



Chicago Medical School Competencies and Objectives

2020-2021 Academic Year

I. Patient Care: Provide patient-centered care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Specifically, students must:

- 1.1 Perform all medical, diagnostic, and surgical procedures considered essential for the area of practice.
- 1.2 Gather essential and accurate information about patients and their conditions through history-taking, physical examination, and the use of laboratory data, imaging, and other tests.
- 1.3 Organize and prioritize responsibilities to provide care that is safe, effective, and efficient.
- 1.4 Interpret laboratory data, imaging studies, and other tests required for the area of practice.
- 1.5 Make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, up-to-date scientific evidence, and clinical judgment.
- 1.6 Develop and carry out patient management plans.
- 1.7 Counsel and educate patients and their families to empower them to participate in their care and enable shared decision making.
- 1.8 Provide appropriate referral of patients including ensuring continuity of care throughout transitions between providers or settings, and following up on patient progress and outcomes.
- 1.9 Provide health care services to patients, families, and communities aimed at preventing health problems or maintaining health.
- 1.10 Provide appropriate role modeling.
- 1.11 Perform supervisory responsibilities commensurate with one's roles, abilities, and qualifications.

II. Knowledge for Practice: Demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care. Specifically, students must:

- 2.1 Demonstrate an investigatory and analytic approach to clinical situations.
- 2.2 Apply established and emerging bio-physical scientific principles fundamental to health care for patients and populations.
- 2.3 Apply established and emerging principles of clinical sciences to diagnostic and therapeutic decision-making, clinical problem-solving and other aspects of evidence-based health care.
- 2.4 Apply principles of epidemiological sciences to the identification of health problems, risk factors, treatment strategies, resources, and disease prevention/health promotion efforts for patients and populations.
- 2.5 Apply principles of social-behavioral sciences to provision of patient care, including assessment of the impact of psychosocial and cultural influences on health, disease, care-seeking, care compliance, and barriers to and attitudes toward care.



2.6 Contribute to the creation, dissemination, application, or translation of new health care knowledge and practices.

III. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement: Demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate one's care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning. Specifically, students must:

3.1 Identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in one's knowledge and expertise.

3.2 Set learning and improvement goals.

3.3 Identify and perform learning activities that address one's gaps in knowledge, skills, and/or attitudes.

3.4 Systematically analyze practice using quality improvement methods, and implement changes with the goal of practice improvement.

3.5 Incorporate feedback into daily practice.

3.6 Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to patients' health problems.

3.7 Use information technology to optimize learning.

3.8 Participate in the education of patients, families, students, trainees, peers and other health professionals.

3.9 Obtain and utilize information about individual patients, populations of patients, or communities from which patients are drawn to improve care.

3.10 Continually identify, analyze, and implement new knowledge, guidelines, standards, technologies, products, or services that have been demonstrated to improve outcomes.

IV. Interpersonal and Communication Skills: Demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals. Specifically, students must:

4.1 Communicate effectively with patients, families, and the public, as appropriate, across a broad range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds.

4.2 Communicate effectively with colleagues within one's profession or specialty, other health professionals, and health related agencies.

4.3 Work effectively with others as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional group.

4.4 Act in a consultative role to other health professionals.

4.5 Maintain comprehensive, timely, and legible medical records.

4.6 Demonstrate sensitivity, honesty, and compassion in difficult conversations, including those about death, end of life, adverse events, bad news, disclosure of errors, and other sensitive topics.

4.7 Demonstrate insight and understanding about emotions and human responses to emotions that allow one to develop and manage interpersonal interactions.



V. Professionalism: Demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles. Specifically, students must:

5.1 Demonstrate compassion, integrity, and respect for others.

5.2 Demonstrate responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest.

5.3 Demonstrate respect for patient privacy and autonomy.

5.4 Demonstrate accountability to patients, society, and the profession.

5.5 Reflect on one's own values, culture, and beliefs and demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in gender, age, culture, race, religion, disabilities, and sexual orientation.

5.6 Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of care, confidentiality, informed consent, and business practices, including compliance with relevant laws, policies, and regulations.

VI. Systems-Based Practice: Demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care. Specifically, students must:

6.1 Work effectively in various health care delivery settings and systems relevant to one's clinical specialty.

6.2 Coordinate patient care within the health care system relevant to one's clinical specialty.

6.3 Incorporate considerations of cost awareness and risk-benefit analysis in patient and/or population-based care.

6.4 Advocate for quality patient care and optimal patient care systems.

6.5 Participate in identifying system errors and implementing potential systems solutions.

6.6 Perform administrative and practice management responsibilities commensurate with one's role, abilities, and qualifications.

VII. Interprofessional Collaboration: Demonstrate the ability to engage in an interprofessional team in a manner that optimizes safe, effective patient- and population-centered care. Specifically, students must:

7.1 Work with other health professionals to establish and maintain a climate of mutual respect, shared values, dignity, diversity, ethical integrity, and trust.

7.2 Use the knowledge of one's own role and the roles of other health professionals to appropriately assess and address the health care needs and advance the health of the patients and populations served.

7.3 Communicate with patients, families, communities and other health professionals in a responsive and responsible manner that supports a team approach to the maintenance of health and the treatment of disease in



individual patients and populations.

7.4 Participate in different team roles to establish, develop, and continuously enhance principles of team dynamics within interprofessional teams to plan, deliver and evaluate patient- and population-centered care and population health programs and policies that are safe, timely, efficient, effective, and equitable.

VIII. Personal and Professional Development: Demonstrate the qualities required to sustain lifelong personal and professional growth. Specifically, students must:

8.1 Develop the ability to use self-awareness of knowledge, skills, and emotional limitations to engage in appropriate help-seeking behaviors.

8.2 Demonstrate healthy coping mechanisms to respond to stress.

8.3 Manage conflict between personal and professional responsibilities.

8.4 Practice flexibility and maturity in adjusting to change with the capacity to alter one's behavior.

8.5 Demonstrate trustworthiness that makes colleagues feel secure when one is responsible for the care of patients.

8.6 Provide leadership skills that enhance team functioning; the learning environment, and/or the health care delivery system.

8.7 Demonstrate self-confidence that puts patients, families, and members of the health care team at ease.

8.8 Recognize that uncertainty is part of clinical health care and respond appropriately.