

Principles of Clinical Medicine (PCM) I and II
Course Objectives

Upon completion of PCM I and II, the successful student will possess and demonstrate level-appropriate traits of a general physician. This educational experience is integrated with other health care disciplines, content, learners and teachers, and includes the following domains:

Patient Care

- Obtain an accurate history, covering essential medical, personal, and socioeconomic considerations.
- Perform accurate physical and behavioral health examinations appropriate to patient presentation.
- Construct a prioritized differential diagnosis for common presenting complaints.
- Construct and present a clinical assessment and treatment plan.
- Explain and demonstrate the practice of informed consent in patient care.
- Demonstrate the use of information technology for the retrieval and application of biomedical information in clinical problem-solving and medical decision-making.
- Order, interpret and apply information from diagnostic imaging, laboratory tests and pathologic evaluations of common conditions.
- Demonstrate the ability to use the electronic health record in caring for patients.

Medical Knowledge

- Apply basic principles of clinical, laboratory, and imaging tests for clinical screening and diagnosis, and critically evaluate their limitations.
- Discuss the importance of the scientific method in establishing causation of disease and evaluating therapeutic options.
- Demonstrate the ability to critically evaluate and interpret scientific and medical literature and to apply findings to clinical situations.
- Identify the social determinants of health and disease.
- Explain and apply effective clinical approaches to prevention and early detection of common diseases.

Practice Based Learning

- Continually self-assess one's strengths and areas for improvement, and pursue a plan for improvement.
- Accept and incorporate into clinical practice the feedback received from patients and colleagues.
- Formulate relevant questions and utilize appropriate resources to answer them.

Interpersonal and Communication Skills

- Demonstrate effective listening and speaking skills when communicating with patients and their families.
- Assess health care literacy and adapt to the patients' comprehension while educating them about their medical conditions and treatments.
- Develop mutually agreed upon goals for care with patients and families.
- Demonstrate effective written and verbal communication skills with all members of the health care team.

- Demonstrate respect for cultural and ethnic backgrounds of patients and their families and other members of the health care team.

- Recognize and communicate effectively about pain and emotional distress with patients and their families.

Professionalism

- Explain the principles governing ethical decision-making, including those that arise at the beginning and end of life.

- Demonstrate compassion, sensitivity and respect for patients.

- Explain and uphold the legal and ethical principles of patient confidentiality and autonomy.

- Demonstrate honesty and integrity in all interactions with patients, patients' families, and members of the health care team.

- Explain how to identify and report disruptive or unprofessional behavior or distress in colleagues and self.

- Demonstrate an understanding of medicolegal principles pertaining to standard of care and informed consent.

- Demonstrate professional judgment in the use of electronic and social media.

Systems Based Practice

- Explain health care delivery systems and resource allocation and their potential effects on the health of patients and communities.

- Explain the principles of organizational governance and how to best effect change within the health system.

- Explain a systems approach to assuring patient safety, including methods to improve safety and reduce medical errors.

- Demonstrate the ability to participate effectively as a member of interprofessional teams caring for patients.