

Goals and Objectives

By the end of the year, students will be expected to master the objectives in the following areas:

Clinical Skills

1. Know the components and value of a complete basic history.
2. Be able to elicit a complete and accurate history.
3. Be able to perform a competent, complete physical exam.
4. Develop the ability to formulate a patient problem list and rudimentary differential diagnosis.
5. Adapt communication strategies to specific clinical situations and settings.
6. Acquire ability to communicate with various ages, ethnic/cultural backgrounds and gender.
7. Demonstrate ability to educate patients according to knowledge level, learning style and emotional state.
8. Respect patient autonomy and confidentiality in all patient interactions.
9. Recognize the importance of developing knowledge of the individual as a whole in providing optimal and appropriate medical care.

Clinical Decision-Making

1. The ability to construct answerable clinical questions relevant to patient care.
2. The ability to find relevant information to answer clinical questions.
3. An understanding of the basic characteristics of diagnostic tests, the general principles of commonly-used biostatistics and the general principles of epidemiology, including the ability to apply these principles in clinical vignettes and published articles.
4. An understanding of the methods, advantages and disadvantages of commonly-encountered types of clinical studies and the ability to apply this knowledge to research reports.
5. An introduction to the principles of clinical reasoning that allow decision-making when definitive evidence is lacking.
6. An appreciation of the crucial role of lifelong learning in medical practice.

Medical Ethics and Professionalism

1. Demonstrate a basic level of skill in recognizing, analyzing, interpreting, communicating, and problem-solving ethical issues in medical training and professional practice.
2. List, define, and give examples of the application of the four core principles of medical ethics: autonomy (respect for persons), beneficence, non-maleficence, and justice.

3. Demonstrate the ability to understand and critically assess the concerns, values and beliefs of patients and families.
4. Understand the process of informed consent and demonstrate its use.
5. Demonstrate understanding of conflicts of interest in the patient-doctor relationship, research, and the pharmaceutical industry.
6. Demonstrate compassionate treatment of patients, respect for patient privacy and confidentiality and honesty and integrity in interactions.
7. Develop skills in timely, effective and clear communication with other physicians and health care providers.
8. Develop skills that enhance teamwork.
9. Assume appropriate levels of responsibility:
 - a. punctuality
 - b. meeting patient needs
 - c. time management
10. Maintain personal and professional integrity.
11. Recognize one's weaknesses and effectively utilize one's strengths.
12. Appropriately respond to and learn from advice and constructive evaluation.
13. Dispense meaningful and constructive evaluations and critiques.
14. Determine one's own educational, knowledge, and skill needs.
15. Cultivate a life-long desire for acquiring knowledge, skills, and self-improvement.
16. Develop the ability to adapt to changes in knowledge, understanding or external forces that impact on patient care.