

Competency-based Objectives *Condensed*
Medical College of Georgia - School of Medicine
Approved by COC 3-18-11

1. Medical Knowledge

Goal Statement: Medical students are expected to master a foundation of clinical knowledge with integration of basic sciences and the translation of that knowledge to the clinical setting.

Core Competencies: Graduates from the Georgia Health Sciences University - Medical College of Georgia will be able to:

- 1.1 Demonstrate knowledge of normal and abnormal structure and function of the human body on the macroscopic, microscopic, and molecular levels.
- 1.2 Identify the pathology and pathophysiology of various diseases and correlate them with clinical signs and symptoms.
- 1.3 Demonstrate knowledge of both common or significant, acute and chronic clinical problems.
- 1.4 Differentiate between normal and abnormal development and age-related changes across the life span.
- 1.5 Demonstrate comprehension of clinical interventions and agents including pharmaceutical, surgical, genetic, complementary and alternative medicines, and other therapies.
- 1.6 Demonstrate knowledge and ability to interpret epidemiological and public health contributions to understanding health and disease.
- 1.7 Demonstrate knowledge of preventive medicine and current guidelines for health promotion and disease screening.

2. Patient Care

Goal Statement: Medical students, as members of the healthcare team, are expected to provide patient and family centered care that is compassionate and effective for the promotion of health and the management of illness.

Core Competencies: Graduates from the Georgia Health Sciences University - Medical College of Georgia will be able to:

- 2.1 Treat patients using a patient and family centered care approach.
- 2.2 Obtain a complete and accurate medical history that covers essential aspects, also addressing issues related to age, gender, culture, use of complementary medicine, family dynamics and socioeconomic status.
- 2.3 Perform both complete and symptom-focused physical examinations, including mental status examination.
- 2.4 Perform or participate in routine technical procedures. [procedures determined by core clerkships]

- 2.5 Construct a differential diagnosis for common clinical presentations.
- 2.6 Identify and interpret the most useful clinical, laboratory, roentgenologic, and pathologic testing for common clinical presentations.
- 2.7 Construct appropriate and efficient therapeutic management and prevention strategies for patients with common conditions, both acute and chronic, including medical, psychiatric, and surgical conditions, and those requiring short- and long-term rehabilitation.

3. Practice-based Learning

Goal Statement: Medical students are expected to investigate and evaluate their patient care practices, appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and improve their practice of medicine.

Core Competencies: Graduates from the Georgia Health Sciences University - Medical College of Georgia will be able to:

- 3.1 Develop strategies for continuous individual improvement through monitoring performance, reflection, engaging in new learning, applying new learning, and monitoring impact of learning
- 3.2 Accept constructive criticism and modify behavior based on feedback.
- 3.3 Develop clinical questions related to patients' problems and demonstrate skills to find evidence that is relevant and valid information to answer clinical questions using medical information technology

4. Communication Competencies Objectives

Goal Statement: Medical students are expected to demonstrate skills that result in effective communication and collaboration with patients, families, and professional associates.

Core Competencies: Graduates from the Georgia Health Sciences University - Medical College of Georgia will be able to:

- 4.1 Demonstrate the ability to establish a positive patient-doctor relationship based on mutual trust and respect for patients' privacy, dignity, individual integrity and culture.
- 4.2 Communicate with others in a respectful, professional and non-judgmental manner and demonstrate effective listening skills (e.g. maintaining eye contact, body posture, verbal and non-verbal facilitation skills).
- 4.3 Demonstrate the ability to give a clear, concise, and organized oral presentation and written documentation of a history and physical exam with basic elements of assessment and plan that addresses the psycho-social and biomedical needs of the patient for a focused or complete patient encounter
- 4.4 Conduct an interview with a limited English-speaking patient through appropriate use of an interpreter.
- 4.5 Recognize barriers to effective communication and implement strategies to overcome these barriers (e.g. health literacy, vision/hearing impairment, disabled, pediatric, geriatric)
- 4.6 Educate patients assuring their understanding on:
 - 4.6.1 Preventive strategies and promoting healthy behavior change, and

4.6.2 Medical risk and benefits in medical decision-making.

5. Professionalism

Goal Statement: Medical students are expected to demonstrate professional behavior, commitment to ethical principles, and sensitivity to diverse patient populations.

Core Competencies: Graduates from the Georgia Health Sciences University - Medical College of Georgia will be able to:

- 5.1 Demonstrate honesty, integrity, and ethical behavior in all interactions with patients and other health care professionals, including:
 - 5.1.1 Describing the importance of protecting patient privacy and identifying personal health information, including when and when not to share information, and
 - 5.1.2 Identifying the ethical hazard and respond appropriately in situations such as:
 - acceptance of gifts
 - collaboration with industry when courted to prescribe/use their products being asked to practice beyond legal limits or personal comfort (e.g., when asked to provide medical care to friends or relatives; use of "doctor" title).
- 5.2 Fulfill professional commitments in a timely and responsible manner.
- 5.3 Maintain appropriate professional appearance and composure.
- 5.4 Recognize and address personal limitations, attributes or behaviors that might limit one's effectiveness as a physician and seek help when needed. This would include:
 - 5.4.1 Describe personal responses to stress and employ appropriate stress reduction interventions as needed.
- 5.5 Demonstrates sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in gender, age, race, religion, disabilities and sexual orientation and investigate impact of those on clinical care and medical decisions.

6. Systems-based Practice

Goal Statement: Medical students are expected to develop an awareness of available health care system resources and demonstrate an ability to use them appropriately to provide optimal quality patient care.

Core Competencies: Graduates from the Georgia Health Sciences University - Medical College of Georgia will be able to:

- 6.1 Demonstrate the ability to work within a multidisciplinary patient care team, with an understanding of the physicians' role as team leader and the importance of ancillary staff.
- 6.2 Examine medical errors and quality problems using a health systems approach and describe available methods to minimize them.