



December 2019

Milestones Supplemental Guide

This document provides additional guidance and examples for the Cardiovascular Disease Milestones. This is not designed to indicate any specific requirements for each level, but to provide insight into the thinking of the Milestone Work Group.

Included in this document is the intent of each Milestone and examples of what a Clinical Competency Committee (CCC) might expect to be observed/assessed at each level. Also included are suggested assessment models and tools for each subcompetency, references, and other useful information.

Review this guide with the CCC and faculty members. As the program develops a shared mental model of the Milestones, consider creating an individualized guide (Supplemental Guide Template available) with institution/program-specific examples, assessment tools used by the program, and curricular components.

Assessment Models or Tools

Patient Care 1: Invasive Cardiovascular Testing Overall Intent: To interpret angiographic and hemodynamic data; to perform invasive cardiac procedures with appropriate supervision **Milestones Examples** Level 1 Discusses the key steps and anatomy • Describes venous and arterial anatomy relevant to the procedure Level 2 Obtains and manages vascular access, Performs an Allen or Barbeau test with direct supervision Obtains vascular access • Identifies left and right coronary anatomy in different projections Recognizes normal coronary anatomy and standard angiographic views Level 3 Performs some elements of diagnostic • Operates the manifold or injector cardiac catheterization, with direct supervision Performs some elements of selected common Requires assistance to place right heart catheter procedures, with direct supervision Interprets angiographic and hemodynamic data, Recognizes normal wave forms with supervision Level 4 Performs diagnostic cardiac • Performs all essential steps of diagnostic cardiac catheterization catheterization, with direct supervision Independently performs selected common Independently places right heart catheter procedures (e.g., pulmonary artery catheter, temporary pacing wire, arterial and venous access) Independently interprets angiographic and • Recognizes and interprets abnormal wave forms and hemodynamic measurements to hemodynamic data and integrates with other identify cardiogenic shock clinical findings for common clinical conditions Level 5 Independently performs diagnostic • Independently performs diagnostic cardiac catheterization cardiac catheterization Independently interprets angiographic and • Independently interprets hemodynamic measurements in complex congenital heart hemodynamic data and integrates with other disease clinical findings for complex clinical conditions

Direct observation

	 End-of-rotation evaluations Evaluation of conference presentation Procedure logs
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Milestones Level 4 is intended to reflect COCATS Level 1 King SB III, Babb JD, Bates ER, et al. COCATS 4 Task Force 10: training in cardiac catheterization. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2015;65(17):1844-1853. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0735109715008335?via%3Dihub.2019. Halperin JL, Williams ES, Fuster V, et al. ACC 2015 core cardiovascular training statement 4 (COCATS 4) (revision of COCATS 3). J Am Coll Cardiol. 2015;65(17):1721–1906. https://www.acc.org/~/media/non-clinical/files-pdfs-excel-ms-word-etc/guidelines/2015/031315_cocats4_unified_document.pdf. 2019.

Patient Care 2: Non-Invasive Testing	
Overall Intent: To independently perform and interpret non-invasive testing and integrate data into patient care	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Discusses the key steps of the test	Describes steps to perform transthoracic echo
Interprets electrocardiogram (ECG) patterns for common clinical conditions	Identifies acute ST elevation myocardial infarction (MI) and atrial fibrillation on a surface ECG
Level 2 Obtains and identifies standard views for transthoracic echocardiography	Performs basic views of a transthoracic echocardiogram
Participates in selected common tests, with direct supervision	Aids in performance of cardiac nuclear perfusion testing
Interprets ECG and ambulatory ECG; performs and interprets stress testing, with guidance	Identifies ischemia on exercise stress test
Level 3 Performs and interprets a complete transthoracic echocardiography, with guidance	Interprets a normal, complete transthoracic echogram
Integrates data from selected common tests (e.g., nuclear, computed tomography [CT], magnetic resonance imaging [MRI], vascular ultrasound), with guidance	Recognizes the implications of high-risk features of a stress/rest cardiac nuclear perfusion test
Interprets complex ECG, ambulatory ECG, and stress testing, with guidance	Discriminates between ventricular tachycardia and supraventricular tachycardia with aberrancy
Level 4 Independently performs and interprets transthoracic echocardiography in common clinical conditions	Independently interprets a transthoracic echocardiogram with uncomplicated aortic stenosis
Independently integrates the data from selected common tests (e.g., nuclear, CT, MRI, vascular ultrasound)	Independently recognizes the implications of high-risk features of a stress/rest cardiac nuclear perfusion test
Independently interprets ECG and ambulatory ECG; independently performs and interprets stress testing	

Level 5 Independently performs and interprets transthoracic echocardiography in complex clinical conditions	Independently interprets a transthoracic echocardiogram with low flow, low gradient aortic stenosis
Independently performs, interprets, and integrates selected common tests (e.g., nuclear, CT, MRI, vascular ultrasound)	Independently interprets stress/rest cardiac nuclear perfusion test
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	End-of-rotation evaluations
	Evaluation of imaging conference participation
	Procedure logs
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 Milestones Level 4 is intended to reflect COCATS Level 1 Ryan T, Berlacher K, Lindner JR, Mankad SV, Rose GA, Wang A. COCATS 4 task force 5: training in echocardiography. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2015;65(17):1786–1799. https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/S0735109715008487?token=09C8FB5B97F702 BEE9F3719BA87B83ED51EDBFFFE2889A563201FABEE4E1596355E365FA59434C0B D648EE9A35EA20AE. 2019. Dilsizian V, Arrighi JA, Cohen RS, Miller TD, Solomon AJ, Udelson JE. COCATS 4 task force 6: training in nuclear cardiology. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2015;65(17):1800–1809. http://www.onlinejacc.org/content/65/17/1800. 2019. Halperin JL, Williams ES, Fuster V, et al. ACC 2015 core cardiovascular training statement 4 (COCATS 4) (revision of COCATS 3). <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2015;65(17):1721–1906. https://www.acc.org/~/media/non-clinical/files-pdfs-excel-ms-word-etc/guidelines/2015/031315_cocats4_unified_document.pdf. 2019.

