

Good Medical Practice

Public Statement of Definition

Physician competence is a measurable demonstration of skills, knowledge, and behaviors that meet professional standards, is in the best interest of the patient's health while being empathetic to the patient's wants in the context of society's needs as a whole.

The assurance of competence of a physician is a shared responsibility of the individual physician, the entity that grants a legal privilege to practice medicine, the medical profession, and the public.

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I. Medical Knowledge

- Keeping up to date
 - How to measure: CME/CPD
- Accessing and evaluating information
- Mastery of practice specific body of knowledge
 - How: Continuous certification
- Awareness of best practices, guidelines, consensus documents in specific areas of practice
- Understanding limits of knowledge

II. Patient Care

- Assessment
- Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Effective Referral
- Record Keeping
- Specialty principles & practice
 - Osteopathic principles
- Access
- Treatment in emergencies
- Timeliness
- Competency in procedures
- Effective use of resources
- Pain management
- End of life care

III. Professionalism

- Confidentiality
- Ethics - “Charter on Professionalism”
 - Boundary issues
- Honesty / Integrity
- Issues around consent
- Avoiding discrimination & prejudice
- Conflicts of interest
- Continuity of care (abandonment)
- Dealing with competency of colleagues
- Substance abuse (proactive discussion)
- Impact of aging and illness on practice / competency (self and colleagues)
- Treats of team members with respect
- Responsibility to profession
- Responsibility to community
- Truth in advertising
- Billing

IV. Communication

- Listen to patients & respect their views
 - How to measure: Patient surveys
- Providing info that is understandable to patients, families and others
- Informing patients of errors
- Effective record keeping
- Timely & comprehensive discussion with others involved in care
- Communication with colleagues
- Transitions in care (end of shift, etc.)
- Timely results to patients
- Clarity of communication with patients on business & financial issues

V. Systems Based Practice

- Physician’s Sphere of Control
 - Attention to the environment of care
 - Team work
 - Participation in CQI / QA / audit
 - Assures adequate systems to support the quality of your practice & patient safety
 - Clearly defined policies and procedures
- Complying with public health reporting
- Continuity of care across settings
- Coordination of care issues
- Understands and works within payment systems
- Meeting responsibilities associated with working within delivery systems, eg., hospitals, nursing homes

VI. Practice-Based Learning

- Collect and maintain data about their practice
- Analyze and learn from data collected
- Improve practice based on what is learned
- Understand norms / best practices / benchmarks specific to area of practice
- Seek feedback from patients regarding their expertise with the practice

Other Similar Documents

- Charter of Professionalism - Good Medical Practices
- AMA CEJA
- CMSS Joint Committee
- ACS Performance-Based
- CANMEOS 2000
- IOM Competency Document
- AAMC MSOP
- AAMC Company on GME
- Australian Version
- EU Document (referenced by Dole)

Open Issues

- Best fit for practice
- Ownership - accountability - where does the buck stop?
- Public role

Competency discussion

- How to measure
- Who is accountable
- Educator's role
- Public role