will call on the team first recognized by ACP staff; if that team answers incorrectly, the second team recognized by ACP staff will have the opportunity to answer the question before it is opened to other teams.

While ACP cannot anticipate connectivity issues, we will ensure our technology team will be onsite to handle any connectivity issues from ACP’s end. We also encourage each team to have their own IT departments on stand by in case their institution has connectivity issues. **ACP cannot control connectivity issues outside of ACP. To call ACP staff during the game, please call 215-351-2697.**

**Game Scoring**

Games consist of 5 categories with 5 questions in each category, for a total of 25 questions. Question values range from 10 to 50 points in each category.

The team that answers correctly is awarded the point value of the question. The point value of questions answered incorrectly is deducted from the team’s score.

**Final Dilemma**

After the 25-question game board has been played, teams with positive point values are invited to play the “Final Dilemma” question, which is a wager-based question. When the “Final Dilemma” category is announced, teams will send their wager through a Zoom private chat to ACP staff, which can be up to the number of points the team has entering “The Final Dilemma”. Each team’s wager will be entered into the software once the final answer is announced by the moderator.

After the moderator reads the question and the question is displayed, teams have approximately 30 seconds to submit an answer in the private Zoom chat to ACP staff. After 30 seconds (the duration of the “Final Dilemma” music), the answers are collected and given to the moderator.

Teams answering the questions correctly will have their wager added to their total score.

Teams answering incorrectly will have their wager deducted from their total score.
Game Judges

Each Doctor’s Dilemma game will be monitored by 1 to 2 judges. Judges are ACP members with substantial medical knowledge who volunteer to serve in this role. Judges will receive the game questions and answers in advance so they can review the content and make informed decisions during the games.

If a team’s answer does not exactly match the acceptable answers provided to the moderator on the official answer sheet, the moderator may defer to the game judges. The judges determine if an answer is acceptable. **The judges’ decisions are final.**

Professionalism and Sportsmanship

Each team invests considerable effort into preparing for this competition and is eager to show their knowledge and excel in the competition. It is important for each team member to always demonstrate civility and professionalism throughout the competition.

Participation in the competition is an honor, and all contestants are expected to treat it as such. The Doctor’s Dilemma competition requires all participants and the programs they represent to adhere to high standards of professionalism and conduct, consistent with the expectations of an internal medicine physician. All team members should demonstrate good sportsmanship, and avoid any impropriety (or the appearance of impropriety). To ensure this, all participants in the national competition must follow these conduct guidelines:

- Demonstrate respect and civility to moderators, judges, volunteers, and staff throughout the competition.
- No cell phones, flash cards, or other devices (except the devices used for competition) or papers are permitted during the competition.
- Contestants and program representatives are not permitted to ask for judges to rule on a question or answer, nor may they refer a question/answer to the judges. Questions/Answers are referred to the judges at the sole discretion of the Moderator.
- Refrain from challenging a ruling or answer during the competition. Contestants and members of their program may not chat or challenge a judge or a ruling during the competition.

If participants, or members of their program, fail to comport with these standards, or demonstrate other unprofessional or unsportsmanlike behavior, the involved individuals and/or team may be disqualified from the competition.

Judges may disqualify any team for exhibiting poor sportsmanship or unprofessionalism during the competition. **All judges’ decisions are final.**