Patient Care 3: Acute Care Overall Intent: To diagnose and treat critically ill patients in an inpatient setting; to effectively perform hospital-based cardiology consultations	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Identifies patients with acute cardiac conditions (e.g., acute coronary syndromes, cardiogenic shock, decompensated heart failure, arrhythmias)	Recognizes when to escalate care or admit to the intensive care unit (ICU) Recognizes cardiogenic shock from other etiologies of shock
Level 2 Manages patients with acute cardiac conditions (e.g., acute coronary syndromes, cardiogenic shock, decompensated heart failure, and arrhythmias), with direct supervision	With direct supervision, implements treatment algorithms in patients with cardiogenic shock (including appropriate pressor/inotrope therapies)
Performs inpatient cardiovascular consultation, with direct supervision	With direct supervision, diagnoses ventricular tachycardia and proceeds with diagnostic and therapeutic interventions
Identifies options available for advanced therapies	Is aware of therapeutic options including transplant and ventricular assist devices
Level 3 Manages patients with acute cardiac conditions (e.g., acute coronary syndromes, cardiogenic shock, decompensated heart failure, and arrhythmias), with indirect supervision	With indirect supervision, implements treatment algorithms in patients with cardiogenic shock (including appropriate pressor / inotrope therapies)
Performs inpatient cardiovascular consultation, with indirect supervision	With indirect supervision, diagnoses ventricular tachycardia and proceeds with diagnostic and therapeutic interventions
Identifies patients appropriate for advanced therapies and when to initiate end-of-life care	Recognizes when to consider evaluation for home inotropes
Level 4 Manages independently patients with acute cardiac conditions (e.g., acute coronary syndromes, cardiogenic shock, decompensated heart failure, and arrhythmias)	Independently, implements treatment algorithms in patients with cardiogenic shock (including appropriate pressor / inotrope therapies)
Effectively performs inpatient cardiovascular consultation	Independently diagnoses ventricular tachycardia and proceeds with diagnostic and therapeutic interventions

Coordinates advanced therapies and end-of-life care	Activates the services to initiate cardiac mechanical support in appropriate patients
Level 5 Functions as an exceptional team leader in the acute care setting	Role models leadership in multidisciplinary care rounding in the cardiac care unit
Advances quality of clinical practice in the treatment strategies for acute cardiovascular conditions	Develops initiatives to improve health care delivery in the acute setting
Effectively develops team-based care models in management of acute cardiovascular conditions	Develops initiatives for improved team-based care
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	End-of-rotation evaluations
	Evaluation of conference discussion during morning report
	Multisource feedback
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Fuster V, Halperin JL, Williams ES, et al. COCATS 4 Task Force 1: training in ambulatory, consultative, and longitudinal cardiovascular care. <i>J Am Coll of Cardiol</i>. 2015;65(17):1734-1753. https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/S073510971500830X?token=033734DB203D1E 84D925581F5CF1C05EDEBDC93137DBC103196CD7B4D5A8510D6C3ED0038B52056 B7026D2FDF291493A. 2019. Jessup M, Ardehali R, Konstam MA, et al. COCATS 4 Task Force 12: training in heart failure. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2015;65(17):1866-1876. https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/S0735109715008384?token=558CD66A0E67EE 965530368195DBBFA6CAD9C840B187CAEE89D8D23ECDC43CD5B5322F9F38054E6 B331A8365CC752C5D. 2019. O'Gara PT, Adams JE III, Drazner MH, et al. COCATS 4 Task Force 13: training in cirtical care cardiology. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2015;65(17):1877-1886. https://reader.elsevier.com/reader/sd/pii/S0735109715008347?token=F5D9657F3C919D 62CE118C2CDDAFEBC4DCE39C0822902301F86455DEA8F7D7EFA1A7513C4DB69C 5EC326CECE07A1DB80. 2019. Halperin JL, Williams ES, Fuster V, et al. ACC 2015 core cardiovascular training statement 4 (COCATS 4) (revision of COCATS 3). <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2015;65(17):1721–1906. https://www.acc.org/~/media/non-clinical/files-pdfs-excel-ms-word-etc/guidelines/2015/031315 cocats4 unified document.pdf. 2019.

 Braun LT, Grady KL, Kutner JS, et al. Palliative care and cardiovascular disease and stroke: a policy statement from the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association. Circulation. 2016;134(11):e198-225.
https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/full/10.1161/CIR.000000000000438. 2019.

Patient Care 4: Chronic Care for Cardiovascular Conditions Overall Intent: To assess, diagnose, and manage chronic cardiovascular conditions (e.g., heart failure, atrial fibrillation, ischemic heart disease, etc.)	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Recognizes clinical signs and symptoms of common chronic cardiovascular conditions	Recognizes symptoms, signs and laboratory findings consistent with heart failure
Discusses the treatment strategies for common cardiovascular conditions	Discusses the guideline based treatments appropriate for heart failure with reduced ejection fraction
Level 2 Diagnoses and monitors for complications or changes related to common chronic cardiovascular conditions, with direct supervision	Monitors symptoms, signs, and laboratory findings for evidence of progression of heart failure and develops an appropriate differential diagnosis, with direct supervision
Develops treatment strategies for common chronic cardiovascular conditions, with direct supervision	Develops pharmacologic treatment plans for patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction, with direct supervision
Effectively participates in team-based care in management of common chronic cardiovascular conditions, with direct supervision	Appropriately engages with pharmacists, social workers, case managers, and other consultants in the management of heart failure patients, with direct supervision
Level 3 Diagnoses and monitors for complications or changes related to common chronic cardiovascular conditions, with indirect supervision	Monitors symptoms, signs, and laboratory findings for evidence of progression of heart failure and develops an appropriate differential, with indirect supervision from faculty members
Develops treatment strategies for common chronic cardiovascular conditions, with indirect supervision	Develops pharmacologic treatment plans for patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction, with indirect supervision from faculty members
Effectively participates in team-based care in management of common chronic cardiovascular conditions, with indirect supervision	Appropriately engages with pharmacists, social workers, case managers, and other consultants in the management of heart failure patients, with indirect supervision from faculty members
Level 4 Diagnoses and monitors for complications or changes related to complex chronic cardiovascular conditions	Diagnoses and monitors for concurrent cardiovascular conditions such as valvular heart disease, arrhythmia, and pulmonary hypertension

