



The University of Toledo College of Medicine Educational Program Objectives

Introduction

In recent years, it has become a necessity for medical schools to articulate the objectives of their educational program and to align course instruction and evaluation with these explicit program objectives. To that end, the Curriculum Committee of The University of Toledo's College of Medicine (UT/COM) has adopted the following objectives for the four-year program leading to the medical degree.

The competencies described in the Educational Program Objectives reflect three domains, knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Student development is measured and documented with respect to competence in each domain over the course of the four-year educational program.

Part I: A UT/COM graduate physician will be knowledgeable

The UT/COM faculty have designed an exceptional curriculum in which knowledge is acquired and applied through an integrated organization across four-years. UT/COM students have the opportunity to learn through direct contact with content experts, through problem-based and problem-solving formats, and experientially through supervised interactions with real and simulated patients.

Before graduation, a student will have demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the faculty, knowledge in the following 16 categories. Knowledge will be assessed by the students' ability to define, describe and explain facts and concepts, as well as at higher levels of cognition, as measured by the ability to apply, analyze and integrate content.

- K1 Knowledge of the normal structure and function of the body and each of its organ systems
- K2 Knowledge of molecular, biochemical, and cellular mechanisms that are important in maintaining the body's homeostasis
- K3 Knowledge of the various causes (genetic, developmental, metabolic, toxic, microbiologic, autoimmune, neoplastic, degenerative and traumatic) of maladies and ways in which they operate on the body (pathogenesis)

- K4 Knowledge of altered structure and function (pathology and pathophysiology) of the body and its major organ systems that are seen in various disease and conditions
- K5 Knowledge of the most frequent clinical, laboratory, radiographic, and pathologic manifestations of common diseases
- K6 Knowledge of the pharmacologic basis for therapeutics
- K7 Application of basic science knowledge to clinical problems
- K8 Knowledge of the use of study designs, statistical methods and the scientific method in establishing the causation of disease and efficacy of traditional and non-traditional therapies
- K9 Knowledge about relieving pain and ameliorating the suffering of patients
- K10 Knowledge of the theories and principles that govern ethical decision making and of the major ethical dilemmas in medicine, particularly those that arise at the beginning and end of life and those that arise from the rapid expansion of knowledge of genetics
- K11 Knowledge of principles and development of human behavior
- K12 Knowledge of the manner in which people of diverse cultures and belief systems perceive health and illness and respond to symptoms, diseases, and treatments
- K13 Knowledge of the important non-biological determinants of poor health and of the economic, psychological, social and cultural factors that contribute to the development and/or continuation of disease.
- K14 Knowledge of the importance of recognizing and addressing gender and cultural biases in individuals involved in the delivery of health care as well as in the process of health care delivery
- K15 Knowledge of various approaches to the organization, financing, and delivery of health care
- K16 Knowledge of the challenges to medical professionalism posed by conflicts of interest inherent in various financial and organizational arrangements for the practice of medicine

Part II: A UT/COM graduate physician will be skilled

The UT/COM faculty designed an integrated curriculum in which clinical skills are learned in concert with the correlated medical knowledge. UT/COM students have the opportunity to learn verbal and written communication as well as procedural skills through direct contact with content experts, through laboratory-based practice with feedback, and experientially through supervised interactions with real and standardized patients.

As a result, before graduation a student will have demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the faculty, the following:

- S1 The ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, with patients, patients' families, colleagues, and others with whom physicians must exchange information in carrying out their responsibilities.
- S2 The ability to demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to patients' culture, age, gender and disabilities.
- S3 The ability to obtain an accurate medical history that covers all essential aspects of the history.
- S4 The ability to perform a physical examination that is both complete and accurate.
- S5 The ability to produce a written report of a patient encounter that is legible, organized, concise and accurate.
- S6 The ability to perform procedures using universal precautions. At a minimum, these procedures include venipuncture, intravenous line insertion, insertion of nasogastric tubes, insertion of urinary bladder catheters, suturing simple lacerations, and basic life support.
- S7 The ability to use knowledge of the most frequent clinical, laboratory, radiographic and pathological manifestations to interpret the results of commonly used diagnostic procedures.
- S8 The ability to construct appropriate common diagnostic and therapeutic strategies for patients with common conditions, both acute and chronic including medical, psychiatric, and surgical conditions, and those requiring short- and long-term rehabilitation.
- S9 The ability to identify factors that place individuals at risk for disease or injury, to select appropriate tests for detecting patients at risk for specific diseases or in the early state of disease, and to determine strategies for responding appropriately.
- S10 The ability to recognize patients with immediately life threatening conditions and to institute appropriate initial therapy.
- S11 The ability to retrieve (from electronic databases and other resources), manage, and utilize biomedical information for solving problems and making decisions that are relevant to the care of individuals and populations in order to stay abreast of ongoing scientific advances.

Part III: A UT/COM graduate physician will be professional

UT/COM believes in the importance of molding the character of students and dedicates curricular and extracurricular time to the development of ethical standards and humanistic beliefs and behaviors.

As a result, before graduation a student will have met or exceeded the institution standards for the following:

- P1 Ethical, responsible, reliable and dependable behavior in all aspects of their professional lives and a commitment to patients, society and the profession.
- P2 Honesty and integrity in all interactions with patients, patients' families, colleagues and others with whom students interact in their professional lives.
- P3 The capacity to recognize and accept limitations in one's own knowledge and clinical skills, and a commitment to continuously improve one's knowledge and ability.
- P4 Professionalism in dress, grooming, manner of speech and personal interactions with colleagues, faculty, staff, patients, patients' families.
- P5 Compassionate treatment of patients, and respect for their privacy and dignity.
- P6 An awareness of the physicians' role in providing health care for members of traditionally underserved populations and of their responsibility to provide care to patients who are unable to pay.
- P7 Knowledge of, and respect for, the roles of other health care professionals, and of the need to collaborate with others in caring for individual patients and in promoting the health of defined populations.