EPA 1-OBTAINT A HISTORY AND PERFORM A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION ADAPTED TO THE PATIENT’S CLINICAL SITUATION

Milestones
1. Obtains the appropriate data from the patient for the specific patient encounter
2. Establishes a rapport with the patient
3. Performs a physical exam appropriately tailored to the clinical case
4. Demonstrates specific physical exam skills appropriate to the patient case
5. Integrates all elements along with other sources of information
6. Encounter conducted with respect, in a manner sensitive to the patient’s particular circumstances
7. Balances being self-confident and safe to act with seeking help

EPA 2-FORMULATE AND JUSTIFY A PRIORITIZED DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS

Milestones
1. Lists diagnostic possibilities by integrating elements from the history, physical examination, and investigative studies
2. Identifies the major diagnostic possibilities for common clinical presentations
3. Justifies and prioritizes a most likely diagnosis based on information from his/her clinical assessment
4. Incorporates major determinants of health for the patient when generating and prioritizing the differential
5. Balances the tendency to be too all encompassing yet avoids errors of premature closure

EPA 3-FORMULATE AN INITIAL PLAN OF INVESTIGATION BASED ON THE DIAGNOSTIC HYPOTHESES

Milestones
1. Suggests tests considering their features and limitations, availability, acceptability for the patient, inherent risks and contribution to a management decision
2. In case of social implications of positive results, discusses the selection of the tests with patient
3. Identifies levels of uncertainty at each step of the diagnostic process and does not over-investigate or under-investigate
4. Chooses diagnostic interventions using evidence or best practice/guidelines according to costs and availability of resources
5. Identifies who will be responsible for the follow-up of the test results.

EPA 4-INTERPRET AND COMMUNICATE RESULTS OF COMMON DIAGNOSTIC AND SCREENING TESTS

Milestones
1. Recognizes significant urgent or abnormal results
2. Distinguishes between common normal variations in results and abnormal results
3. Formulates an appropriate preliminary opinion about the potential clinical impact of results
4. Communicates significant results in a timely and appropriate manner to other team members
5. Summarizes and interprets the meaning of the results to other team members
6. Communicates results in a clear manner to patients
7. Seeks help to interpret results when necessary
8. Confirms involvement with patient by actively listening and reacting appropriately to verbal and non-verbal communication.
9. Encourages sharing of information by patient, family, caregiver +/- advocate

EPA 5-FORMULATE, COMMUNICATE AND IMPLEMENT MANAGEMENT PLANS

Milestones
1. Proposes evidence informed, holistic initial management plans that include pharmacologic and non-pharmacologic components developed with an understanding of the patient’s context, values and illness experience
2. Prioritizes the various components of the management plans.
3. Considers other health care professionals advice in proposing a management plan
4. Reviews the initial plan with more senior team members to formulate an approved management plan
5. Documents approved management plans in the form of written/electronic notes, or consultations
6. Communicates approved management plans with patients and other healthcare team members that results in mutual agreement and understanding
7. Uses the electronic medical record when available to keep the team informed of the up-to-date plans
8. Follows principles of error reduction including discussions of indications/contraindications of treatment plans, possible adverse effects, proper dosage and drug interactions
9. Writes consults/referrals which are complete, incorporate patient safety principles and that can be understood by all the members of the team, including the patient

EPA 6-PRESENT ORAL AND WRITTEN REPORTS THAT DOCUMENT A CLINICAL ENCOUNTER

Milestones
1. Presents a concise and relevant summary of a patient encounter to members of the healthcare team
2. Presents a concise and relevant summary to the patient, and where appropriate, the patient’s family
3. Specifies the patient context in the report
4. Demonstrates a shared understanding among the patient, the health care team members and consultants through oral and written reports
5. Documents findings in a clear, focused and accurate manner
6. He/she follows legislation (e.g., privacy legislation) and confidentiality considerations.