Develops treatment strategies for complex chronic cardiovascular conditions	Independently able to manage patients with heart failure with reduced ejection fraction and valvular heart disease, arrhythmia, or pulmonary hypertension
Effectively participates in team-based care in management of complex chronic cardiovascular conditions	Engages with the heart failure specialists for consideration of advanced therapies
Level 5 Functions as an exceptional team leader in the chronic care setting	Coordinates interdisciplinary care for complex patients with multiple comorbidities
Advances quality of clinical practice in the treatment strategies for chronic cardiovascular conditions	Engages in community events to promote the health of patients with chronic cardiac conditions
Effectively develops team-based care models in management of chronic cardiovascular conditions	Develops initiatives with other health care professionals to improve dietary adherence recommendations in heart failure
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation
	End-of-rotation assessments
	 Individual performance metrics from electronic health records (EHR) Multisource feedback
	Research/quality assurance project presentations
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	Halperin JL, Williams ES, Fuster V, et al. ACC 2015 core cardiovascular training statement 4 (COCATS 4) (revision of COCATS 3). <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i> . 2015;65(17):1721–1906. https://www.acc.org/~/media/non-clinical/files-pdfs-excel-ms-word-etc/guidelines/2015/031315 cocats4 unified document.pdf. 2019.

Medical Knowledge 1: Cardiovascular Testing Overall Intent: To identify and interpret relevant cardiovascular tests for different clinical situations	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Knows available cardiovascular tests	Lists the cardiovascular tests that can be used to evaluate for coronary artery disease
Level 2 Demonstrates knowledge of indications and contraindications for cardiovascular testing	Knows the indications, risks and contraindications of stress testing for patients with suspected coronary artery disease
Knows the basic measurements obtained from the various cardiovascular testing modalities	Knows that a nuclear stress test measures relative myocardial perfusion
Level 3 Demonstrates knowledge of appropriate selection and use of cardiovascular testing for patients with common cardiovascular disorders	Knows the role of and characteristic findings on echocardiography of dilated and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
Identifies key test findings in common cardiovascular disorders	Recognizes the presence of pericardial effusion and knows echocardiographic criteria for tamponade
Level 4 Applies knowledge of appropriate selection and use of cardiovascular testing for patients with complex cardiovascular disorders	Differentiates between constriction and restriction on echocardiography Knows the key findings in cardiopulmonary exercise testing (CPET) in patients evaluated for cardiac transplantation
Identifies key test findings in complex cardiovascular disorders	Chooses appropriate cardiac imaging tests to diagnose cardiac amyloidosis
Level 5 Advances knowledge in indications, contraindications, and appropriate use for cardiovascular testing	Participates in local or national research efforts surrounding multimodality imaging
Advances knowledge in defining the role of cardiovascular testing	Participate in guidelines development on the role of CPET
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Evaluation of case presentation In-training exam Medical record (chart) audit Multisource feedback Procedure log
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Halperin JL, Williams ES, Fuster V, et al. ACC 2015 core cardiovascular training statement 4 (COCATS 4) (revision of COCATS 3). J Am Coll Cardiol. 2015;65(17):1721–

1906. https://www.acc.org/~/media/non-clinical/files-pdfs-excel-ms-word-etc/guidelines/2015/031315 cocats4 unified document.pdf. 2019.

Medical Knowledge 2: Critical Thinking for Diagnosis and Therapy Overall Intent: To diagnose rare presentations and disorders and appropriately adapt treatment plans **Milestones Examples** Level 1 Lists a differential diagnosis for common • Lists a differential diagnosis for chest pain clinical presentations Lists therapeutic options for common clinical Lists treatment options for chronic angina presentations Level 2 Provides a comprehensive differential • Creates a complete differential for chest pain in several different clinical scenarios diagnosis for a wide range of clinical presentations Explains advantages and drawbacks of standard Discusses risks and benefits of medical versus invasive management of chronic angina therapeutic options Level 3 Provides a focused differential • Creates a differential diagnosis for chest pain in pregnancy diagnosis based on individual patient presentation Justifies optimal therapeutic option based on • Explains rationale for medical management in chronic angina associated with chronic individual patient presentation kidnev disease Level 4 Diagnoses patients with challenging • Synthesizes history and physical and diagnostic testing in spontaneous coronary artery presentations and uncommon disorders dissection in pregnancy Develops therapeutic plan for patients with Creates therapeutic plan for a patient with anomalous coronary and chest pain challenging presentations and uncommon disorders Level 5 Disseminates knowledge of challenging • Writes a case report on spontaneous coronary artery dissection presentations and uncommon disorders • Performs research on innovative therapy for chronic angina Assessment Models or Tools Direct observation • End-of-rotation evaluation Evaluation of conference participation **Curriculum Mapping** Notes or Resources • Clinical reasoning relies on appropriate foundational knowledge that requires the learner to apply that knowledge in a thoughtful, deliberate, and logical fashion to clinical cases to inform clinical care

