



CLINICAL CLERKSHIP COMPETENCIES AND OBJECTIVES*

PATIENT CARE

Students are expected to participate in supervised patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health. Students are expected to:

- Communicate effectively and demonstrate caring and respectful behaviors when interacting with patients and families;
- Gather essential and accurate information about their patients;
- Formulate preliminary decisions about diagnostic, therapeutic, and patient education interventions under teacher/faculty supervision;
- Use information technology to support patient care decisions and patient education;
- Assist and observe in medical and surgical procedures;
- Assist in providing health care services aimed at preventing health problems or maintaining health;
- Work with health professionals, including those from other disciplines to provide patient-focused care.

MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE

Students must demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological and social-behavioral sciences as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care. Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate an investigatory and analytic thinking approach to clinical situations;
- Know and apply the basic and clinically supportive sciences which are appropriate to the discipline.

PRACTICE-BASED LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT

Students must demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and life-long learning. Students are expected to develop skills and habits to be able to meet the following goals:

- Identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in ones' knowledge and expertise;
- Set learning and improvement goals;
- Identify and perform appropriate learning activities;
- Incorporate formative evaluation feedback into daily practice;
- Locate, appraise, and assimilate evidence from scientific studies related to their patients' health problems;
- Use information technology to optimize learning;
- Participate in the education of patients, families, students, residents, and other health professionals.

INTERPERSONAL AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Students must demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals. Students are expected to:

- Communicate effectively with patients and families, as appropriate, across a broad range of socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds;
- Communicate effectively with physicians, other health professionals, and health related agencies;
- Work effectively as a member of a health care team;
- Formulate timely, legible, medical records that are routinely used in medical practice.

PROFESSIONALISM

Students must demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, and an adherence to ethical principles. Students are expected to demonstrate:

- Compassion, integrity, and respect for others;
- Responsiveness to patient needs that supersedes self-interest;
- Respect for patient privacy and autonomy;
- Accountability to patients, society, and the profession;
- Sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in gender, race, religion, disabilities, socioeconomic status, and sexual orientation;
- An awareness of potential conflicts of interest.

SYSTEMS BASED PRACTICE

Students must demonstrate an awareness of responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care.

Students are expected to:

- Work effectively in various health care delivery settings and systems relevant to their clinical specialty;
- Develop considerations of cost awareness and risk benefit analysis in patient and/or population-based care, as appropriate;
- Advocate for quality patient care and safety;
- Work in interprofessional teams to enhance patient safety and improve patient care quality.