

Clarification of Second Stage Review for Comprehensiveness

In order to attain the 'Comprehensive' designation, a cancer center must successfully complete two stages of review. Both Stage I and Stage II review criteria are outlined in the CCSG Guidelines. Their foci are as follows:

- Stage I - concentrates on scientific elements and interactive requirements
- Stage II - concentrates on education and training of biomedical researchers and health care professionals and community service, outreach, and dissemination

The purpose of the Stage II review is to provide a general, *qualitative* assessment of the center's effectiveness in providing training, education, and outreach to the communities it serves, e.g., Reviewers should not focus their comments on the detail of training programs and trainees provided in the application, but rather use those data to inform a global picture of the center's efforts. The parent committee's review and final decision on approval/disapproval should be predicated on whether the center is meeting objectives successfully in the above arenas overall, based on its unique characteristics. Major and overarching criticisms should be reflected in the review outcome and included in the report for future action by the cancer center.