 Iobst WF, Trowbride R, Philibert I. Teaching and assessing critical reasoning through the use of entrustment. <i>J Grad Med Educ</i>. 2013;5(3):517-518. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3771188/. 2019.
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Systems-Based	Practice 1: Patient Safety and Quality Improvement (QI)
Overall Intent: To engage in the analysis and management of patient safety events, including relevant communication with patients,	
families, and health care professionals; to condi	
	<u>Examples</u>
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge of common patient safety events	Describes the basics of reporting pathways and QI strategies, but has not yet participated in such activities
Demonstrates knowledge of how to report patient safety events	
Demonstrates knowledge of basic quality improvement methodologies and metrics	
Level 2 Identifies system factors that lead to patient safety events	 Identifies and reports a patient safety issue (e.g., accidental discontinuation of dual antiplatelet agents after percutaneous coronary intervention), along with contributing system factors
Reports patient safety events through institutional reporting systems (simulated or actual)	Is aware of available hospital and departmental reporting mechanisms for near-misses
Describes quality improvement initiatives at the institutional or departmental level	
Level 3 Participates in analysis of patient safety events (simulated or actual)	 Reviews a patient safety event (e.g., preparing for morbidity and mortality presentations, joining a Root Cause Analysis group) and has communicated with patients/families about such an event
Participates in disclosure of patient safety events to patients and families (simulated or actual)	Participates in a QI project, though they may not have yet designed a QI project
Participates in quality improvement initiatives at the institutional or departmental level	
Level 4 Conducts analysis of patient safety events and offers error prevention strategies (simulated or actual)	Collaborates with a team to lead the analysis of a patient safety event and can competently communicate with patients/families about those events
Discloses patient safety events to patients and families (simulated or actual)	Initiates and completes a QI project within the cardiology division or department

Demonstrates the skills required to identify, develop, implement, and analyze a quality improvement project	
Level 5 Actively engages teams and processes to modify systems to prevent patient safety events	Competently assumes a leadership role at the institutional or community level for patient safety and/or QI initiatives, possibly even being the person to initiate action or call attention to the need for action
Role models or mentors others in the disclosure of patient safety events	
Creates, implements, and assesses quality improvement initiatives at the institutional or community level	
Assessment Models or Tools	Chart or other system documentation by fellow Direct chart of the convertion.
	 Direct observation Documentation of QI or patient safety project processes or outcomes
	E-module multiple choice tests
	Portfolio
	Reflection Simulation
	Multisource feedback
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	• Institute for Healthcare Improvement. http://www.ihi.org/Pages/default.aspx . 2019.

Systems-Based	Practice 2: System Navigation for Patient-Centered Care
Overall Intent: To effectively navigate the health care system, including the interdisciplinary team and other care providers; to adapt care to	
a specific patient population to ensure high-qua	
	Examples Control of the beautiful and the control of the beautiful and the control of the contro
Level 1 Demonstrates knowledge of care coordination	Identifies the various members of the health care team and defines their roles
Identifies key elements for effective transitions of care	Lists the essential components of an effective sign-out and care transition
Level 2 Coordinates care of patients in routine clinical situations, effectively using the roles of the interprofessional teams	Contacts health care team members for routine cases, but requires supervision to ensure all necessary referrals, testing, and care transitions are made
Performs effective transitions of care in routine clinical situations	Performs a routine case sign-out but still needs guidance and direct supervision to identify and appropriately triage cases or calls
Demonstrates general knowledge of financial, cultural, and social barriers to adherence of care	• Identifies components of social determinants of health and how they impact the delivery of patient care
Level 3 Coordinates care of patients in complex clinical situations, effectively using the roles of their interprofessional teams	Uses care coordinators to help prevent patients with chronic congestive heart failure from frequent admissions
Performs effective transitions of care in complex clinical situations	Performs safe and effective transitions of care with clinical service at shift change
Identifies financial, cultural, and social barriers to adherence of care to specific populations	Knows which patients are at high risk for specific health outcomes related to health literacy concerns, cost of testing or therapy, LGBTQ status, etc.
Level 4 Role models effective coordination of patient-centered care among different disciplines and specialties	Role models and educates students and junior team members regarding the engagement of appropriate interprofessional team members and ensures the necessary resources have been arranged
Role models and advocates for effective transitions of care within and across health care delivery systems	Coaches residents on effective transition from the inpatient to outpatient setting
Adapts practice to address the financial, cultural, and social barriers to adherence of care	Adjusts practice to ensure patients with lower income are prescribed lower cost medications

Level 5 Analyses the process of care coordination and leads in the design and implementation of improvements	Works with hospital or ambulatory site team members or leadership to analyze care coordination in that setting, and takes a leadership role in designing and implementing changes to improve the care coordination
Improves quality of transitions of care within and across healthcare delivery systems to optimize patient outcomes	Works with a QI mentor to identify better hand-off tools for on-call services
Leads innovations and advocates for populations with health care inequities	 Designs a social determinants of health curriculum to help others learn to identify local resources and barriers to care and laboratory testing; Helps develop telehealth program to ensure that patients in rural areas can be seen by all cardiology specialists
Assessment Models or Tools	 Case management quality metrics and goals mined from EHRs Direct observation Interdisciplinary rounds for high-risk patients/cases Lectures/workshops on social determinants of health or population health with identification of local resources Medical record (chart) review Multisource feedback Review of sign-out tools, use and review of checklists between pathology services
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 Adams C. In pursuit of patient-centered care. <i>MLO</i>. 2016;48(4):48. https://tissuepathology.com/2016/03/29/in-pursuit-of-patient-centered-care/#axzz5e7nSsAns. 2019. CDC. Population Health Training in Place Program (PH-TIPP). https://www.cdc.gov/pophealthtraining/whatis.html. 2019. Skochelak SE, Hawkins RE, Lawson LE, Starr SR, Borkan JM, Gonzalo JD. <i>AMA Education Consortium: Health Systems Science</i>. 1st ed. Philadelphia, PA: Elsevier; 2016. https://commerce.ama-assn.org/store/ui/catalog/productDetail?product_id=prod2780003.

