

Family Medicine Clerkship  
GOALS & OBJECTIVES  
Academic Year 2020-2021

## **CLERKSHIP COMPETENCIES**

### **PATIENT CARE:**

Students must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Students are expected to:

- 1.) Communicate effectively and demonstrate caring and respectful behaviors when interacting with patients and their families.
- 2.) Gather essential and accurate information about their patients.
  - a.) Perform problem-focused, problem-oriented histories and physical exams appropriate for outpatient care
  - b.) Demonstrate common ambulatory procedural skills, incorporating knowledge of indications and potential complications of the procedure
  - c.) Record and present patient encounters in succinct problem-oriented medical record format.
- 3.) Make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, up-to-date scientific evidence and clinical judgment.
- 4.) Develop patient management plans.
  - a.) Demonstrate an understanding of continuous, coordinated and comprehensive care of families, longitudinal care
  - b.) Utilize a Biopsychosocial approach in the delivery of health care.
  - c.) Demonstrate understanding of the role of family and community in primary care.
- 5.) Counsel and educate patients and their families providing basic patient education for problems common in family medicine.
- 6.) Use information technology to support patient care decisions and patient education
- 7.) Provide health care services aimed at promoting health
  - a.) Learn to apply the principles of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.
  - b.) Demonstrate awareness of the importance of nutrition, sleep, fitness and other lifestyle behaviors in promoting health.
  - c.) Demonstrate awareness of the importance of occupational factors in health promotion and disease prevention.
- 8.) Collaborate with health care professionals, including those from other disciplines, to provide patient centered and preventive services across the lifespan.

### **MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE**

Students must demonstrate knowledge about established and evolving biomedical, clinical and cognate (e.g. epidemiological and social-behavioral) sciences and the application of this knowledge to patient care.

- 1.) Demonstrate an investigatory and analytical thinking approach to clinical situations.
- 2.) Know and apply the basic and clinically supportive sciences.
  - a.) Demonstrate knowledge to diagnose and treat common problems encountered by family physicians
  - b.) Demonstrate understanding of end-of-life and palliative care issues.
  - c.) Demonstrate ability to develop, prioritize and justify differential diagnoses for patients seen.

## **PRACTICE BASED LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT**

Students must be able to investigate/evaluate their approach to patient care, appraise/assimilate scientific evidence, and improve their approach to patient care. Students are expected to:

- 1.) Analyze practice experience and think about practice-based improvement activities using a systematic methodology
- 2.) Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health problems.
- 3.) Obtain and use information about their own population of patients and the larger population from which their patients are drawn.
- 4.) Apply knowledge of study designs and statistical methods to the appraisal of clinical studies and other information on diagnostic and therapeutic effectiveness.
- 5.) Use information technology to manage information, access on-line information and support their own education.
- 6.) Facilitate learning of other students and other health care professionals.

## **INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

Students must be able to demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their families and professional associates. Students are expected to:

- 1.) Create and sustain a therapeutic and ethically sound relationship with patients.
- 2.) Use effective listening skills and elicit and provide information using effective nonverbal, explanatory, questioning and writing skills.
- 3.) Work effectively with others as a member or leader of a health care team or other professional group.

## **PROFESSIONALISM**

Students must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles and sensitivity to a diverse patient population. Students are expected to:

- 1.) Demonstrate respect, compassion and integrity; a responsiveness to the needs of patients and society that supersedes self-interest; accountability to patients, society and the profession; and a commitment to excellence and on-going professional development.
- 2.) Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of clinical care, confidentiality of patient information, informed consent, business practices.
- 3.) Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients' culture, age, gender and disabilities.

## **SYSTEMS-BASED PRACTICE**

Students must demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care and the ability to effectively call on system resources to provide care that is of optimal value.

Students are expected to:

- Understand how their patient care and other professional practices affect other health care professionals, the health care organization and the larger society and how these elements of the system affect their own practice.
- Know how types of medical practice and delivery systems differ from one another, including methods of controlling health care costs and allocating resources.
- Advocate for quality patient care and assist patients in dealing with system complexities.