EPA 7-PROVIDE AND RECEIVE THE HANOVER IN TRANSITIONS OF CARE

Milestones

When delivering handover, the learner:
1. Conducts handover communication that minimizes known threats to transitions of care (e.g., by ensuring to engage the listener, avoiding distractions)
2. Documents and updates an electronic handover tool if available
3. Follows a structured handover template for verbal communication
4. Provides succinct verbal communication that conveys, at a minimum, illness severity, patient demographics and wishes regarding care, a concise medical history, current problems and issues,
pertinent and/or pending laboratory, radiological and other diagnostic information, situation awareness, action planning, anticipatory guidance and upcoming possibilities and contingency planning

5. Demonstrates respect for the patient’s privacy and confidentiality
6. Questions the timing of handover and discusses appropriate actions with team if appropriate

When receiving handover, the learner:
1. Provides feedback to transmitter to ensure informational needs are met
2. Asks clarifying questions
3. Repeats the information just communicated to ensure closed-loop communication
4. Communicates with the health care team and patient (family/caregiver/advocate) that the transition of responsibility has occurred
5. Elicits feedback about the most recent handover communication when assuming primary responsibility for the patient
6. Accepts responsibility for required care until responsibility is transferred to another team member
7. Demonstrates respect for the patient’s wishes regarding their care, privacy and confidentiality

EPA 8-RECOGNIZE A PATIENT REQUIRING URGENT OR EMERGENT CARE, PROVIDE INITIAL MANAGEMENT AND SEEK HELP

Milestones
1. Utilizes early warning scores, or rapid response team / medical emergency team criteria to recognize patients at risk of deterioration and mobilizes appropriate resources urgently.
2. Performs basic life support when required including CPR in cardiac arrest
3. Asks for help when uncertain or requiring assistance
4. Involves team members required for immediate response, continued decision making, and necessary follow-up
5. Initiates and participates in a code response when appropriate
6. Rapidly assesses and initiates management to stabilize the patient
7. Documents patient assessments and necessary interventions in the medical record
8. Updates family members/caregiver/advocate to explain patient’s status and escalation of care plans
9. Clarifies patient’s goals of care upon recognition of deterioration

EPA 9-COMMUNICATE IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS

Milestones
1. Verifies who should be present and is aware of what information can and cannot be shared without permission
2. Plans the encounter and communicates in a private setting
3. Introduces him/herself, their role in the patient’s care and explains the purpose of the conversation
4. Positions him/herself to communicate comfortably
5. Speaks in non-jargon language, through a translator if necessary
6. Listens actively
7. Verifies for understanding and addresses concerns
8. Makes a plan that is understood, with next steps articulated
9. Works with and includes (where relevant) other health care team members to manage the difficult situation
10. Assesses safety of the situation and seeks help as needed

EPA 10-CONTRIBUTE TO HEALTH QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES

Milestones
1. Participates in morbidity and mortality rounds where available
2. Enters information in an error-based system
3. Engages in daily safety habits (e.g., universal precautions, hand washing, time-outs)
4. Recognizes one’s own errors to the supervisor/team, reflect on one’s contribution, and develops own learning plan and or quality improvement plan
5. Identifies a risky situation for the safety of a patient
6. Participates in a quality improvement exercise/project

EPA 11-PERFORM GENERAL PROCEDURES OF A PHYSICIAN

Milestones
1. Demonstrates the necessary skills to perform the procedure and has a good understanding of the indications/contraindications, the risks and the benefits of the procedure
2. Anticipates and recognizes the complications associated with the procedure and seeks help appropriately
3. Explains the procedure to the patient in language that is familiar to them and such that they understand the risks associated with the procedure
4. Answers all questions of patient/family clearly
5. Documents the procedure with all the relevant details
6. Obtains informed consent
7. Provides appropriate post procedure care

EPA 12-EDUCATE PATIENTS ON DISEASE MANAGEMENT, HEALTH PROMOTION AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE.

Milestones
1. Enquires about the patient’s lifestyle habits.
2. Educates using language that is understood by the patient.
3. Encourages the patient to ask questions.
4. Verifies for understanding of the education provided.
5. Provides examples of concrete changes that could be implemented to improve healthier habits.
6. Assesses patient’s readiness to change.
7. Coordinates with other health care team members to ensure appropriate and consistent messaging.
8. Identifies potential risky behaviors or living situations that may jeopardize the safety of the patient.
9. Documents the discussion and the planning of the next step