Systems-Based Practice 3: Physician Role in Health Care Systems	
Overall Intent: To understand the physician's role in the complex health care system and how to optimize the system to improve patient care and the health system's performance	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Identifies key components of the health care system (e.g., hospital, skilled nursing facility, finance, personnel, technology)	 Recognizes that hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and technology are components of the health care system and describes different payment systems, such as Medicare, Medicaid, the VA, and commercial third-party payers
Describes basic health payment systems, (e.g., government, private, public, uninsured care) and practice models	
Level 2 Describes how components of a complex health care system are inter-related, and how this impacts patient care	Describes how improving patient satisfaction improves patient adherence and remuneration to the health system
Delivers care with consideration of each patient's payment model (e.g., insurance type)	Applies knowledge of health plan features, including formularies and network requirements in patient care situations
Demonstrates essential skills for documentation required for independent practice (e.g., electronic health record, documentation required for billing and coding)	Completes a note template following a routine patient encounter and applies appropriate coding in compliance with regulations
Level 3 Discusses how individual practice affects the broader system (e.g., length of stay, readmission rates, clinical efficiency)	 Understands, accesses, and analyzes performance data at departmental or individual level; relevant data may include: MI mortality from national registry
Engages with patients in shared decision	 Group's heart failure readmission rates Wait time for initial visit to the fellow's cardiology clinic
making, informed by each patient's payment models	Uses shared decision making to select the most cost-effective testing depending on the relevant clinical needs
Seeks knowledge in non-clinical topics needed for independent practice (e.g., malpractice insurance, government regulation, compliance)	Understands the process of contract negotiations and choosing malpractice insurance carriers and features
Level 4 Manages various components of the complex health care system to provide efficient and effective patient care and transition of care	Works collaboratively with the institution to improve patient assistance resources or design the institution's community health needs assessment, or develop/implement/assess the resulting action plans

Advocates for patient care needs (e.g., community resources, patient assistance resources) with consideration of the limitations of each patient's payment model Applies knowledge in non-clinical topics needed for independent practice	Applies knowledge of contract negotiations and choosing malpractice insurance carriers and features,
Level 5 Advocates for or leads systems change that enhances high-value, efficient and effective patient care and transition of care	Works with community or professional organizations to advocate for no smoking ordinances
Participates in health policy advocacy activities	Develops processes to decrease opioid prescribing for one or more clinical services
Educates others in non-clinical topics to prepare them for independent practice	Improves informed consent process for non-English speaking patients requiring interpreter services
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation Medical record (chart) review QI project
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. 2018 MIPS Advancing Care Information Performance Category Fact Sheet. https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Information-Fact-Sheet.pdf. 2019. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services. MACRA. https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs.html. 2019. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The Challenges of Measuring Physician Quality. https://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/talkingquality/create/physician/measurementsets.html. 2019. The Kaiser Family Foundation. https://www.kff.org/topic/health-reform/. 2019. Dzau VJ, McClellan M, Burke S, et al. Vital directions for health and health care: priorities form a national academy of medicine initiative. https://mam.edu/vital-directions-for-health-health-care-priorities-from-a-national-academy-of-medicine-initiative/. 2019.

The Commonwealth Fund. Health System Data Center.

 http://datacenter.commonwealthfund.org/? ga=2.110888517.1505146611.1495417431-1811932185.1495417431#ind=1/sc=1.
 2019.

 The Commonwealth Fund. Health Reform Resource Center:

 http://www.commonwealthfund.org/interactives-and-data/health-reform-resource-center#/f:@facasubcategoriesfacet63677=[Individual%20and%20Employer%20Responsibility.
 2019.

 American Board of Internal Medicine. QI/PI activities. http://www.abim.org/maintenance-of-certification/earning-points/practice-assessment.aspx. 2019.

Practice-Based Learning and Improvement 1: Evidence-Based and Informed Practice Overall Intent: To incorporate evidence and patient values into clinical practice	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates how to access and use available evidence to manage a patient with cardiac disease	Obtains the appropriate evidence-based guidelines for management of aortic regurgitation
Level 2 Articulates clinical questions and elicits patient preferences to guide evidence-based care	Asks symptom driven and goals of care questions of the patient with aortic regurgitation
Level 3 Locates and applies the best available evidence to the care of patients with complex cardiac disease while integrating patient preference	 Applies evidence in the care of a patient with symptomatic, severe aortic regurgitation who does not want surgery Researches and applies the concept of frailty in the evaluation of a patient with severe aortic stenosis
Level 4 Critically appraises and applies available, potentially conflicting evidence to guide care of an individual patient	Applies evidence, including new primary literature, in the care of a patient with severe aortic regurgitation due to endocarditis in the setting of drug use
Level 5 Develops initiatives to educate others to critically appraise and apply evidence for complex patients and/or participates in the development of guidelines	 Teaches others how to find and apply best practice or develops, independently or as a part of a team, thoughtful clinical guidelines on management of valve disease Helps write a multi-team policy for the institution to address when to do surgery in patients with endocarditis and recent drug use
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Evaluation of presentation Oral or written examination
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 NEJM Knowledge. Exploring the ACGME Core Competencies: Practice-Based Learning and Improvement. https://knowledgeplus.nejm.org/blog/practice-based-learning-and-improvement/. 2019. Harrington RA, Barac A, Brush JE Jr, et al. COCATS 4 Task Force 15: training in cardiovascular research and scholarly activity. <i>J Am Coll Cardiol</i>. 2015;65(17):1899-1906. https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0735109715008396?via%3Dihub. 2019. Burke AE, Benson B, Englander R, Carraccio C, Hicks PJ. Domain of competence: practice-based learning and improvement. <i>Acad Pediatr</i>. 2014;14(2 Suppl):S38-S54. https://www.academicpedsjnl.net/article/S1876-2859(13)00333-1/fulltext. 2019.

