

**Sidney Kimmel Medical College Graduation Competencies**

SKMC has established the following medical educational program objectives to align with the AAMC competencies within eight domains: patient care, knowledge for practice, practice-based learning and improvement, interpersonal and communication skills, professionalism, systems-based practice, inter-professional collaboration, and personal and professional development.

As a consequence, the school will ensure that before graduation, every student will have demonstrated to the satisfaction of the faculty competence in the following domains:

**Competency #1-Patient Care:** Physicians should provide patient-centered care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

**Educational Program Objectives-Graduates will:**

- PC1 Perform essential basic procedures
- PC2 Gather essential and accurate information about patients and their condition through history-taking, physical examination, and the use of laboratory data, imaging, and other tests
- PC3 Organize and prioritize responsibilities to provide care that is safe, effective, and efficient including in urgent and emergent situations
- PC4 Interpret laboratory data, imaging studies, and other tests required for the area of practice
- PC5 Make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, up-to-date scientific evidence, and clinical judgment
- PC6 Develop and carry out patient management plans including provision of palliative and end-of-life care
- PC7 Counsel and educate patients and their families to empower them to participate in their care and enable shared decision making
- PC8 Provide appropriate referral of patients including ensuring continuity of care throughout transitions between providers or settings and following up on patient progress and outcomes
- PC9 Provide health care services to patients, families, and communities aimed at preventing health problems or maintaining health

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**Competency #2-Knowledge for practice:** Physicians should demonstrate knowledge of established and evolving biomedical, clinical, epidemiological, and social-behavioral sciences, as well as the application of this knowledge to patient care.

**Educational Program Objectives-Graduates will:**

- KP1 Demonstrate an investigatory and analytic approach to clinical situations
- KP2 Apply established and emerging biomedical scientific principles fundamental to health care for patients and population
- KP3 Apply established and emerging principles of clinical sciences to diagnostic and therapeutic decision making, clinical problem solving, and other aspects of evidence-based health care
- KP4 Apply principles of epidemiological sciences to the identification of health problems, risk factors, treatment strategies, resources, and disease prevention/health promotion efforts for patients and populations
- KP5 Apply principles of social-behavioral sciences to provision of patient care, including assessment of the impact of psychosocial-cultural influences on health, disease, care-seeking, care-compliance, and barriers to and attitudes toward care
- KP6 Contribute to the creation, dissemination, application, and translation of new health care knowledge and practices

**Competency #3-Practice based learning and improvement:** Physicians should demonstrate the ability to investigate and evaluate their care of patients, to appraise and assimilate scientific evidence, and to continuously improve patient care based on constant self-evaluation and lifelong learning.

**Educational Program Objectives-Graduates will:**

- PBLI1 Identify strengths, deficiencies, and limits in one's knowledge and expertise
  - PBLI2 Set learning and improvement goals
  - PBLI3 Identify and perform learning activities that address one's gaps in knowledge, skills, or attitudes
  - PBLI4 Systematically analyze practice using quality-improvement methods and implement changes with the goal of practice improvement
  - PBLI5 Incorporate regular feedback into practice
  - PBLI6 Locate, appraise, assimilate and apply evidence from timely scientific studies related to patients' health problems
  - PBLI7 Participate in the education of patients, families, students, peers, and other health professionals
  - PBLI8 Obtain and utilize information about individual patients, populations of patients, or communities from which patients are drawn to improve care
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**Competency #4-Interpersonal and communication skills:** Physicians should demonstrate interpersonal and communication skills that result in the effective exchange of information and collaboration with patients, their families, and health professionals.

**Educational Program Objectives-Graduates will:**

- ICS1 Communicate effectively with patients, families, peers, and other team members of diverse backgrounds, languages, cultures, and communities using strategies to build therapeutic alliances, promote inclusion and equity, and ensure understanding
  - ICS2 Communicate effectively with colleagues within one's profession or specialty, other health professionals, and health-related agencies
  - ICS3 Maintain comprehensive, timely, and clear medical records
  - ICS4 Demonstrate sensitivity, honesty, and compassion in difficult conversations
  - ICS5 Demonstrate empathy and an understanding about human emotions that allow one to develop and manage interpersonal interactions
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**Competency #5-Professionalism:** Physicians should demonstrate a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities and an adherence to ethical principles.

**Educational Program Objectives-Graduates will:**

- P1 Demonstrate compassion, integrity, and respect for others
  - P2 Demonstrate accountability to patients, society and the profession
  - P3 Demonstrate respect for patient privacy and autonomy
  - P4 Demonstrate sensitivity and responsiveness to a diverse patient population, including but not limited to diversity in ability, age, culture, gender, race, religion and sexual orientation
  - P5 Demonstrate a commitment to ethical principles pertaining to provision or withholding of care, confidentiality, informed consent, and conflicts of interest.
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**Competency #6-System-based practice:** Physicians should demonstrate an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care, as well as the ability to call effectively on other resources in the system to provide optimal health care.

**Educational Program Objectives-Graduates will:**

- SBP1 Work effectively in various health care delivery settings
  - SBP2 Coordinate patient care within the health care system
  - SBP3 Incorporate considerations of cost awareness and risk-benefit analysis in patient and/or population based care
  - SBP4 Advocate for access, quality patient care and safety
  - SBP5 Participate in identifying system errors and implementing potential systems solutions
  - SBP6 Demonstrate understanding of various approaches to the organization, financing and delivery of health care at the regional, national and global levels.
  - SBP7 Apply understanding of current and historical factors affecting health equity, including structural inequities in access to and quality of health care, to improve the health of patients and communities
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**Competency #7-Interprofessional collaboration:** Physicians should demonstrate the ability to engage in an inter-professional team in a manner that optimizes safe, effective patient and population-centered care.

**Educational Program Objectives-Graduates will:**

- IPC1 Work with other health professionals to establish and maintain a climate of mutual respect
  - IPC2 Recognize the roles and responsibilities of other health/healthcare providers and how the team works together to provide care
  - IPC3 Work to ensure common understanding of information, treatment, and health/healthcare decisions by listening actively, communicating effectively, encouraging ideas and opinions of other team members and expressing one's knowledge and opinions with confidence, clarity and respect
  - IPC4 Reflect on the attributes of highly functioning teams and demonstrate the responsibilities and practices of effective team members
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**Competency #8-Personal and professional development:** Physicians should demonstrate the qualities required to sustain lifelong personal and professional growth.

**Educational Program Objectives-Graduates will:**

- PPD1 Develop the ability to use self-awareness of knowledge, skills, and emotional limitations to engage in appropriate help-seeking behaviors
- PPD2 Develop healthy coping strategies
- PPD3 Manage competing needs of personal and professional responsibility, and recognize that patient needs may supersede self-interest
- PPD4 Demonstrate trustworthiness to one's colleagues regarding the care of patients
- PPD5 Provide leadership skills that enhance team functioning, the learning environment, and/or the health care delivery system
- PPD6 Recognize that ambiguity is part of clinical health care and respond by using appropriate resources in dealing with uncertainty