

Internal Medicine I and II Rotation Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of IM I & II, the clinical year PA student will possess **the medical knowledge, clinical and technical skills, interpersonal skills, professional behaviors, clinical reasoning and problem-solving abilities** necessary to demonstrate entry-level proficiency through demonstration of the following:

To obtain the following RLO's, students will participate in clinical care of adult and geriatric patients requiring assessment and management of acute, chronic and preventive encounter types in a hospital and/or outpatient setting.

1. Obtain a thorough history based on the patient's chief complaint or clinical presentation.
2. Perform a complete and/or problem-focused physical exam based on the patient's chief complaint.
3. Present relevant findings of the history and physical exam to the preceptor.
4. Document all stages of the patient encounter to include admission note, progress note, and discharge note as indicated, as well as an outpatient visit SOAP note.
5. Develop an appropriate differential diagnosis for the presenting concern or clinical presentation.
6. Order and interpret laboratory and diagnostic studies indicated for the initial or ongoing evaluation of chronic common illnesses in adult populations within framework of evidence-based medicine.
7. Demonstrate the ability to perform a health maintenance examination appropriate for an adult and geriatric patient with application of evidence-based prevention and screening guidelines for safety, dementia, vaccine and lab/diagnostic updates as well as patient education.
8. Recommend appropriate disposition of patients according to severity of presenting symptoms, including those in need of emergency or inpatient care.
9. Develop initial and ongoing treatment plans for common chronic illnesses in the adult population to include pharmacotherapy, lifestyle modifications, rehabilitative care, non-pharmacologic interventions, hospital admission, discharge planning, patient education, and follow-up evaluation.
10. Recommend medications based on indication, patient profile, potential adverse effects, and drug interactions.
11. Observe, assist with and perform common internal medicine procedures, under preceptor supervision, including administration of interpreting ECGs and interpreting chest x-rays.
12. Provide patient education on diagnosis and treatment plan with special emphasis on outpatient follow-up and disease prevention.
13. Develop management and treatment of common adult illnesses utilizing evidence-based guidelines.

14. Identify indications for referral when specialist consultation is needed to meet the medical, surgical or psychological needs of a patient.
15. Demonstrate appropriate professional demeanor, ethics, and respect for patients, families, and healthcare team members.
16. Demonstrate respect for patient rights to individuality and privacy by treating confidential information with professional discretion.
17. Demonstrate appropriate response to feedback.
18. Demonstrate ability to collaborate with other healthcare professionals to provide patient-focused care.

Instructional Objectives for IM I & II

Under appropriate preceptor supervision, by the end of this rotation, the clinical PA student will be able to demonstrate knowledge and competence pertaining to each of the Instructional Objectives (IOs are observable actions or behaviors) listed below in patients of any age from birth to elderly and with acute, chronic, emergent, and/or preventive presentations:

History Taking and Physical Exam Skills: The student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

1. Conducting focused and comprehensive interviews based on presenting complaints
2. Identifying pertinent historical information
3. Correlating current complaint with presented history and review of systems
4. Performing focused or comprehensive physical examinations
5. Performing physical exam techniques pertinent to the patient's chief complaint
6. Identifying normal and abnormal physical examination findings

Developing a differential diagnosis: The student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

1. Presenting to the preceptor the significant history as it relates to possible differential diagnosis
2. Presenting to the preceptor the significant physical exam findings as they relate to possible differential diagnosis
3. Formulating a differential diagnosis with consideration to the most likely diagnosis, the most common diagnosis, as well as the most severe and/or life threatening diagnosis

Selecting and Interpreting Laboratory and Diagnostic Studies: The student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

1. Identifying indication for initial and subsequent diagnostic or laboratory studies
2. Selecting appropriate common screening tests for medical conditions encountered

3. Identifying cost effectiveness, benefits, contraindications, sensitivity and specificity, and informed consent for diagnostic studies or procedures.
4. Explaining risks associated with diagnostic studies or procedures to the patient
5. Identifying normal and abnormal laboratory/diagnostic ranges and results for studies
6. Performing the lab and diagnostic studies safely and with appropriate technique
7. Interpreting results of lab and diagnostic studies correctly

Developing, Documenting, and Executing an Assessment and Plan: Student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

1. Correlating lab and diagnostic data to the differential diagnosis to help select the most likely diagnosis
2. Developing pertinent non-pharmacologic management plan including consultation/referrals to specialists, community resources, behavioral and/or psychological interventions
3. Documenting the patient encounter using in-patient or out-patient site-specific template for admission/progress/discharge notes as well as outpatient SOAP note, including patient education and follow-up recommendations
4. Providing and documenting patient counseling and education that is patient-centered, culturally sensitive and inclusive to ensure patient's understanding of the plan, including:
 - a. Health prevention such as nutrition, safety, domestic violence screen, and substance use
 - b. Physical activity and exercise modifications
 - c. Necessary age-appropriate screenings (including falls and dementia) and periodic health assessments
 - d. Adjustments to lifestyle changes related to ADLs, physical/mental impairment, culture and diverse backgrounds, violence/assault/safety, rehabilitative care, palliative care, death and dying
 - e. Attention to body, soul, and spirit with consideration of and sensitivity to patient's religious/spiritual beliefs, health practices, and lifestyle choices

Developing and Documenting Pharmaceutical Therapeutics and Treatment Modalities: The student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

1. Discussing rationale for utilization of each drug with understanding of:
 - a. Mechanism of action
 - b. Indications for use
 - c. Contraindications
 - d. Side effects
 - e. Adverse reactions
 - f. Potential for drug-drug interactions

- g. Therapeutic effects
 - h. Dosing
 - i. Cost-effectiveness
 - j. Drug toxicity
 - k. Identify risks for, and signs and symptoms of drug interactions from polypharmacy
 - l. Methods to reduce medication errors
 - m. Cross-reactivity of similar medications
2. Selecting appropriate pharmacologic therapy for medical conditions encountered
 3. Reviewing patient's current pharmacologic regimens and adjusting as appropriate
 4. Managing adverse drug reactions
 5. Determining appropriate resources to determine appropriate medications
 6. Documenting orders and prescriptions for treatment medications

Applying Basic Science Concepts: The student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

1. Identifying normal and abnormal human anatomy and physiology to correlate how it applies to conditions encountered
2. Correlating pathophysiologic principles to specific disease processes common in Internal Medicine
3. Correlating abnormal physical exam findings to a given disease process
4. Applying abnormal results of diagnostic tests to a given disease process

Professionalism: The student should be able to demonstrate competency in the following:

1. Demonstrating sensitivity to the emotional, social, and ethnic background of patients
2. Demonstrating respect for the privacy and confidentiality of each patient
3. Communicating and interacting professionally with other members of the healthcare team.
4. Identifying limitations and willingness to seek help from supervising preceptors, and referencing appropriate resources.
5. Demonstrating an openness to receiving constructive criticism
6. Initiating independent outside research concerning clinical cases encountered
7. Performing duties with a professional attitude in such areas as attendance, dress code, and demeanor