Practice-Based Learning and I	mprovement 2: Reflective Practice and Commitment to Personal Growth
•	on with the intent to improve care; to reflect on all domains of practice and develop goals for
improvement Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Accepts responsibility for personal and professional development by establishing goals	Sets goal to independently interpret transthoracic echocardiogram in tamponade
Acknowledges limits and gaps between expectations and performance; demonstrates self-awareness	Acknowledges need to improve skills in obtaining adequate images to assess for tamponade
Level 2 Demonstrates openness to feedback and performance data in order to form goals	Appreciative of feedback from on call attending on interpretation of quality of echocardiogram and sets goal to improve quality of echo in next month
Analyzes the factors which contribute to limits and gaps; demonstrates appropriate helpseeking behaviors	
Level 3 Occasionally seeks feedback and performance data with adaptability and humility	Documents goals in a more specific and achievable manner, such that attaining them is reasonable and measurable
Creates and implements a learning plan	
Level 4 Systematically seeks feedback and performance data with adaptability and humility	 At the end of each week with an attending, asks him/her about performance and opportunities for improvement
Uses performance data to assess learning plan and improves it when necessary	Consistently identifies ongoing gaps and chooses areas for further development
Level 5 Coaches others to seek feedback and performance data	Encourages other learners on the team to develop a learning plan
Facilitates the design and implementation of learning plans for others	Develops a form that all fellows can use to document and implement a learning plan based on In-Training Exam results
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation End-of-rotation evaluations Review of learning plan
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 Hojat M, Veloski JJ, Gonnella JS. Measurement and correlates of physicians' lifelong learning. Acad Med. 2009;84(8):1066-74. https://insights.ovid.com/crossref?an=00001888-200908000-00021. 2019.



Professiona	alism 1: Professional Behavior and Ethical Principles
Overall Intent: To recognize and address lapses in ethical and professional behavior, demonstrates ethical and professional behaviors, and	
use appropriate resources for managing ethical Milestones	and professional dilemmas Examples
Level 1 Identifies and describes potential	Identifies and describes potential personal or group triggers for professionalism lapses,
triggers for professionalism lapses	describes when and how to appropriately report professionalism lapses, and outlines
triggers for professionalism rapses	strategies for addressing common barriers to reporting
Demonstrates knowledge of ethical principles	 Discusses the basic principles underlying ethics (beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice,
(e.g., informed consent, advance directives,	autonomy) and professionalism (professional values and commitments), and how they
confidentiality, patient autonomy)	apply in various situations (e.g., informed consent process)
Level 2 Demonstrates insight into professional	Acknowledges a lapse without becoming defensive, making excuses, or blaming others
behavior in routine situations	Apologizes for the lapse when appropriate and takes steps to make amends if needed
bondvior in roddino olidatione	Articulates strategies for preventing similar lapses in the future
Applies knowledge of ethical principles to	Recognizes and responds appropriately when peers seek coverage of a shift due to
routine situations	fatigue
Level 3 Demonstrates professional behavior in	Behaves respectfully and calmly during an interaction between the health care team and a
complex or stressful situations	distraught or angry family member
December and to easily halfs in managing and	Recognizes own limitations and seeks resources to help manage and resolve complex
Recognizes need to seek help in managing and resolving complex ethical situations	ethical situations such as:
resolving complex ethical situations	o consulting with a genetic counselor about the implications of genetic testing
	o requesting an ethics consult (e.g., Jehovah's Witness patient with potential
	transfusion needs)
Level 4 Recognizes situations that may trigger	Anticipates the need to seek additional resources to prevent ethical dilemmas
professionalism lapses and intervenes to prevent lapses in self and others	Models respect for patients and expects the same from others
prevent lapses in sell and others	Successfully leads a difficult conversation between the health care team and a distraught
Uses appropriate resources for managing and	or angry family member outlines and responds to possible ethical issues when writing and
resolving ethical dilemmas (e.g., ethics	submitting an Institutional Review Board (IRB) review for a research project
consultations, risk management)	
Level 5 Coaches others when their behavior	Coaches a resident in the cardiovascular ICU after a difficult interaction with a nurse led to
fails to meet professional expectations	a heated discussion in front of a patient family
Identifica and scale to a library and a	Seeks opportunities to provide appropriate feedback on professionalism to other members
Identifies and seeks to address system-level factors that induce or exacerbate ethical	of the health care team
problems or impede their resolution	Engages in system-wide efforts to improve professionalism through participation in a work
•	group, committee, or task force
Assessment Models or Tools	Direct observation

	 Global evaluation Multisource feedback Oral or written self-reflection (e.g., of a personal or observed lapse, ethical dilemma, or systems-level factors) Simulation
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 American Medical Association. Ethics. https://www.ama-assn.org/delivering-care/ama-code-medical-ethics. 2019. ABIM Foundation. American Board of Internal Medicine. Medical professionalism in the new millennium: a physician charter. Annals of Internal Medicine. 2002;136(3):243-246. https://annals.org/aim/fullarticle/474090/medical-professionalism-new-millennium-physician-charter. 2019. Domen RE, Johnson K, Conran RM, et al. Professionalism in pathology: a case-based approach as a potential education tool. Arch Pathol Lab Med. 2017;141(2):215-219. https://www.archivesofpathology.org/doi/10.5858/arpa.2016-0217-CP?url_ver=Z39.88-2003𝔯_id=ori:rid:crossref.org𝔯_dat=cr_pub%3dpubmed. 2019. Byyny RL, Papadakis MA, Paauw DS, Pfiel S, Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society; 2015. https://accessmedicine.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?booklD=1058. 2019. Bynny RL, Paauw DS, Papadakis MA, Pfeil S, Alpha Omega Alpha. https://accessmedicine.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?booklD=1058. 2019. Bynny RL, Paauw DS, Papadakis MA, Pfeil S, Alpha Omega Alpha. https://accessmedicine.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?booklD=1058. 2019. Bynny RL, Paauw DS, Papadakis MA, Pfeil S, Alpha Omega Alpha. https://accessmedicine.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?booklD=1058. 2019. Bynny RL, Paauw DS, Papadakis MA, Pfeil S, Alpha Omega Alpha.

