

Setting and Communicating Learning Expectations

Objectives

Following this module participants will be able to:

- ❑ Describe areas of difference between expected performance of MS3, MS4 and residents
 - ❑ In the setting of a clerkship orientation and using clerkship objectives, effectively communicate expectations with the student.
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Setting Expectations from the ACGME Competencies

1. Patient Care
 2. Medical Knowledge
 3. Practice based learning and improvement
 4. Interpersonal and Communication Skills
 5. Professionalism
 6. Systems-Based Practice
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ACGME Competencies

Patient Care

- Beginning MS3 Students have almost no experience gathering information or making diagnoses.
 - MS4/Beginning Residents can gather information and make diagnoses of common conditions but lack experience especially with less common conditions.
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ACGME Competencies

Medical Knowledge

- Beginning MS3 Students have basic science knowledge but very little clinical knowledge.
 - MS4/Beginning Residents know about common conditions but lack in-depth clinical knowledge.
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ACGME Competencies

Practice Based Learning and Improvement

- Beginning MS3 Students have good library skills but almost no experience applying medical literature in clinical practice.
 - MS4/Beginning Residents have applied information from medical literature in clinical settings but only in limited somewhat artificial ways.
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ACGME Competencies

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- Beginning MS3 Students are intelligent, well spoken young people. Although they will improve with experience, they should already be able to interact well with patients and other professionals.
 - MS4/Beginning Residents should be skilled communicators and begin to demonstrate the confidence and poise of practicing physicians.
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ACGME Competencies

Professionalism

- All medical students who interact with patients and other professionals should know their ethical, professional and legal obligations. They should be expected to demonstrate complete professionalism at all times regardless of experience or educational level.
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ACGME Competencies

Systems-Based Practice

- Beginning MS3 Students may be almost entirely unaware of the issues associated with systems-based practice.
- MS4/Beginning Residents should have at least some understanding of costs and systems, etc. but a substantial knowledge of the greater issues involved with health care should not be expected at this level.

Communicating Expectations

When clerkship begins:

Goals – What are students expected to accomplish through the activities?

Progress – What progress is expected and how will improvement be assessed?

Detail – Hours, duties, preparation, etc.

Student's own Goals – Allow students to ask questions and set personal goals

Goals of the Junior Clerkship

pp. 6-7 in clerkship manual

Examples of Expectations

Goals – Give a concise, 5-minute case presentation.

Progress – Average time for case presentation will diminish from 8 to 5 minutes and will become more concise with time.

Detail – When on call, students should stay in the hospital until 11:00 PM – 12:00 midnight.

Students own Goals – Student is interested in geriatric medicine and would like experience in dealing with multiple chronic problems.

Practice Exercise

- Person A: a 3rd year medical student beginning the Internal Medicine inpatient 5-week rotation.
 - Person B: the supervising resident on the inpatient team.
 - After collecting your thoughts (2 min.), PRACTICE the communication of expectations.
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Summary

- ❑ Beginning MS3 students usually lack the experience to prioritize data gathering or reporting.
- ❑ Beginning MS4 students should have very general skills but lack experience, especially with less common conditions.
- ❑ When explaining expectations to students, be detailed, use examples, and include description of expected improvement.