

Minimum Patient Safety Competencies for Medical Students

FSUCOM

Domain		Competency	Examples
Human Factors	1	Describe the relationship between human factors and patient safety	(how fatigue, stress, poor communication and inadequate knowledge / skills impact human performance and may be associated with adverse events).
	2	Identify and advocate for systems based methods of reducing human errors	(pictorial reminders for hand washing, limiting inpatient medication formulary and having inventories of frequently administered drugs, routinely use checklists and be alert to potential errors when involved with lengthy repetitive activities).
	3	Become aware of commonly used patient safety definitions	(e.g. medical error, adverse event).
	4	Utilize information technology tools when delivering healthcare to help avert medical errors and adverse events.	{Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system, computerized physician order entry (CPOE), PDA handheld devices, Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) tools)
	5	Become aware of diagnostic error in medicine, teamwork and communication failure in surgery, and medication error in pediatrics and how existing strategies may prevent them	(e.g. computer-based diagnostic decision support system, use of simulators to improve teamwork and communication, and CPOE & ePrescribing to avoid medication errors in children)
System Failures	6	Identify systemic failures when adverse events occur by retrospectively outlining the sequential chain of clinical events leading to their occurrence and advocate for a blame free process of continuous quality improvement.	(e.g., geriatric syndromes, wrong patient, wrong site, wrong side, or wrong procedure) (e.g. human factors, technical factors, organizational factors)

Communication & Teamwork	7	Communicate clearly with patients and demonstrate use of rapport building skills	(avoid medical jargon, explain medical terminology after use; use open and close ended questions; progress from general to specific) (nonverbal SOFTEN and verbal PEARLS statements)
	8	Demonstrate the ability to actively engage patients and caregivers as part of the healthcare team.	(to assist in identifying diagnoses, deciding appropriate care plans, ensuring treatments are appropriately administered, and identifying adverse events. In addition, present patient education materials, provide patients with medications lists, and test results.
	9	Identify and discuss the roles of inter-professional team members and the ability to communicate discipline relevant information to ensure the delivery of safe healthcare to patients.	(e.g. nursing, pharmacy, social work)
	10	Communicate a patient's medical information to healthcare professionals during transitions of care to prevent handoff communications from resulting in adverse events.	(e.g. diagnoses, test results) (e.g., hospital to ambulatory office or clinic, within hospital services)
Infection Control	11	Identify potential infectious hazards of medical interventions and apply appropriate risk reduction strategies to prevent adverse events.	(catheter related infections, surgical site infections, bloodstream infections associated with intravascular devices, ventilator associated pneumonia) (minimize duration of use)
	12	Prevent healthcare associated infections by personally applying and advocating for others' use of universal precautions, use personal protection methods, immunizations, and demonstrate what to do if exposure to potentially infectious material occurs.	(respiratory isolation, contact isolation) (hepatitis B) (notify appropriate staff in a healthcare setting)
	13	Identify and advocate for system wide efforts to reduce infection in a variety of health care settings.	(protocols for hand washing, use of isolation, equipment sterilization) (inpatient rooms, operating rooms, ambulatory clinics)
	14	Educate and empower patients to minimize the risk of infections.	(single use needles, hand washing instructions, hands free coughing)
Medication Safety	15	Explain the safety implications associated with drug selection and dose across the lifespan	(e.g. age-related changes in renal and hepatic function, dosing errors in children).

	16	Document a patient's complete medication list and allergies to medication, including prescribed, herbal and over-the-counter medications, and for each medication provide the dose, frequency, indication, benefit, side effects, and an assessment of adherence.	
	17	Identify the most accurate list of all medications a patient is taking at transitions of care by comparing a patient's current medication list including name, dose, frequency, and route with a physician's admission, transfer, and/or discharge orders.	
	18	Identify drug interactions using information healthcare technology tools.	(EMR system, CPOE, PDAs)
	19	Become aware of the safety implications associated with variability in patient response to different drugs.	(potential simulation involving conscious sedation of propofol to be implemented in the curriculum by April of 2013 through an R21 NIH grant from UF)
Ethical & Medicolegal Issues	20	Discuss the ethical and medicolegal issues surrounding disclosure of adverse events to patients.	