Professionalism 2: Accountability	
Overall Intent: To take responsibility for one's own actions and the impact on patients and other members of the health care team, as well	
as recognizes and manages potential conflicts of	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Takes responsibility for failure to complete tasks and responsibilities, identifies potential contributing factors, and describes strategies for ensuring timely task completion in the future	 Responds promptly to reminders from program administrator to complete work hour logs Timely attendance at conferences
Recognizes the principles of conflict of interest in relationships with industry and other entities	Understands the potential conflict of interests in relationships with pharmaceutical and device companies
Level 2 Performs tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner with appropriate attention to detail in routine situations	Completes tasks in a timely manner, with attention to detail and recognizes when he/she will have trouble completing that task (e.g., going out of town)
Recognizes personal potential conflicts with	Completes and documents safety modules, procedure review, and licensing requirements
industry	 (e.g., administrative duties and tasks) Understands the potential conflict of interest in receiving gifts and educational resources from pharmaceutical and device companies
Level 3 Performs tasks and responsibilities in a timely manner with appropriate attention to detail in complex or stressful situations	 Appropriately notifies residents and fellows on day service about overnight call events during transition of care or hand-off in order to avoid patient safety issues and compromise of patient care Completes tasks in stressful situations and preempts issues that would impede
Seeks assistance in managing personal relationships with industry and other entities to minimize bias and undue influence in practice	completion of tasks (e.g., notifies attending of multiple competing demands on call, appropriately triages tasks, and asks for assistance from other residents or faculty members, if needed)
	 Reviews case logs, evaluations, and portfolio and develops a learning plan to address gaps/weakness in knowledge, case exposure, and skills
	 In collaboration with peers and supervisors, reviews and critiques promotional materials provided by pharmaceutical and device representatives Follows institutional policies regarding relationships with industry
Level 4 Recognizes situations that may impact	Identifies issues that could impede other residents and fellows from completing tasks and
others' ability to complete tasks and	provides leadership to address those issues (e.g., senior fellows advise junior fellows how
responsibilities in a timely manner	to manage their time in completing patient care tasks
	Takes responsibility for potential adverse outcomes and professionally discusses with the interprofessional team

Identifies, discloses, and manages relationships with industry and other entities to minimize bias and undue influence in practice	Independently reviews and critiques promotional materials provided by pharmaceutical and device representatives
Level 5 Engages with the system to improve outcomes	 Identifies and addresses team/system issues that impede efficient completion of patient care tasks (setting up a meeting with the nurse manager to streamline patient discharges) Leads multidisciplinary team in a Root Cause Analysis
Assessment Models or Tools	 Compliance with deadlines and timelines Direct observation Multisource feedback Self-evaluations and reflective tools Simulation
Curriculum Mapping	•
Notes or Resources	 American Society of Anesthesiologists. Standards and Guidelines. https://www.asahq.org/standards-and-quidelines. 2019. Code of conduct from fellow/resident institutional manual Expectations of residency program regarding accountability and professionalism

Professionalism 3: Self-Awareness and Well-Being Overall Intent: To identify, use, manage, improve, and seek help for personal and professional well-being for self and others	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Recognizes the importance of personal and professional well-being	Accepts responsibility of monitoring his/her well-being
Level 2 Independently recognizes status of personal and professional well-being	Identifies possible sources of personal stress and independently seeks help
Level 3 With assistance, proposes a plan to optimize personal and professional well-being	With assistance, develops an action plan to address sources of burnout for self or team
Level 4 Independently develops a plan to optimize personal and professional well-being	• Independently develops action plans for continued personal and professional growth, and limits stress and burnout for self or team
Level 5 Participates in a system change to improve well-being in self and others	 Mentors patients and colleagues in self-awareness and establishes health management plans to limit stress and burnout
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Group interview or discussions for team activities Individual interview
	 Institutional online training modules Participation in institutional well-being programs
Curriculum Mapping	Self-assessment and personal learning plan
Notes or Resources	 Local resources, including Employee Assistance Plan (EAP) Hicks PJ, Schumacher D, Guralnick S, Carraccio C, Burke AE. Domain of competence: personal and professional development. <i>Acad Pediatr</i>. 2014;14(2 Suppl):S80-97. https://www.academicpedsjnl.net/article/S1876-2859(13)00332-X/fulltext. 2019. ACGME. Tools and Resources. https://www.acgme.org/What-We-Do/Initiatives/Physician-Well-Being/Resources. 2019.

Interpersonal and Comn	nunication Skills 1: Patient- and Family-Centered Communication
Overall Intent: To use language and behaviors to form constructive relationships with patients, identifies communication barriers including	
·	s them in the doctor-patient relationships; to organize and lead communication around
shared decision making	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Demonstrates respect and establishes rapport in patient encounters	Self-monitors and controls tone, non-verbal responses, and language and asks questions to invite patient/family participation
Knows barriers to effective communication (e.g., language, disability, health literacy, cultural, personal bias)	Can list examples of common communication barriers in patient care
Identifies the need to adjust communication strategies to achieve shared decision making	Avoids medical jargon when talking to patients
Level 2 Establishes a therapeutic relationship in routine patient encounters	Develops a professional relationship with patients/families, with active listening and attention to communication barriers in patient and family encounters
Identifies barriers to effective communication in patient encounters	Takes the lead in organizing a meeting time and agenda with the patient, family, and consulting teams; begins the meeting, reassessing patient and family understanding and anxiety
Organizes and initiates communication with patient/family to facilitate shared decision making	
Level 3 Establishes a therapeutic relationship in challenging patient encounters, with guidance	• Establishes and maintains a therapeutic relationship with a challenging patient and can articulate personal challenges in the relationship, how their personal biases may impact the relationship, and strategies to use going forward
Attempts to minimize communication barriers, including reflection on any personal biases	Attempts to mitigate identified communication barriers, including reflection on implicit biases when prompted
Uses shared decision making to implement a personalized care plan, under guidance	Elicits what is most important to the patient and family, and acknowledges uncertainty in the medical complexity and prognosis
Level 4 Independently establishes a therapeutic relationship in challenging patient encounters	Independently establishes a therapeutic relationship with the most challenging or complex patients/families with extra sensitivity to their specific concerns
Proactively minimizes communication barriers and independently manages personal biases	Anticipates and proactively addresses communication barriers, including recognition of own implicit bias

