

General Learning Objectives for Clinical Skills

Upon completing the clinical year, students will be able to demonstrate competency in the following areas. These skills may be obtained in the outpatient, inpatient, emergency room and/or long term care settings. Methods of assessment of these skills include but are not limited to: end-of-rotation examinations, site visits, actual patient encounters, preceptor evaluations, OSCEs, SOAP notes and clinical year assignments.

- A. Elicit the appropriate focused history and identify the characteristic symptoms associated with common medical/psychiatric/surgical illnesses/diagnoses across the lifespan.
- B. Perform the appropriate focused physical examination and identify the characteristic signs associated with common medical/psychiatric/surgical illnesses/diagnoses across the lifespan.
- C. Elicit and perform a comprehensive history and physical exam for preventative health screening across the lifespan.
- D. Recognize and differentiate normal anatomic, physiologic and cognitive changes related to growth, development and the aging process.
- E. Assess normal and abnormal trends or patterns of growth, including those documented on growth charts, and recommend further evaluation when indicated.
- F. Recommend and interpret appropriate lab studies and diagnostic studies/findings.
- G. Identify, diagnose, manage and perform ongoing monitoring for common medical/psychiatric/surgical illnesses/diagnoses across the lifespan.
- H. Identify, recommend and initiate screening/health promotion /disease prevention, immunizations and counseling for routine preventative health, well care and common illnesses/diagnoses across the lifespan.
- I. Document medical/surgical information using acceptable abbreviations and appropriate formats (for example: H&P, SOAP, pre/post operative notes).
- J. Recognize the major causes of morbidity and mortality across the lifespan.
- K. Orally present clinical cases in a clear and concise manner.
- L. Identify and initiate the appropriate referral for problems beyond the scope of the PA provider and practice.

- M. Approach therapeutic encounters with a diverse patient population in an empathetic, non-judgmental and caring manner that promotes open and effective patient-provider communication across the lifespan.
- N. Interact with physicians, healthcare personnel and patients tactfully, using appropriate language, speech patterns and nonverbal communication to promote/facilitate open and effective communication.
- O. Demonstrate cultural sensitivity in the management of patients from a variety of backgrounds
- P. Demonstrate the ability to recognize personal limitations in medical knowledge and/or skills and seeks appropriate consultation.
- Q. Demonstrate accountability to the patient, profession, community and program.
- R. Demonstrate critical thinking and medical decision making.
- S. Identify, recognize and discern legal and ethical issues in medicine, including assessment of competence, end of life decision making, power of attorney, living wills, advanced directives, and DNR orders.
- T. Identify and recognize the effects of chronic illness on the patient and the family. Recognize and discuss the issues associated with loss, grief and bereavement, death and dying.
- U. Demonstrate an understanding of and commitment to the legal requirements and ethical principles as they apply to the confidentiality of patient information across the life span.