

# Preparing for Your CoARC Site Visit: Tips & Pointers for a Successful Visit

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# Conflict of Interest

- The presenters serve as experienced CoARC site visitors and commissioners.
- We have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this program/ presentation.



# Learning Objectives

- Attendees will be able to...
  - Briefly explain the purpose of accreditation.
  - Explain the CoARC accreditation process.
  - Identify and discuss frequently cited issues that occur during the site visit.



# Your self-study is submitted & site visit is scheduled...

## Site Visit Prep Checklist:

- ✓ Prepare Your Mindset
- ✓ Prepare the Team
- ✓ Engage Program Stakeholders
- ✓ Avoid Commonly Cited Issues



# Prepare Your Mindset



# Prepare Your Mindset

- Purpose of Site Visit
- Match the Mindset of CoARC
  - Program Quality
  - Program Improvement
  - Program Growth
  - Program Effectiveness



# Consultative Function of the Review

## **CoARC's Mission**

The mission of the CoARC is to ensure that high quality educational programs prepare respiratory therapists who are *competent* in the areas of practice, education, research, and service.

## **The Value of Programmatic Accreditation**

Accreditation provides consumer protection, advances and enhances the profession, and protects against compromise of educational quality. Accreditation also requires the continuous improvement of these educational programs as related to resources invested, processes followed, and outcomes achieved.

### **From the Opening Script for the Site Visit:**

In addition, we are here as a consultative and facilitative team, to help the program faculty get through the accreditation process and to work with them to improve the program.

We will be available to the faculty for this purpose throughout the visit and especially at the Consultation Conference.



# Changing Environment

- New Program Faculty
- The Pandemic
  - Clinical Affiliates
  - Transition to Online Delivery
  - Greater Use of Simulation
- Changes in Hospital Systems
  - Turnover of Clinical Instructors/ Preceptors
- Shortage of Respiratory Therapists





# Prepare Your Team



# Prepare Your Team

- Who is your team?
- How can they help?
- How can the site visit help them?



# Engage Program Stakeholders



# ENGAGE Program Stakeholders

- Who are Program Stakeholders?
- Engagement is Key!
- Communication Tips
- How can the site visit help them?



# Avoid Commonly Cited Issues



# Avoid the 5 Most Commonly Site Issues

#1: Missing Documentation Showing Standard Compliance

#2: Required Surveys Not Completed Yearly

#3: Advisory Board Make-Up & Involvement

#4: Student Competencies Not Met/Documented

#5: Student Experiences are not Adequate & Equal



# Resources:

- CoARC Website:
  - <https://coarc.com/accreditation/site-visit-process/>
- CoARC Site Visit Contact: Bonnie Marr
  - Phone: (817) 283-2835 ext 102
  - Email: [bonnie@coarc.com](mailto:bonnie@coarc.com)



# Questions?

Thank You!