Independently, uses shared decision making to implement a personalized care plan	Engages in shared decision making process with the patient and family, including a recommended plan to align patient's unique goals with treatment options
Level 5 Mentors others in situational awareness and critical self-reflection to consistently develop positive therapeutic relationships	Role models and supports colleagues in self-awareness and reflection to improve therapeutic relationships with patients
Role models self-awareness to minimize communication barriers	Role models proactive self-awareness and reflection around explicit and implicit biases with a context specific approach to mitigate communication barriers
Role models shared decision making	• Is an example to others of leading shared decision making with clear recommendations to patients and families even in more complex clinical situations
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Kalamazoo Essential Elements Communication Checklist (Adapted) Multisource feedback Self-assessment including self-reflection exercises Skills needed to set the state, Elicit information, Give information, Understand the patient, and End the encounter (SEGUE) Standardized patients or structured case discussions
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	 Lane JL, Gottlieb RP. Structured clinical observations: a method to teach clinical skills with limited time and financial resources. <i>Pediatrics</i>. 2000;105(4 Pt 2):973-977. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/10742358. 2019. Braddock CH III, Edwards KA, Hasenberg NM, Laidley TL, Levinson W. Informed decision making in outpatient practice: time to get back to basics. <i>JAMA</i>. 1999;282(24):2313-2320. https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/192233. 2019. Laidlaw A, Hart J. Communication skills: an essential component of medical curricula. Part I: Assessment of clinical communication: AMEE Guide No. 51. <i>Med Teach</i>. 2011;33(1):6-8. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/49706184 Communication skills An essential component of medical curricula Part I Assessment of clinical communication AMEE Guide No. 511. 2019. Makoul G. Essential elements of communication in medical encounters: The Kalamazoo consensus statement. <i>Acad Med</i>. 2001;76(4):390-393. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/264544600 Essential elements of communication
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Interpersonal and Communication Skills 2: Interprofessional and Team Communication Overall Intent: To effectively communicate with the health care team, including consultants, in both routine and complex situations **Examples Milestones** Level 1 Respectfully receives a consultation • Shows respect through words and actions when receiving calls for assistance from members of the health care team request • Uses respectful communication to clerical and technical staff members • Listens to and considers others' points of view, is nonjudgmental and actively engaged, Uses language that values all members of the health care team and demonstrates humility Level 2 Respectfully and thoroughly completes • Demonstrates active listening by fully focusing on the speaker (other health care provider, patient), actively showing verbal and non-verbal signs (eye contact, posture, reflection, consultations with effective documentation and communication in common cases, with direct questioning, summarization) supervision Communicates information effectively with all • Communicates clearly and concisely in an organized and timely manner during consultant encounters, as well as with the health care team in general health care team members Participates in team-based discussions to Participates in multi-disciplinary discussions regarding treatment for particular patients optimize team performance Level 3 Completes consultations with effective • Respectfully provides feedback to junior members of the medical team for the purposes of improvement or reinforcement of correct knowledge, skills, and attitudes documentation and communication in common cases, with indirect supervision • Uses teach-back or other strategies to assess and receive understanding during Adapts communication style to fit team needs consultations Initiates team-based discussions to optimize • Arranges and facilitates multi-disciplinary discussions regarding treatment for particular team performance patients, under supervision Level 4 Completes consultations with effective • Communicates recommendations effectively and in a timely manner with primary care and documentation and communication in complex other referring or collaborating members of the health care team cases Coordinates recommendations from different Arranges and leads multi-disciplinary discussions regarding treatment for complex cases members of the health care team to optimize patient care Facilitates team-based discussions to optimize team performance

Guides others in organizing effective team meetings to resolve conflict
Direct observation Global assessment
Multisource feedback
Medical record (chart) review
Simulation encounters
•
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Interpersonal and Communication Skills 3: Communication within Health Care Systems Overall Intent: To effectively communicate using a variety of methods	
Milestones	Examples
Level 1 Accurately records information in the patient record and safeguards patient personal health information	 Notes are accurate but may lack organization and include extraneous information Only uses methods of communication that are HIPAA compliant to transmit patients' health information
Level 2 Demonstrates organized diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning through notes in the patient record	 Notes are organized and accurate but may still contain extraneous information Identifies method for sharing results needing urgent attention
Identifies appropriate communication channels (e.g., cell phone/ pager usage, medical record, email) as required by institutional policy	Recognizes that a communication breakdown has happened and respectfully brings the breakdown to the attention of the chief resident or faculty member
Level 3 Concisely reports diagnostic and therapeutic reasoning in the patient record	Documentation is accurate, organized, and concise, but may not consistently contain anticipatory (if/then) guidance
Respectfully communicates concerns about the system	Communicates opportunities for improvement in the EHR interface
Level 4 Independently communicates timely information in a written format and verbally when appropriate	 Writes a clear and concise note and transmits verbally critical information to a colleague Knows when to call the treating team about unexpected or critical findings of clinical significance
Uses appropriate channels to offer clear and constructive suggestions to improve the system	Participates in task force to update policy for sharing abnormal results
Level 5 Models written communication to improve others' performance	Leads a task force established by the hospital QI committee to develop a plan to improve house staff hand-offs
Guides departmental or institutional communication around policies and procedures	Teaches colleagues how to improve discharge summaries
Assessment Models or Tools	 Direct observation Medical record (chart) review Multisource feedback
Curriculum Mapping	
Notes or Resources	Bierman JA, Hufmeyer KK, Liss DT, Weaver AC, Heiman HL. Promoting responsible electronic documentation: validity evidence for a checklist to assess progress notes in the

